

# The Sacrifices

**Leviticus 1-7**

Introduction

**Bible Basics Conference – 2025**



M. Hardt

# Motivation

## Why study sacrifices?

### God's Greatest Topic: His Son

- Person
- Work of redemption

### Note: We are not under the Law

- Rom. 6:14
- Gal. 3:24.25

So, again, why study the sacrifices?

### 3D– Glasses

Discover aspects of the death of Christ

### Understanding Worship

What can we bring God?

# Five sacrifices in Leviticus 1-7



**Burnt Offering**



**Meal Offering**



**Peace Offering**



**Sin Offering**



**Trespass Offering**

# Five sacrifices in Leviticus 1-7



**Burnt Offering**

**Leviticus 1**



**Meal Offering**

**Leviticus 2**



**Peace Offering**

**Leviticus 3**



**Sin Offering**

**Leviticus 4**



**Trespass Offering**

**Leviticus 5**

**The Law  
of  
the offerings**

**(Leviticus 6-7)**

# What about sacrifices before Leviticus?

There were sacrifices / sacrificial death from the earliest days of mankind

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- Adam & Eve: **covering** (Gen. 3)
- Abel: **approach** (Gen. 4)
- Noah: God's **satisfaction / rest** (Gen. 8)
- Isaac: the **Son** is the sacrifice (Gen. 22)

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## Abraham: one of his characteristics: altars



No altar in Ur or Charan (Gen. 11)



Altars in the land (Gen. 12)



No altar in Egypt (Gen. 13)



An altar in Moriah (Gen. 22)

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Hence: even before Leviticus:

### **There were sacrifices**

- These needed to involve death
  - the only basis on which man can approach God

### **But:**

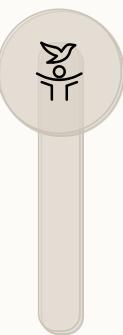
- God was not yet dwelling among men
- "Worship" & "approach" – can only be understood in the context of God dwelling amongst a redeemed people
- Different types of sacrifices not yet known
  - burnt offering (see Gen. 8 and 22)
  - not the same as in Lev. 1
  - used in a general sense

# Stepping back: the character of Genesis to Leviticus



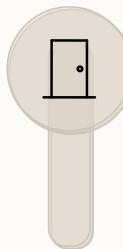
## **Genesis**

“In the **beginning**” – principles, seed plot of Bible truth



## **Exodus**

**Redemption**, and God dwelling among His people



## **Leviticus**

**Approach to God**





# Leviticus: Access to God

## Key questions

How can God dwell among a guilty people?

How can man approach God in worship?

Important issue

Holiness of God

A “sanctuary” (Ex. 25:8)

God dwelling in the “Holies of Holies” (Ex. 25:22, 26:33)

Priests need to be “sanctified” (Ex. 28:41)



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Uncleanness of man – many sources:

- Child birth
- Food
- Leprosy
- Death
- Touching sth. unclean (association)

A rich "picture book" of illustrations that help us grasp more of Christ & His work

# Types (pictures) – how to use and understand them

## Types are pictures or illustrations

- Example: a lamb as a type of the Lamb of God



## Parallels & contrasts

- Parallels:
  - the lamb was clean, spotless, etc.
- Contrasts:
  - animal sacrifices had to be repeated
- Both are important to understand the "anti-  
"anti-type" (fulfilment in Christ)
- **Example high priest:** illustrates Christ's office – office – but many contrasts!

# In the case of Leviticus

## Parallels:

We are far from God  
by nature

We can approach God

It is through Christ (door,  
altar, sacrifice)

## Contrasts:

Approach was marked by  
rituals

Approach through  
physical / tangible things  
(sacrifices, incense, etc.)

Approach was very  
limited (only the High  
Priest – once a year)



**They can approach God.  
Or can they?**

- OT: very limited approach
- NT: full approach

# How to (not) use types

No doctrine can be *built on* a type.

Many doctrines are *illustrated* by types.

Safest interpretation: by the NT

# Do sacrifices really speak of Christ? And of worship?

- "Isn't Leviticus simply a manual for Levitical priests at the time?"
- The NT provides the answers.



# Application 1: Christ and the cross

**Eph. 5:2**

“... **Christ** ... delivered himself up for us, an **offering** and sacrifice to God for a **sweet-smelling savour**.”

**Heb. 9:14**

“... how much rather shall the blood of the **Christ**, who ... **offered himself spotless to God** ...”



