

The Sacrifices

Leviticus 1-7

Introduction

Bible Basics Conference – 2025

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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)
 - Noah: God's **satisfaction / rest** (Gen. 8)
 - Abel: **approach** (Gen. 4)
 - 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)

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

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Genesis

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

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Exodus

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

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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?

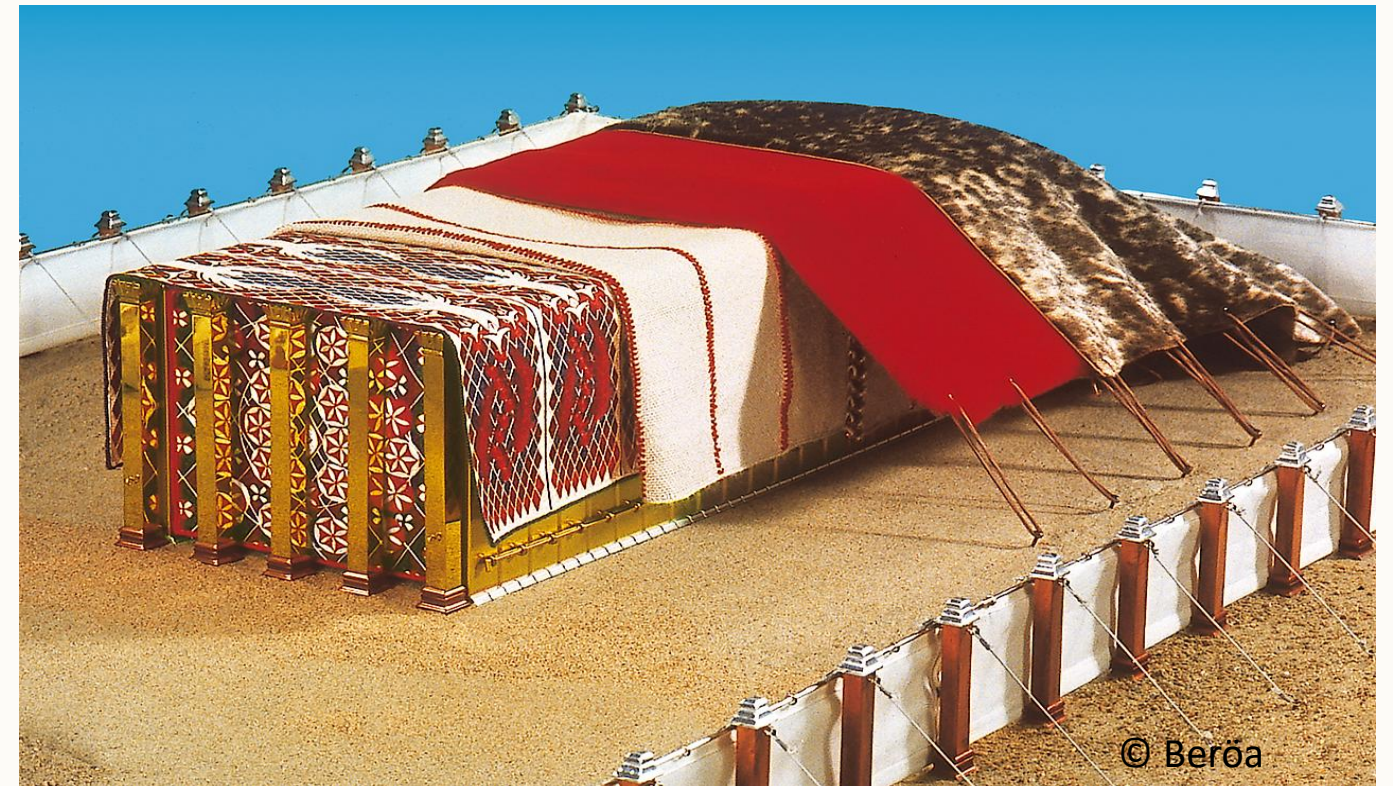
Important issue

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)



Leviticus: Access to God

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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** ...”



