**Christmas from Leviticus**

**Leviticus 3 - Fellowship Offering**

**An overview of the offerings**

1. Burnt Offering — Atonement for Sin
2. Grain Offering — Thankfulness for Daily Provision
3. Fellowship Offering — Celebrating God’s Goodness
4. Sin Offering
5. Guilt Offering

**What is the purpose of the peace (fellowship) offering?**

**How did they celebrate the all-beef party?**

*“If his offering is a sacrifice of peace offering, if he offers an animal from the herd, male or female, he shall offer it without blemish before the Lord. And he shall lay his hand on the head of his offering and kill it at the entrance of the tent of meeting, and Aaron’s sons the priests shall throw the blood against the sides of the altar. And from the sacrifice of the peace offering, as a food offering to the Lord, he shall offer the fat covering the entrails and all the fat that is on the entrails, and the two kidneys with the fat that is on them at the loins, and the long lobe of the liver that he shall remove with the kidneys. Then Aaron’s sons shall burn it on the altar on top of the burnt offering, which is on the wood on the fire; it is a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the Lord. Leviticus 3:1–5 (ESV)*

* **Why did God get the fat?**
* **Why did God get the liver and kidneys?**
* **Who were required invites on the guest list?**

*The priest shall burn the fat on the altar, but the breast shall be for Aaron and his sons. And the right thigh you shall give to the priest as a contribution from the sacrifice of your peace offerings. Whoever among the sons of Aaron offers the blood of the peace offerings and the fat shall have the right thigh for a portion. For the breast that is waved and the thigh that is contributed I have taken from the people of Israel, out of the sacrifices of their peace offerings, and have given them to Aaron the priest and to his sons, as a perpetual due from the people of Israel. Leviticus 7:31–34 (ESV)*

**How did they celebrate the mutton and chevon party?**

*“If his offering for a sacrifice of peace offering to the Lord is an animal from the flock, male or female, he shall offer it without blemish. If he offers a lamb for his offering, then he shall offer it before the Lord, lay his hand on the head of his offering, and kill it in front of the tent of meeting; and Aaron’s sons shall throw its blood against the sides of the altar. Then from the sacrifice of the peace offering he shall offer as a food offering to the Lord its fat; he shall remove the whole fat tail, cut off close to the backbone, and the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that is on the entrails and the two kidneys with the fat that is on them at the loins and the long lobe of the liver that he shall remove with the kidneys. And the priest shall burn it on the altar as a food offering to the Lord. Leviticus 3:6–11 (ESV)*

**The fellowship offering could be a corporate celebration.**

**The fellowship offering could be a personal celebration.**

1. **Unexpected blessing from God — Leviticus 7:11-15**
2. **Making a vow to God or answered prayer from God — Leviticus 7:16-18**
3. **General thankfulness for God’s goodness — Leviticus 7:16-18**

**Why didn’t God allow doggy bags?**

*And the flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten on the day of his offering. He shall not leave any of it until the morning. But if the sacrifice of his offering is a vow offering or a freewill offering, it shall be eaten on the day that he offers his sacrifice, and on the next day what remains of it shall be eaten. But what remains of the flesh of the sacrifice on the third day shall be burned up with fire. Leviticus 7:15–17 (ESV)*

**Did the New Testament church celebrate a fellowship offering? Love Feasts**

*These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; Jude 12 (ESV)*

*For in eating, each one goes ahead with his own meal. One goes hungry, another gets drunk. What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not. 1 Corinthians 11:21–22 (ESV)*

*So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for (share with) one another— if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home—so that when you come together it will not be for judgment. About the other things I will give directions when I come. 1 Corinthians 11:33–34 (ESV)*

**The fellowship offering teaches us to remember God’s goodness and celebrate his blessings.**