

**Sermon title:** Jesus is our Whole Burnt Offering

**Sermon text:** Lev 1:1 – 2

## **Introduction**

A. The Whole Burnt Offering was the Ultimate sacrifice

B. This was the only sacrifice which was wholly devoted to God; the other sacrifices were shared between God and the offerer.

C. The first case is the most detailed; the other two are shorter because they assume the knowledge of the of the first.

D. This was a voluntary offering – i.e. this is an invitation from God.

E. Purpose: To make atonement for sin.

## **Main elements of the Whole Burnt Offering**

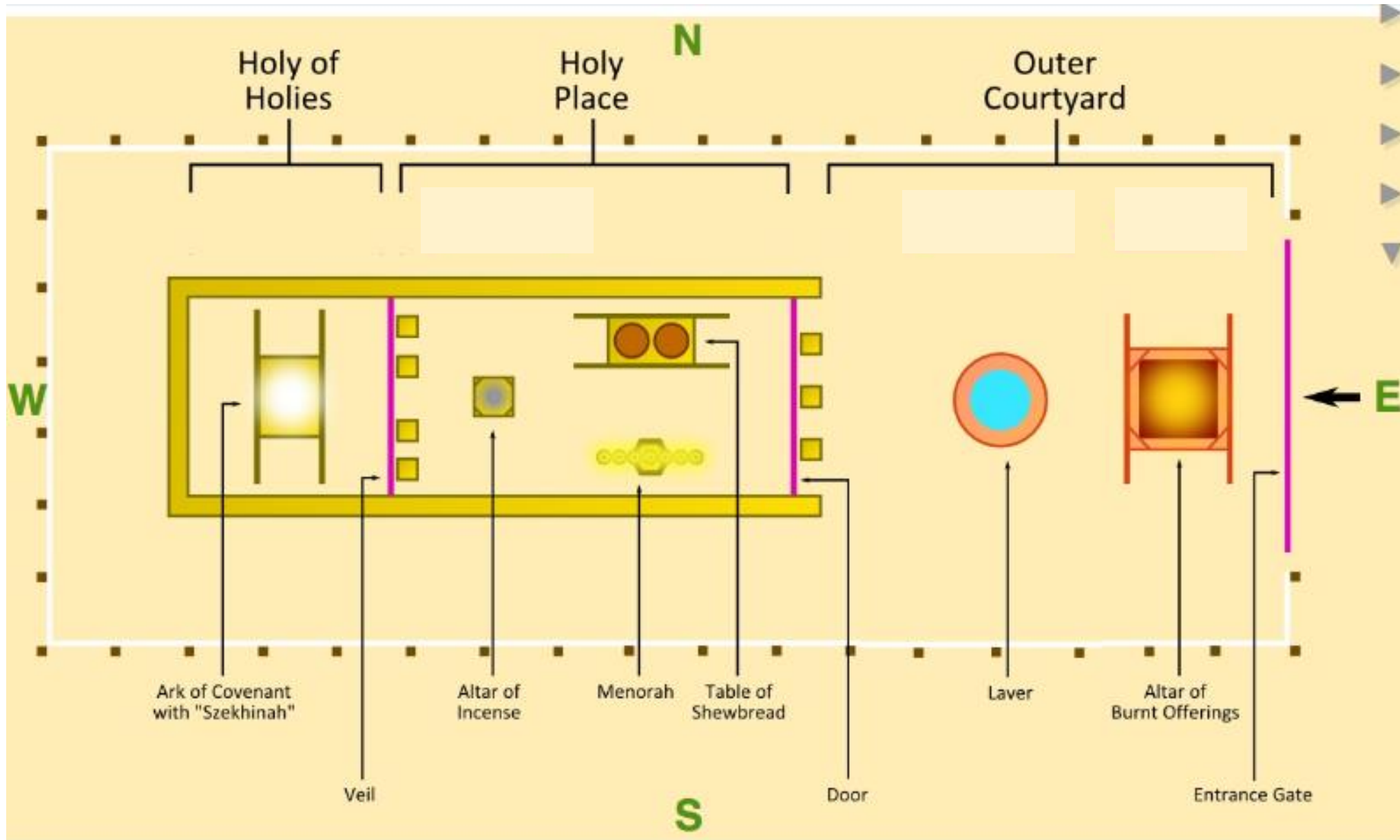
1. Bringing an acceptable animal – 1:3b

2. Offering the animal at an acceptable place – 1:3c

3. Making the animal acceptable on their behalf – 1:4

4. Sacrificing the animal correctly – 1:5 – 9

# Layout of the Old Testament Tabernacle



1. The offerer moves from East to West
2. God lives symbolically in the Ark of the Covenant
3. Holiness increases from East to West direction

<sup>3</sup> “If the offering is a burnt offering from the herd, you are to offer a male without defect. You must present it at the entrance to the tent of meeting so that it will be acceptable to the LORD.

