

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Holy Sin Offering – sin can be a word of hope

Leviticus 4 | 13 March 2022 | Rev Dr Aaron Tay

Reflection Questions

1. Read Leviticus 4 to 5:1-13 as a group (perhaps each person to take 3 verses).

The "*sin offering*" is the fourth offering that the Lord taught the Israelites they must present to the Lord – what does this tell us about God, about who He is, and what He is concerned about?

2. "*Sin is not just a private matter: its consequences and influence could be more encompassing than we think.*" Discuss this statement. Are there sins which are really private and have no consequences at all? Can you think of sins where the consequences are far-reaching (beyond your own life)?

3. Western societies have altered the understanding of sin in three ways. They have:
 - a. Criminalized sin
 - b. Psychologized sin
 - c. Immunized sin

When sin is criminalized, that means only crimes are considered sinful. But is punishing these crimes the only way to deal with the sins causing the crimes? Besides punishment, what else can be done with regards to the sins? (Consider the sinner/criminal, his victim(s), his family, other potential criminals, the society, etc.)

Our Vision

To be disciples of Jesus Christ

Our Mission

We exist to make disciples who love God, love one another and love the lost



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4. When certain biblical sins are psychologized, such sins are not considered as such, but a medical condition needing medicine and therapy.

Then there are biblical sins which are immunized – that is, they are no longer considered by popular culture as sinful.

Can you think of a few examples of such psychologized and immunized sins?

5. Leviticus 5:1-4 gives three examples of biblical sins:
- a. Sin of keeping silent (obstructing truth, justice)
 - b. Sin of making one unclean
 - c. Sin of carelessly making an oath (whether to do good or evil)

What other biblical sins are there? Share as many as you can remember from the Bible.

"Sin keeps us from getting God's best." Can you think of how sin has prevented a Christian from getting God's best? How does the Bible teach us to deal with sin?

When we deal with sin in accordance to God's will, then it will be a word of hope and we will be able to receive God's best.

This is something which we can do as disciples of Christ:

One way to overcome sin is to confess your sins to Christians you are close with (whom you can trust) and then to pray for each other. Consider doing this with some of your DG sisters/brothers when you have sinned.

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