



Study Guide: Leviticus – Chapter 6

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This study guide provides an educational overview of Leviticus Chapter 6 using a verse-by-verse structure, theological context, and application-oriented insights grounded in Scripture.

Introduction

Leviticus Chapter 6 continues the detailed instructions God gives to the Israelites regarding their sacrificial system, focusing on the laws of guilt offerings, burnt offerings, and the responsibilities of the priests. This chapter contributes to the overall flow of Leviticus by emphasizing the holiness required in worship and the importance of atonement and restitution in maintaining covenant relationship with God. Readers should watch for the practical aspects of worship and the accountability placed on both the offerer and the priest, highlighting the seriousness of sin and the provision for forgiveness.

Context

Leviticus 6 is situated within the larger section of Leviticus that outlines sacrificial laws given to the Israelites after their exodus from Egypt. The immediate literary context includes the preceding chapter's instructions on various offerings, particularly the guilt offering and sin offering. Historically, these laws were given within the covenant framework at Mount Sinai, where God established His holy standards for Israel. The key speaker is God, communicating through Moses to the people and the priests, who are charged with carrying out these rituals. The chapter underscores the covenantal relationship where sin disrupts fellowship and requires specific acts of restitution and purification.

Outline

The chapter begins with a focus on the guilt offering, detailing the requirement for restitution plus an additional fifth part to be given to the priest, emphasizing accountability and justice. It then moves to instructions about the burnt offering, including the daily responsibilities of the priests to maintain the fire on the altar and the proper handling of the sacrifices. The chapter concludes by reiterating the sanctity of the offerings and the exclusive right of the priests to consume certain portions, reinforcing the sacredness of



the priestly role and the offerings themselves.

Verse-by-Verse Study

Verses 1–7: These verses outline the guilt offering, specifying that when a person sins by deceiving a neighbor or violating a trust, they must confess, make full restitution, and add a fifth part as a penalty. The offering is then given to the priest as a means of atonement. This section highlights the seriousness of sin against others and the need for both confession and compensation.

Verses 8–13: The focus shifts to the burnt offering, which is to be kept perpetually on the altar. The priests are commanded to keep the fire burning continuously, symbolizing the ongoing nature of worship and dedication to God. The passage also details the daily offerings and the care required to maintain the altar’s sanctity.

Verses 14–18: Instructions are given regarding the portions of the offerings that belong to the priests. The priests are to eat the meat of the guilt and sin offerings in a holy place, emphasizing their role as mediators and the sacredness of their duties. The passage reiterates that the offerings are a gift to the priests, setting them apart within the community.

Verses 19–23: The chapter concludes with a reminder that the fire on the altar must never go out and that the priests must carefully follow these instructions. The final verses underscore the holiness of the offerings and the priestly responsibilities, reinforcing the covenantal relationship between God, the priests, and the people.

Key Themes

One key theme is the seriousness of sin and the necessity of restitution, highlighting that sin affects not only the individual but also the community and God’s holiness. Another theme is the sanctity of worship, demonstrated by the perpetual fire and the precise handling of offerings, symbolizing continual dedication to God. The chapter also emphasizes the priestly role as mediators who must maintain holiness and ensure proper worship, underscoring the sacredness of their office and the offerings they handle.

Cross-References



Numbers 5:6-7 clarifies the principle of restitution plus an additional penalty for sin against a neighbor, reinforcing the guilt offering instructions in Leviticus 6. Hebrews 13:10-16 connects the priestly responsibilities and sacrifices of the Old Testament to the ultimate sacrifice of Christ, providing New Testament insight into the fulfillment of these offerings. Exodus 27:1-8 details the altar and the fire, helping to understand the significance of the perpetual fire commanded in Leviticus 6. These cross-references deepen understanding of the covenantal and redemptive aspects of the chapter.

Application

Modern disciples can learn from Leviticus 6 the importance of integrity and restitution when wronging others, recognizing that sin has relational consequences that require tangible action beyond mere confession. The call to continual worship and dedication reminds believers to maintain a consistent spiritual life, symbolized by the altar fire that never goes out. Additionally, the chapter challenges Christians to appreciate the mediating role of Christ as our High Priest and to live in holiness, understanding that worship is both sacred and demanding. The accountability of the priests encourages believers to take seriously their own roles within the community of faith.

Summary

Leviticus Chapter 6 provides detailed instructions on guilt and burnt offerings, emphasizing the necessity of confession, restitution, and continual worship. It highlights the sacred responsibilities of the priests and the holiness required in maintaining the altar fire and handling offerings. Through these laws, the chapter reinforces the covenantal relationship between God and Israel, demonstrating how sin disrupts fellowship and how atonement and dedication restore it. This chapter sets the foundation for understanding the seriousness of sin, the need for ongoing worship, and the sacred role of mediators between God and His people.