## Observation

1. “the entrance to the tent of the meeting” - This refers to the area where the bronze altar and laver were located.
2. This location is only as far as such an offerer might approach because he is not ritually holy enough.

## Application

1. Sinful men are unworthy to enter and can only draw near to God on the basis of sacrifice.
2. When God gives specific instructions, it is the worshipper’s responsibility to obey fully.

<sup>4</sup> You are to lay your hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on your behalf to make atonement for you.

## **Observation & Application**

“hand on the head of the burnt offering” – Picture of (1) transferring offerer’s sin to the offering and (2) identifying with the offering.

“to make atonement” – means purification.

Purification is required because the offerer is tainted with sin and the offerer is unclean before God.

<sup>5</sup> You are to slaughter the young bull before the LORD, and then Aaron's sons the priests shall bring the blood and splash it against the sides of the altar at the entrance to the tent of meeting.

## Observation & Application

1. "slaughter" – literally "slitting the throat" means ritual slaughtering.

The offerer then slaughters the young bull. This is a picture that the offerer is responsible for the death of the sacrifice.

2. The priest acts only after the young bull was killed. Here all the blood was splashed on all four sides of the bronze altar; this was highly visible and unmistakable.

By splashing the blood on the bronze altar on all 4 sides, the priest presented the animal's life to the Lord in place of the offerer's life.

3. "altar at the entrance of the tent of meeting" – This is specified to avoid confusion with incense altar within the Tent

<sup>6</sup> You are to skin the burnt offering and cut it into pieces. <sup>7</sup> The sons of Aaron the priest are to put fire on the altar and arrange wood on the fire. <sup>8</sup> Then Aaron's sons the priests shall arrange the pieces, including the head and the fat, on the wood that is burning on the altar. <sup>9</sup> You are to wash the internal organs and the legs with water, and the priest is to burn all of it on the altar. It is a burnt offering, a food offering, an aroma pleasing to the LORD.

### **Observation**

1. The priest will arrange the “head” and “fat” to be burnt. This is a picture of Jesus totally surrenders Himself & His will to God (Lk 22:42).
2. The offerer will “wash the internal organs” and “legs” (hind legs) with water from the bronze basin. This is a picture of the offerer daily cleaning the internal desires and external acts before God.
3. “burn up in smoke” is used only in the context of worship, with the smoke rising to the Lord as a pleasing aroma.
4. “aroma pleasing to the Lord” means “this offering is accepted by God on the offerer’s behalf”. At this point, this is a picture of offerer’s sin accepted as atonement.

# **SUMMARY**

<b>S/No</b>	<b>Lessons from Leviticus 1</b>	<b>Applications for today</b>
1	The burnt offering is a voluntary offering to worship Him	God's invitation to all mankind to worship Him
2	Offering – Bull, sheep or bird	Anyone (rich or poor) can come to worship God
3	The animal must be without blemish/perfect	I need the sinless Jesus to be my sacrifice
4	The offerer identifies with the offering	I am a sinner and Jesus takes my place
5	The offerer slaughters the offering	I am responsible for Jesus' cruel death
6	The priest splashes the blood around the altar	Jesus' life is offered before God
7	The priest arranges head (rational) and the intestines (emotion) are burnt	Jesus totally surrenders Body & His will to God



S/No	Lesson from Leviticus 1	Application for today
8	The offerer washes the internals and hindlegs	I clean my internal desires and external acts daily before God
9	<p>The priest burns the entire offering and the aroma from the burnt offering is pleasing to the Lord. (God accepts the offerer's sacrifice)</p>	<p>God accepts Jesus as the Sacrifice on behalf of the sinner</p> <p><b>Jesus is our Whole Burnt Offering</b></p>
10	God specifies that the offering must be either a bull, sheep or bird	God tells me what acceptable offering is
11	Those who wish to worship God must worship God with the CORRECT offering	True worship of God must be through Jesus His Son
12	The offerer cannot decide to offer a giraffe	I worship God the way I decide how

**END**