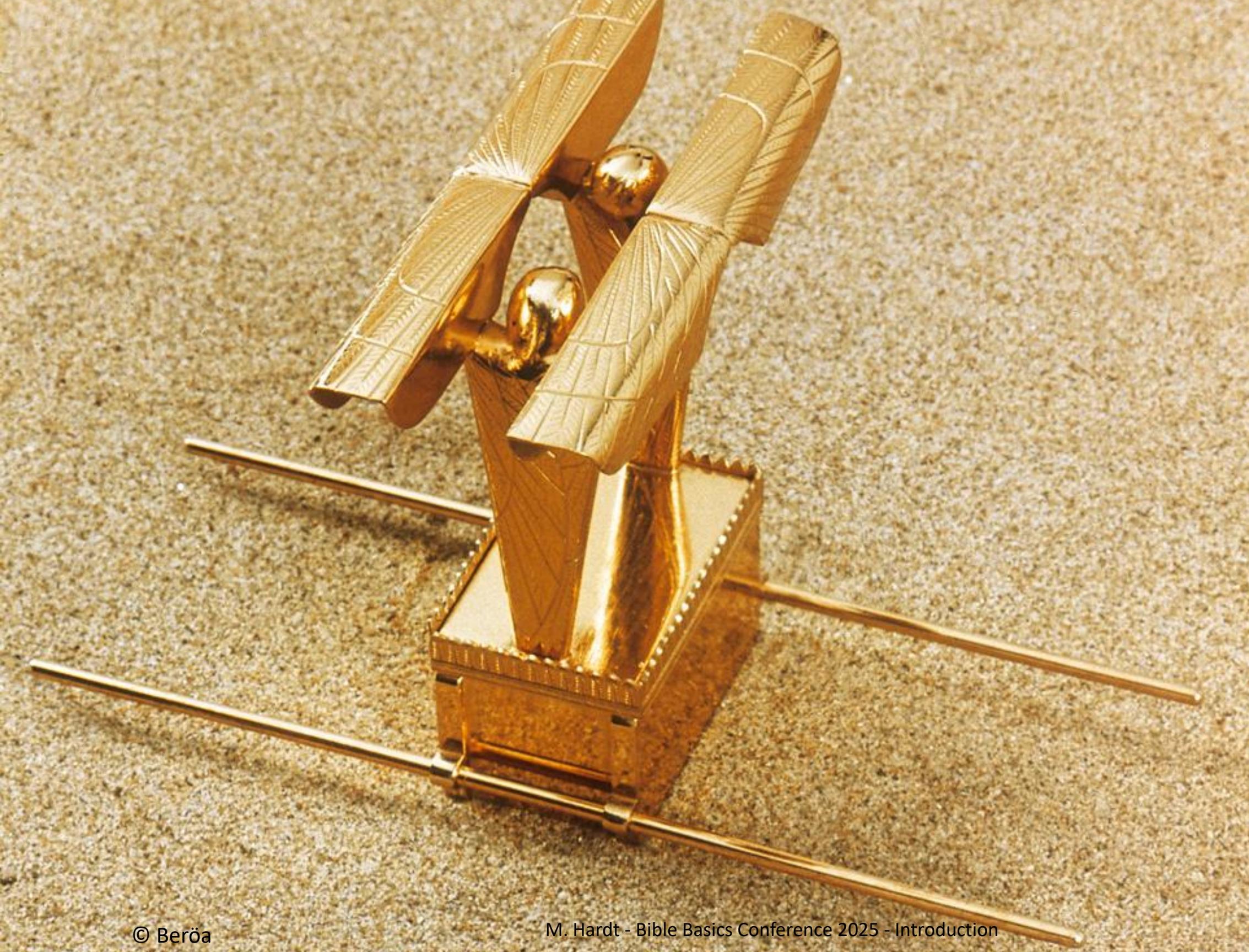
# Application 1: Christ and the cross



**Heb. 9:11.12**

**"But Christ being come ... by his own blood, has entered in once for all into the holy of holies, having found an eternal redemption."**





# Application 1: Christ and the cross



**Heb. 10:12**

"But **he**, having **offered one sacrifice for sins**, sat down in perpetuity **at the right hand of God.**"