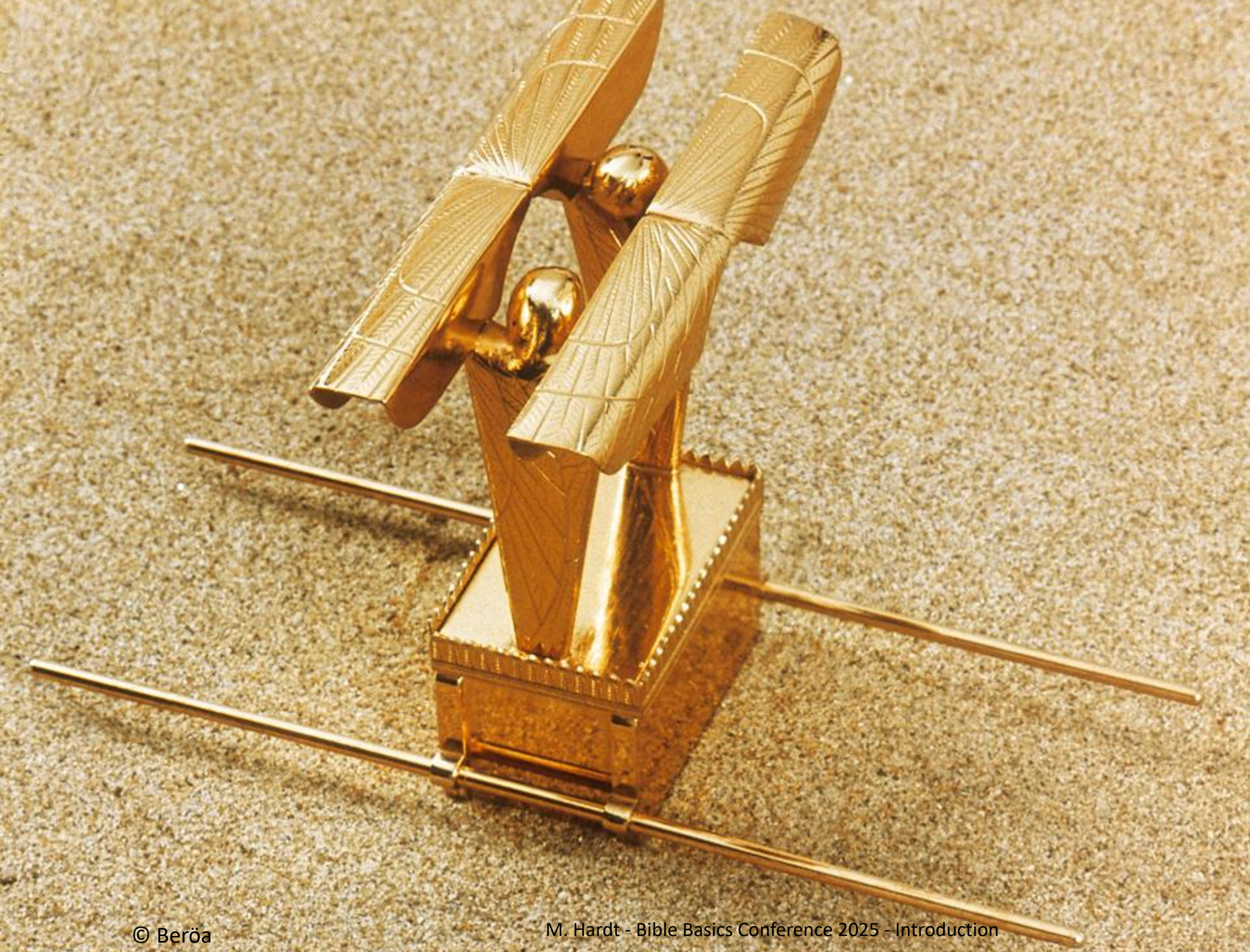
Application 1: Christ and the cross



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."

