

Leviticus 27: Redeeming.

1. (1-2) **When a man consecrates by a vow certain persons to the LORD.**

What did it mean to dedicate a person to the LORD? It could be done either for one's self, or on behalf of another (such as consecrating a child unto the LORD). This was a completely voluntary act, meant to demonstrate that this person was totally given to God.

2. (3-8) Assigning a valuation for persons consecrated by a vow.

Persons were assigned a value according to their age and general usefulness to society; especially in an agricultural society, there was a definite sense in which a man between 20 and 50 was more "valuable" than a child one month to five years old.

Importantly, no one was prohibited from fulfilling a vow of consecration because they did not have enough money; if they were poor, the priests would be flexible with the valuation.

"Everyone can give their life to the LORD; there are none who are too small, or too insignificant, or too useless. God wants to use each and every one."

3. (9-13) Animals.

If an animal was clean (fit for sacrifice), and you wanted to redeem it from the vow of dedication to the LORD (perhaps because the animal was especially useful), you could exchange it for another animal - as long as that animal was also clean, and equally suitable for sacrifice.

If an animal was unclean (unfit for sacrifice), it could still be vowed to the LORD and then redeemed; but the priest would set a value on the animal, and one would add one-fifth to that value (20%) and give the total to the tabernacle treasury.

Again, if one simply wanted to give their unclean animal (a donkey, for example) to the LORD, he could give it to a priest, who would use it or sell it, giving the money to the tabernacle treasury; but if they desired to keep the animal, while still dedicating it with a vow to the LORD, they had to pay the price of the animal plus 20%. You could give your donkey and use him too, but it would cost you the value of the donkey plus 20%.

4. (14-25) Houses and land.

With a house, as in the case with an unclean animal, if a man wanted to consecrate by a vow the house to the LORD, while still using it, the priest would set a value on the house, and one would add one-fifth to that value (20%), and give the total to the tabernacle treasury.

For land, its value was based on its potential production, as well as the number of years until the Year of Jubilee.

5. (26-27) Redemption of the consecration vow for the firstborn.

Since the first born already belonged to God (Exodus 13:2), you could not "buy it back" from the LORD; if it was a clean animal, it had to be sacrificed.

However, an unclean animal could either be sold or "bought back" from the LORD.

6. (Lev 27:28-29) One cannot redeem things or persons **devoted** to the LORD.

To **devote** something to the LORD was a further step than dedication by a vow; it often had the meaning of destroying the item (or executing the person) so that it could not be used by anyone else, and all of its value was given to God.

For these reasons, an item **devoted** to God could not be "bought back" by giving its value plus 20% to the tabernacle treasury; it had to be given - and presumably destroyed - unto the LORD.

In this sense also, one could not escape execution by being "bought back" from the LORD; they had to face the penalty for their crime.

7. (30-33) The payment of tithes.

Tithes could also be "bought back" from the LORD; instead of tithing good seed from a field, a farmer could pay the value of the seed plus 20%.

8. (34) Conclusion:

These *are* the commandments which the LORD commanded Moses for the children of Israel on Mount Sinai.

These were not mere traditions and customs, though men began to attach traditions and customs to these commandments; these were - and are - the commandments (not suggestions) of the LORD.

As we have seen before in Leviticus, the phrase **before the LORD** occurs more than 60 times - more than any other book in the Bible. What happens in Leviticus

happens **before the LORD**, and every point of obedience it calls us to illustrates - either in specific command or in precious picture - how to walk **before the LORD**.

Psalm 50:14 - Offer to God thanksgiving, and pay **your vows** to the Most High.

Psalm 76:11 - Make **vows** to the LORD **your** God, and pay them; Let all who are around Him bring presents to Him who ought to be feared.

Galatians 3:24-25 - Therefore the law was our **tutor** to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a **tutor**.

Romans 7:12 - Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.

I. Burnt Offering: 1.

Ephesians 5:2 - As Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to GOD for a sweet smelling aroma.

II. Peace and First-fruit Offering: 2-3:

Romans 5:1 - Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with GOD through our LORD, Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:20 - But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

III. Sin Offering: 4-6.

2 Corinthians 5:21 - For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of GOD in Him

IV. Priests: washed, clothed and anointed: 7-10.

Titus 3:4-5 – But when the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing and regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 5:3 – For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, if indeed having been clothed, we shall not be found naked.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 - Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

V. Atonement by blood: 17.

Hebrews 9:11-14 - But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. **Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.** For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, **how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?**

VI. Seven Feasts: 22-23: Sabbath, Passover, Unleavened Bread, First-fruits, Pentecost, Day Of Atonement and Tabernacles.

VII. Year Of Jubilee:

Isaiah 61:1-3 - "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn, to console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."