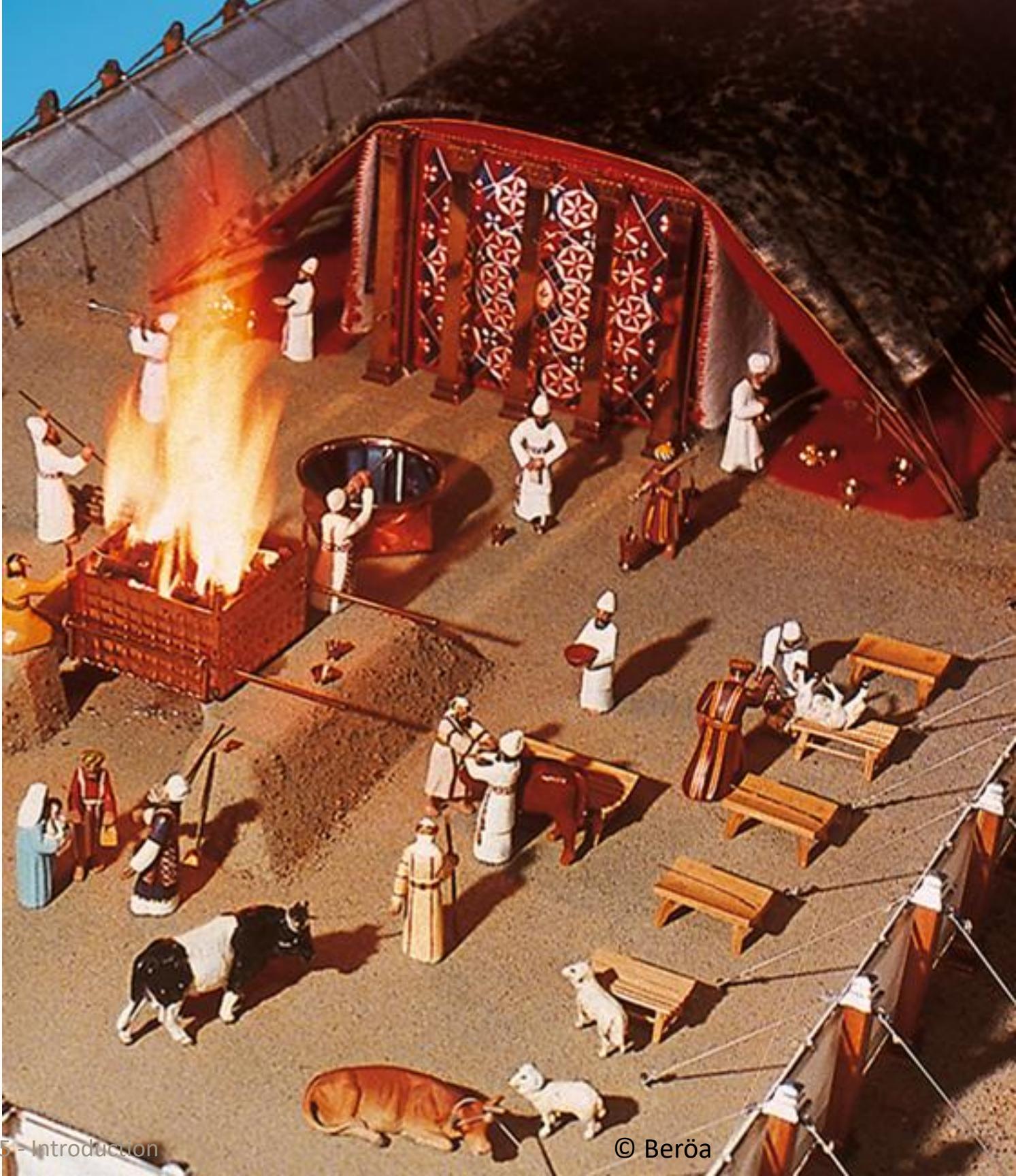
## Application 2: Worship

### 1 Peter 2:5.6

“... yourselves also, ... a **holy priesthood**, to offer spiritual **sacrifices** acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”

### Heb. 13:15

“By him therefore let us offer the **sacrifice** of praise ... to God, that is, the fruit of the lips confessing his name.”



## Application 2: Worship

### **Revelation 1:5.6**

"To him who loves us, and ... made us a kingdom, **priests** to his God and Father."



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**Trespass Offering**

# A comparison table: sacrifices in Leviticus 1-7

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Offering	Burnt-	Meal- / Grain-	Peace-	Sin-	Trespass-
<b>With blood?</b>	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
<b>Sweet savour?</b>	Y	Y	Y	N	N
<b>Gospel / aspect</b>	John	All (esp. Luke)	Luke	Mark	Matthew
<b>What is offered?</b>	Bull, sheep, goat, birds	Wafers / cakes	Herd or small cattle	Bull, goat, lamb, dove	Ram without blemish
<b>Male/female?</b>	male	n/a	Male or female	female	female
<b>Eating?</b>	None	Part: altar, Part: priests	ALL	Offering priest (cases 3 & 4)	Like the sin offering
<b>Place</b>	Altar	Altar	Altar	Outside camp or on altar	Like the sin offering