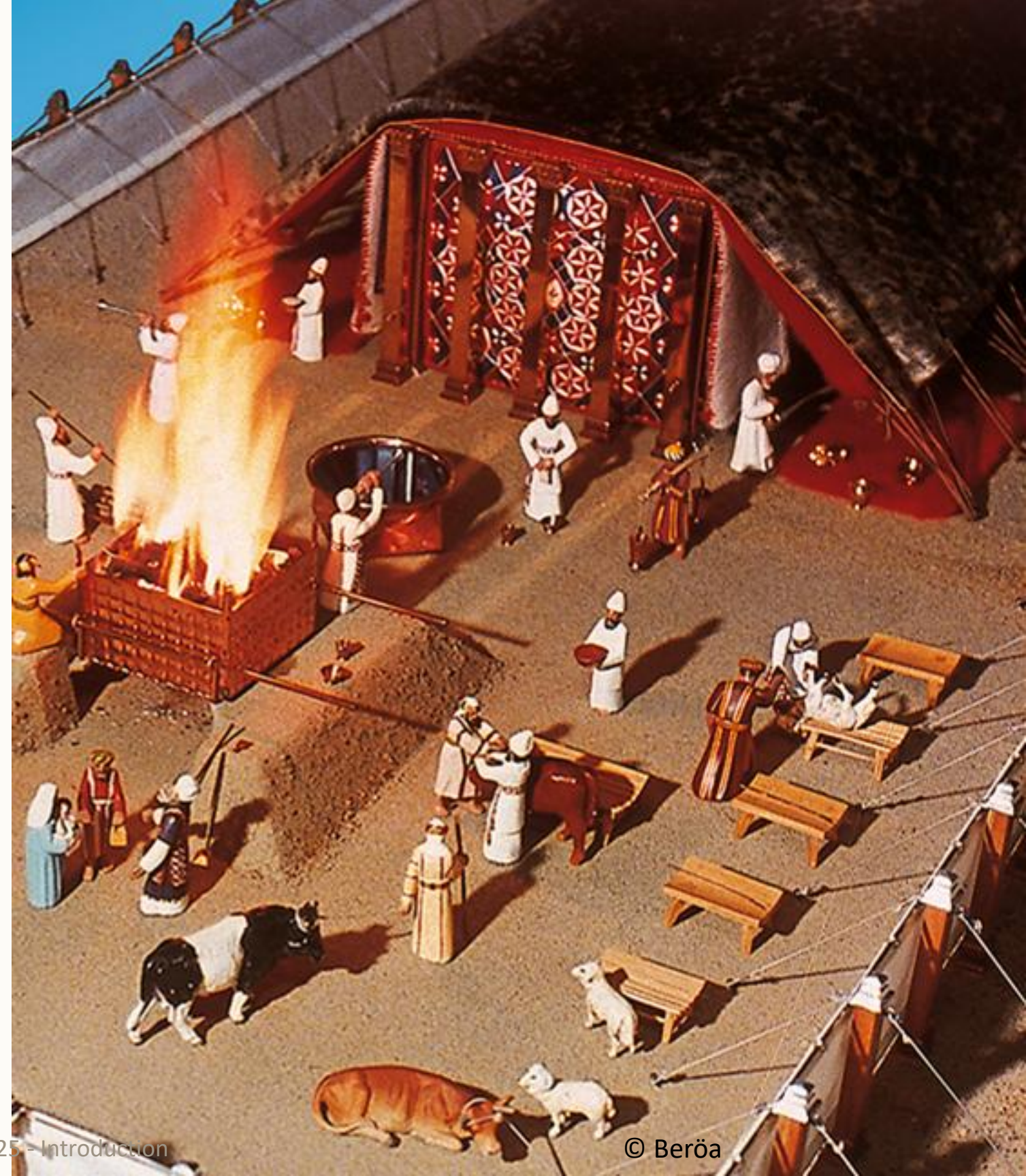
Application 2: Worship

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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Five sacrifices in Leviticus 1-7



Burnt Offering



Meal Offering



Peace Offering



Sin Offering



Trespass Offering

A comparison table: sacrifices in Leviticus 1-7

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A comparison table: sacrifices in Leviticus 1-7

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