

Torah Studies – Statutes #543-547

Statute Summary:

(#543) Teach and rehearse the meaning of the sacrifices with all the people of Yahweh. (#544) Offerings, or sacrificial presents must be undefiled and without spot. (#545) Offerings must be given in integrity and truth. (#546) You are to only present offerings with the right attitude – that of pleasure in presenting it before Yahweh. (#547) Offerings are to be presented at the Heaven-appointed assembly place and on the fixed Appointment Times with Yahweh. Such obedient sacrifices (offered spiritually, in post-Calvary times) are accepted by Heaven, reconciling us and satisfying our debts with Yahweh.

Leviticus 1:2-4 “**Speak** unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man of you bring an offering unto the LORD, ye shall bring your **offering** of the cattle, *even* of the herd, and of the flock. If his offering *be* a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male **without blemish**: he shall offer it of his own **voluntary will** at the door of the tabernacle of the **congregation** before the LORD. And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and **it shall be accepted** for him to make **atonement** for him.”

Key Word Study: **Directions:** Look up each keyword (underlined in the verses above) in your Strong’s Concordance. Fill in the table below.

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
SPEAK	H1696	dâbar	to <i>speak</i> ; to <i>subdue</i> : - answer, appoint, bid, command, commune, declare, rehearse, teach, tell, think, use [entreaties]
OFFERING	H7133	qorbân	something <i>brought near</i> the altar, that is, a sacrificial <i>present</i> : - oblation, that is offered, offering
WITHOUT BLEMISH	H8549	tâmîym	<i>entire</i> (literally, figuratively or morally); <i>integrity, truth</i> : - without blemish, complete, full, perfect, sincerely (-ity), sound, without spot, undefiled, upright (-ly), whole
VOLUNTARY WILL	H7522	râtsôn	<i>delight</i> : - (be) acceptable (-ance, -ed), delight, desire, favour, (good) pleasure, (own, self, voluntary) will
CONGREGATION	H4150	mô’êd	an <i>appointment</i> , a fixed <i>time</i> or season; a <i>festival</i> ; a <i>year</i> ; an <i>assembly</i> ; technically the <i>congregation</i> ; the <i>place of meeting</i> ; also a <i>signal</i> (as appointed beforehand): (sign, time)
IT SHALL BE ACCEPTED	H7521	râtsâh	to <i>be pleased with</i> ; to <i>satisfy</i> a debt: - (be) accept (-able), pardon, (be, have, take) please (-ure), reconcile self.
ATONEMENT	H3722	kâphar	to <i>cover with bitumen</i> , to <i>expiate</i> or <i>condone</i> , to <i>placate</i> or <i>cancel</i> : - appease, make (an) atonement

What is Bitumen? And why does Atonement mean to “Cover with Bitumen?”

Bitumen is a mixture of **Organic Liquids** that are highly **Viscous, Black, Sticky, Entirely Soluble in Carbon Disulfide**, and composed primarily of highly condensed **Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons**.

Naturally occurring or crude bitumen is a sticky, tar-like form of petroleum which is so thick and heavy that it must be heated or diluted before it will flow. At room temperature, it is much like cold molasses. Refined **Bitumen** is the residual (bottom) fraction obtained by fractional distillation of crude oil. It is the heaviest fraction and the one with the highest boiling point, boiling at 525 °C (977 °F).

Bitumen was the “pitch” used to COVER and SEAL Noah’s Ark! And in this, is a picture of what it means to experience Atonement:



- **Genesis 6:12-14** “And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, **and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.**

PITCH	H3722	kâphar	to cover with bitumen, to expiate or condone, to placate or cancel: - appease, make (an) atonement
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Next, let’s consider the significance of the sacrifices themselves, all of which (all blood sacrifices) pointed to *Yahshua’s* Death – revealing different aspects of His Offering on our behalf. God instructs Moses on the five different kinds of sacrifices that were to be offered in the sanctuary:

- The *olah* or "burnt offering" was a voluntary sacrifice that had a high degree of sanctity and was regarded as the "standard" offering. The entire animal, except for its hide, was burned on the altar. (1:1-17)
- The *minchah* or "meal offering" was a sacrifice made of flour, oil, salt, and frankincense that was partly burned on the altar and partly given to the priests to eat. (2:1-16)
- The *zevach sh'lamim* or "sacrifice of well-being" was a voluntary animal offering from one's herd, sometimes brought to fulfill a vow. (3:1-17)
- The *chatat* or "sin offering" was an obligatory sacrifice that was offered to expiate unintentional sins. This offering differs from the others in the special treatment of the blood of the animal. (4:1-5:13)

- The *asham* or "penalty offering" was an obligatory sacrifice of a ram that was required chiefly of one who had misappropriated property. (5:1-26)

- The opening words of *Vayikra* state: "The Eternal One called to Moses and spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting, saying: Speak to the Israelite people, and say to them . . ." (1:1-2). What follows are all of the explanations of the sacrifices we have been discussing.

