



Grace Assembly Of God

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Leviticus 1	Title:	Made Right with God
Author	Ps Alvin Lim		
Introduction/ Summary of Chapter	After the exodus from Egypt, the book of Leviticus records the laws and regulations for sacred worship in the Tabernacle as well as holy living as God's people representing God to the nations. To be holy means to be set apart and made exclusively to the Lord for his purpose. Many of these regulations may seemed irrelevant for us today, but it offers us insight into the holiness as well as the compassion of God to restore fellowship with us. There are five main offerings from Leviticus 1-7. In Chapter 1, the first offering God instructed is the burnt offering of an animal to the Lord for the forgiveness of sin. God is compassionate as each Israelite can choose a bull, goat, sheep, or a pigeon to sacrifice depending on their social-economic status.		

Key Verse(s) NLT	How does it speak to me?
<i>³ "If the animal you present as a burnt offering is from the herd, it must be a male with no defects. Bring it to the entrance of the Tabernacle so you may be accepted by the Lord. ⁴ Lay your hand on the animal's head, and the Lord will accept its death in your place to purify you, making you right with him.</i>	The person presenting the sacrifice needed to lay his hands on the head of the animal and then slaughter it. This expresses how one's sin is now upon the animal and its death is needed as payment to purify oneself of sin. It shows the seriousness of sin as one life is required to save another. The animal chosen needed to be without defects to symbolize the moral perfection demanded by a holy God. It points to the perfect nature of the ultimate sacrifice to come- Jesus Christ. Only Jesus who is sinless can die in our place to be the acceptable sacrifice before God to make us right before God once and for all (2 Corinthians 5:21). We can never earn our salvation based upon our own merits or good works. This is the gospel. For many years as a Christian and even as a pastor, I had an incomplete understanding and appreciation of the gospel. Even though I say that I believe in the gospel, I was still trying to earn my acceptance before God and men. I often feel anxious, guilty, and insecure whenever I did not do well in my devotional life or ministry life. I compared myself with others and seek to perform well to prove myself. A major burnout and depression gave me the revelation of my unchanging identity as a beloved son of God based on the unconditional love of God found in the gospel. I slowly learn to serve because I am accepted rather than to be accepted by God. May we be the living sacrifice completely given to God because Jesus was the ultimate sacrifice for us.

APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	Do you serve God to be saved or because you are saved? How is your life a living sacrifice because of what Christ has done?
Youth:	Do you believe God accepts and loves you unconditionally? Do you crave more of God's acceptance or your peers? How would you live your life differently with God's acceptance?
Child:	Write down all the wrong things that you have done this week on a piece of paper and pass it to your parent. Parent say to your child, "Jesus paid for it on the cross, you are forgiven." Tear up the paper and throw it away.

PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Dear heavenly Father, we are so grateful that You sent Jesus as the sinless sacrifice on our behalf to make us right before You apart from our own merits. Make our lives a living sacrifice to serve and worship You alone.
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank You for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.