

Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's day Prophesying

Message Six : The Revelation, Appreciation, and Application of Christ as Our Sin Offering

I. Overview :

Sin refers to the indwelling sin in our nature; sins refers to the sinful deeds, the fruit of the indwelling sin. Because Satan, the devil, is source of sin, he is the father of sinners, the father of liars, the sinners are children of the devil. We were brought forth in iniquity, making us the brood of vipers. Sin is the evil nature of Satan, the evil one and this sin is lawlessness, personified. The sin offering signifies that Christ was made sin for us in order that through His death on the cross sin might be condemned. Since sin, the old man, Satan, the world, and the ruler of the world are all one with the flesh, when Christ died the flesh, all negative things were dealt with. Taking Christ as sin offering, we need to lay our hands on the head of the offering in union with it, fellowshiping with God, who is light, to know the blood of the sin offering with four kinds of effects.

II. Truth and Enlightenment :

Day 1 --

A. Expound the word sin in singular and the word sins in plural.

Sin refers to the indwelling sin, which came through Adam into mankind from Satan. It is dealt with in the second section of Romans, 5:12 to 8:13. Sins refers to the sinful deeds, the fruits of the indwelling sin, which are dealt with in the first section of Romans, 1:18 to 5:11.

B. Explain what sins without intent signify.

In Leviticus 4:2 "sins without intent" signifies the sin in our fallen nature, the indwelling sin that came through Adam into mankind from Satan, which causes us to sin unintentionally. This sin, personified in Romans 7, is the evil nature of Satan, even Satan himself, who dwells in our fallen flesh.

Day 2 --

A. Expound the efficacy of the sin offering.

Christ was crucified in the flesh and died in the flesh. Although Christ was a fallen man only in likeness, when He was on the cross, God counted that likeness as real. Since sin, the old man, Satan, the world, and the ruler of the world are all one with the flesh, when Christ died in the flesh, all negative things were dealt with. This is the efficacy of the sin offering.

B. What does the type of the brass serpent indicate? What is it implied?

The type of the brass serpent indicates that Christ did not have the flesh of sin but only the likeness of the flesh of sin. When the children of Israel sinned against God, they were bitten by serpents and were dying. God told Moses to lift up a brass serpent on their behalf for God's judgment, that by looking upon that brass serpent they might be saved and live. The brass serpent was their savior. This is a type.

Day 3 --

A. What is our understanding of the flesh?

According to the human view, the flesh may seem to be good as well as bad. But whether we are good, bad, or in the middle, as long as we are flesh, we are sin. The flesh is altogether one with sin, and sin is altogether one with Satan. Actually, sin is Satan. Furthermore, Satan is one with the world, and the world is one with the prince of the world.

B. What is the revelation for the efficacy of the sin offering in the Bible?

The efficacy of the sin offering is not just in the fact that it deals with sin. The result is far greater. In the sin offering, the fallen man, the old man, included in the flesh of Christ, is dealt with, sin in the nature of fallen man is condemned, Satan, sin itself, is destroyed, the world is judged, and the prince of the world is cast out.

Day 4 --

A. Explain the sequence of five offerings in Lev.1-6 is a picture of 1John 1.

The burnt offering, the meal offering, and the peace offering bring us into fellowship with God. As we are enjoying the Triune God in the divine fellowship, we realize that we still have sin inwardly and that we have committed sins outwardly. We then receive the cleansing of the precious blood. It is by this cycle that we are delivered and saved from our self.

B. Why if we don't have the experience of Rom.7, we cannot overcome?

The first work of the Holy Spirit in a believer is to bring him to know the self after he is saved. This is so he will, according to God's will, forsake all that is from the self and completely depend on God. If we do not have the experience of Romans chapter 7, that is, if we do not see our own failures, we cannot overcome. Why does the Lord allow us to fail again and again? His intention is to show us that we cannot make it.

Day 5 --

A. How can't we know we're so sinful until we enjoy Christ as our burnt offering?

We heard the gospel and repented, realizing that we are sinful. But we can't know how sinful we are until we enjoy Christ as our burnt offering. The burnt offering means that mankind, created by God for the purpose of expressing and representing Him, should be for nothing other than God and should be absolutely for God. Only when we enjoy Christ as our burnt offering will we realize how sinful we are.

B. Illustrate that doing spiritual things for ourselves is sinful.

Because we may have hidden motives in doing spiritual things, the Lord Jesus spoke concerning those who do things apparently for God but actually for the purpose of advancing themselves. For example He said, "Take care not to do your righteousness before men in order to be gazed at by them". Concerning giving alms He said, "Do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing". Concerning

prayer He said, "When you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites, because they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners, so that they may be seen by men". Concerning fasting He said, "When you fast, do not be like the sullen-faced hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so that they may appear to men to be fasting". Even in doing righteousness, giving alms, praying, and fasting there may be a power struggle with God. To do these things for ourselves instead for God is sinful in His eyes.

Day 6 --

A. What signified the blood being put on the horns of the altar of burnt offering?

Some of the blood was put upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering. This signifies that the blood of Christ is effective for our redemption. The blood of Christ as the sin offering brings us into the presence of God, that is, into the Holy of Holies; it gives us the position and right to contact God in prayer; and it is effective for our redemption.

B. How do we experience sharing the sin offering?

Concerning Christ as the sin offering, there is a portion that is only for God, and there is a portion for us to share. The top portion is for God's enjoyment. God made Christ a propitiation for sinners, and we have no share in this. However, when we preach Christ to others, ministering Him as the sin offering, we can share Him.

III. Conclusion :

Sin in Greek means missing the goal, losing the purpose of God creating man for expressing and representing Him. Because the devil is the source of sin, we, the sinners, are children of the devil and were brought forth in iniquity, making us the brood of vipers. Sin is lawlessness, the evil nature of Satan, and involving a power struggle. If we do our righteous deeds, such as giving alms, praying, and fasting, for ourselves, this is sin. The more we realize how our being is joined to sin and makes us slaves of sin, the more we cannot help but praise how He makes sin for us on the cross that through His death sin may be condemned. We not only appreciate His supply, but also lay our hands on His head of the sin offering to join with Him in order to take Him as our sin offering to deal with sin, the old man, the world, and Satan in our human nature.