- The question that begs to be answered here is, why in the world did God tell Moses to explain all of this minute detail to the whole population? After all, these are really just instructions to the *kohanim*, the priests. Why didn't God simply command Moses just to teach them how to conduct this ritual? If only the priests knew what happened during the rituals, not only would the general population be behind a screen of smoke, but they also would be in total darkness regarding what *Yahshua's* Death, as our Antitypical Sacrifice, really signifies. In other words, this information was given not just to the priests, but to all Israel. Why did all of Israel need to understand, since only the priests would be doing these steps? Because we all need to understand the spiritual significance and message behind every detail.

Synthesis:

Directions: Rewrite this Scripture in your own words, using the fuller meanings you gained from the Key Word Study. Highlight the concept which most stands out to you. Pray and meditate on it today.

"When any one spiritually brings an offering to Yahweh, by claiming the precious Blood of Yahshua as Atonement for our sins, we are to claim and recognize the Roles of Salvation our Saviour imputes upon us, through the significance of the sacrifices. We spiritually bring this Sacrifice to Yahweh, by claiming it in our personal and corporate worship of Him. In so doing, we will be accepted before Yahweh. Pressing the terrible crown of thorns into the Saviour's Brow, was foreshadowed by laying hands on the head of the burnt offering. It is only through *Yahshua's* Offering that we can be accepted before Yahweh, having made atonement.

Atonement is powerful. It is to be covered with the sealing of Yahweh so completely as to protect from Yahweh's Wrath – just as the ark was sealed with pitch to keep out the flood waters.

Cross References: 1 Chronicles 16:29, Romans 12:1 & 6, Ephesians 5:2

Torah Studies – Statutes #548-552

Statute Summary:

(#548) Say to Yahweh’s people: “Any man or woman who wrongs another in any way and so is unfaithful to Yahweh is guilty (wronging our fellow man is counted by Yahweh as unfaithfulness to Him). (#549) Those who are guilty of this unfaithfulness must confess the sin they have committed. (#550) We must make full restitution for the wrong we have done to the person we have wronged. (#551) In addition to restoring what was wrongfully taken, we must add a fifth of the value to it and give it all to the person we have wronged. (#552) But if that person is not available, and has no close relative to whom restitution can be made for the wrong, the restitution belongs to Yahweh and must be given to the priest, along with the ram with which Atonement is made for the wrongdoer.”

Numbers 5:6-8 “Speak unto the children of Israel, When a man or woman shall commit any **sin** that men **commit, to do** a **trespass** against the LORD, and that person be **guilty**; Then they shall confess their sin which they have done: and he shall **recompense** his trespass with the principal thereof, and add unto it the fifth *part* thereof, and give *it* unto *him* against whom he hath trespassed. But if the man have no kinsman to recompense the trespass unto, let the trespass be recompensed unto the LORD, *even* to the priest; beside the ram of the atonement, whereby an atonement shall be made for him.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
SIN	H2403	chaṭṭā’âh	an <i>offense</i> (sometimes habitual <i>sinfulness</i>), and its penalty, an <i>offender</i> : - punishment (of sin), purifying (-fication for sin), sin (-ner)
COMMIT TO DO	H4603	mâ’al	to <i>cover up</i> ; to <i>act covertly</i> , that is, <i>treacherously</i> : - transgress, (commit, do a) trespass (-ing)
TRESPASS	H4604	ma’al	<i>treachery</i> , that is, sin: - falsehood, grievously, sore, transgression, trespass
GUILTY	H816	’âsham	to <i>be guilty</i> ; by implication to <i>be punished</i> or <i>perish</i> : be (-come, made) desolate, destroy, X greatly, be (-come, found, hold) guilty, offend (acknowledge offence), trespassive
RECOMPENSE	H7725	shûb	to <i>turn back</i> (hence, away), generally to <i>retreat</i> ; to fetch Home again.

Understanding Atonement:

At the very heart of Salvation lies the all-important doctrine of the Atonement. The Apostle Paul said, *For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures* (I Corinthians 15:3, 4).

Though the Gospel according to Paul included a sinless and a bodily-resurrected Christ, he gives first place to the fundamental fact that “Christ died for our sins.” The Death of Yahshua Christ was sacrificial and necessary for man’s redemption.

The word “atonement” is an Old Testament term. It appears only once in the New Testament (Romans 5:11) where it is translated “reconciliation” in the Revised Version. It is the idea of *at-one-ment*, because the word atonement is used to refer to the atoning death of Christ through which the sinner is reconciled to God and restored to His favor.

To atone for means to make amends. In the Bible atonement is associated with man’s sin. God commanded Israel to set aside one day each year, the tenth day of the seventh month, which He called “the day of atonement” (Leviticus 16:29-30; 23:27-28). The people were to bring a sin offering, an innocent animal sacrifice “whose blood was brought in to make atonement” (Leviticus 16:27). God had said, “For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul” (Leviticus 17:11) “. . . and without shedding of blood is no remission” (Hebrews 9:22).

