



Grace Assembly Of God

## CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture: **Leviticus 5** Title: **Restitution is not Cheap**

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Introduction/Summary of Chapter: This chapter deals with the fifth type of offering for another aspect of sin and is known as the guilt offering. The guilt offering is also known as the reparation offering and requires the offender to repay not just what is owed but an additional twenty percent as well.

Key Verse(s) NLT **How does it speak to me?**

*15 If one of you commits a sin by unintentionally defiling the Lord's sacred property, you must bring a guilt offering to the Lord. ...16 You must make restitution for the sacred property you have harmed by paying for the loss, plus an additional 20 per cent*

While the key verses I have identified highlight the need to make an additional twenty percent payment if someone damages temple property, if you turn to versus 1 to 5 in chapter 6 you will see how the guilt offering extends to situations where someone lies, has cheated another, committed robbery or fraud. In all these situations, once the offender realises his sin, he has to make repayment of the damage he has caused plus an additional twenty percent in order to make good or atone for his or her sin. Only then according to God's law will the offender be seen to have made full restitution. Restitution is not cheap!

Now, in preparing for this devotion, I was reminded of a recent occasion where a group of people made a decision that negatively damaged me and me alone. When the leader of the group realised what they had done, he not only apologized to me, he did so publicly but he didn't just stop there. The next day, which happened to my birthday, he surprised me by sending a big assortment of cakes over to my home. His extra efforts at soothing the hurt they had caused helped me to forgive them quickly. And that is what the guilt offering is meant to do – the extra twenty percent is meant to help soothe the hurt caused to the other.

And this is where there is good news for all of us. Jesus paid the full price of our sins and more. He fulfilled all the requirements of the law including the requirements for the guilt offering upon the cross. This gives me great comfort as I know I could never even have made repayment of what is due let alone the additional twenty percent due to God. Having received this grace, let us apologize to those we have wronged and make restitution to right the wrong. Going the extra mile helps heal the rift faster.

### APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult: Is there anyone whom you have wronged or offended through your words or actions? Ask God to help you to apologize and even make restitution.

Youth: Have our words (sarcasm, mockery, name-calling, gossip, harsh words, etc) been offensive to someone? Think of how to make up by buying a drink or writing a card.

Child: Have you been rude or in a quarrel with someone this week? Go and say sorry and give that person a big hug.

### PRAYER

Praying Scripture: Father, thank you for showing us through this study just how deep a divide sin had caused between you and us and just how much of a debt Jesus had to repay in order to fill the divide. Thank you for Jesus' faithfulness and obedience. Help us to apologize and make restitution when we have wronged others.

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.