

The Need to Confess

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Leviticus 4-5.

B. Everywhere people go there seems to be a fear of God because men suffer from a terrible sense of guilt.

II. Having love, joy and peace the believer needs to act responsibly for life, God and the world around him—the guilt offering was about this.

A. This must always start with the death of Christ—these blessings flow from it.

B. God does not start with the problem of sin—He starts by talking about love, joy and peace. (Galatians 5, Luke 15)

III. Characteristics of the sin offering.

A. There were offerings for the public and the individual.

1. The public offering demanded a male sacrifice.
2. The individual offering demanded a female sacrifice.
3. This reflects the male's role in leadership in the culture.

B. There was provision for different economic classes to meet the requirements of the sacrifice.

C. The sacrifice deals with the nature of a person and not just individual acts.

1. There is evil in us deeper than we realize.
2. Evil shows up in surprising responses to things.

D. The placement of the blood.

1. There was to be an understanding before the sinner that his sin was before God and had to be acknowledged accordingly.
2. God accepts the believer through the death of Christ fully.
3. Unacknowledged guilt will dry up a person's life.

E. Certain parts were to be rejected.

1. God accepts the inward life.

2. God rejects the outward part that is still unredeemed.

F. God has dealt with us at the level of our nature, so we stand accepted before God.

Application questions:

1. What responses to difficult circumstances have revealed to you a darker nature within?

2. Why is it important that we acknowledge our own responsibility in evil? Explain.

3. How can the believer be free from guilt even if he still struggles with sin from time to time?