The Significance of the Ram –

What is the definition and the meaning of the Ram? The Ram is a male of the sheep and allied animals. The Ram represents protection as the ram protected the herd and also symbolizes the Sacrifice of *Yahshua*, Who is the Protector of the Flock. The ram was one of the first animals to be sacrificed on altars, hence their Latin name Aries which comes from aris meaning “altars.”

Synthesis:

Yahweh says to His people: If any of you commit a crime against someone, you have sinned against Me. You must confess your guilt and pay the victim in full for whatever damage has been done, plus a fine of twenty percent. If the victim has no relative who can accept this money, it belongs to me and will be paid to the priest. In addition to that payment, you must take a ram for the priest to sacrifice so your sin will be forgiven.

Torah Studies – Statutes #553-558

Statute Summary:

(#553) *Priests and their families are not to drink alcoholic wine.* (#554) *Priests and their families are not to drink or imbibe any mind-altering substance.* (#555) *Those who worship Yahweh and enter into His covering are also not to drink or imbibe mind-altering substances.* (#556) *Those who keep Yahweh’s Appointed Times (daily, weekly, monthly, yearly, etc) are not to drink or imbibe mind-altering substances.* (#557) *This statute stands in every generation as long as time lasts.* (#558) *For drinking or imbibing mind-altering substances mixes the sacred (we are set apart for holy use) with the profane. Thus, in Yahweh’s Eyes, imbibing mind-altering substances is unholy – making us unfit for the worship of Yahweh and unable to dwell in the “Secret Place of the most High” (Ps. 91).*

Leviticus 10:9-10 “Do not **drink wine** nor **strong drink**, thou, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the **tabernacle** of the **congregation**, lest ye die: *it shall be a statute* for ever **throughout your generations**: And that ye may **put difference** between **holy** and **unholy**, and between **unclean** and **clean**.”

Key Word Study:

Key Word	Strong’s Number	Hebrew Word	Meaning
DRINK	H8354	shâthâh	to <i>imbibe</i> banquet, drink (-er, -ing), drunk (X -ard)
WINE	H3196	yayin	to <i>effervesce</i> ; <i>wine</i> (as fermented); by implication <i>intoxication</i> : - banqueting, wine, wine [-bibber]
STRONG DRINK	H7941	shêkâr	an <i>intoxicant</i> , that is, intensely alcoholic <i>liquor</i> : - strong drink, + drunkard, strong wine.
TABERNACLE	H168	'ôhel	a <i>tent</i> (as <i>clearly</i> conspicuous from a distance): - covering, (dwelling) (place), home, tabernacle, tent.
CONGREGATION	H4150	mô'êd	an <i>appointment</i> , a fixed <i>time</i> or season; a <i>festival</i> ; a <i>year</i> ; an <i>assembly</i> ; technically the <i>congregation</i> ; the <i>place of meeting</i> ; also a <i>signal</i> (as appointed beforehand): (sign, time)
STATUTE	H2708	chûqqâh	appointed, custom, manner, ordinance, site, statute

THROUGHOUT YOUR GENERATIONS	H1755	dôr	a <i>revolution</i> of time, that is, an <i>age</i> or generation; also a <i>dwelling</i> : - age, X evermore, generation, [n-]ever, posterity
PUT DIFFERENCE	H914	bâdal	to <i>divide, separate, distinguish, differ, select</i> , (make, put) difference, (make) separate (self)
HOLY	H6944	qôdesh	a <i>sacred</i> place or thing, <i>sanctity</i> : - consecrated (thing), dedicated (thing), hallowed (thing), holiness, holy, saint, sanctuary
UNHOLY	H2455	chôl	<i>exposed</i> ; hence <i>profane</i> : - common, profane (place), unholy
UNCLEAN	H2931	ţâmê'	<i>foul</i> in a religious sense: - defiled, + infamous, polluted (-tion), unclean
CLEAN	H2889	ţâhôr	<i>pure</i> (in a physical, chemical, ceremonial or moral sense): - clean, fair, pure (-ness).

Synthesis:

In order for you or your sons to enter the sacred tent, the Place of Yahweh's Worship, the Seal of His Heavenly Covering, or the Secret Place of the Most High (which is a spiritual connection with Yahweh in the mind) you must never drink beer or wine or partake of any mind-altering substance, nor allow yourself to become intoxicated. Doing so, divorces us from the Secret Place connection with Yah and brings us DEATH! This law will never change. We must choose what is holy and abstain from what isn't holy. We must embrace what is clean and avoid the unclean.

Clearly, in Heaven's View, mind-altering substances are not holy or clean, when partaken of internally.

Cross References: Jeremiah 15:19, Ezekiel 22:26, Ezekiel 44:23, Titus 1:15, 1 Peter 1:14-16