

# Bored Again Catholic

Why the Mass is Always the Same

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- Session 1:
  - Creation and Worship
  - Worship in the Old Testament – Mt. Sinai, the Temple, Sacrifice
- Session 2:
  - Types of Sacrifices in the Temple (Leviticus)
  - Major Jewish Feast Days (Leviticus)
- Session 3:
  - Christian Worship
  - Walk through the Mass

# Types of Sacrifices

- Whole Burnt Offering
- *Olah* (or “go up” offering, ascension offering)
  - Entire animal is burnt - male without blemish
  - Smoke goes up to heaven
- Symbolism – total self offering to God, entirely, all I am
- Look forward to Christ – unblemished, without sin

# Types of Sacrifices

- Bread Offering
- *Minhah* (a “gift” offering; also called a cereal offering or food offering)
  - Unleavened bread, sometimes in form of wafers
  - Anointed with oil (shape of K or a cross)
  - Accompanied by wine (libation)
- Symbolism – a “gift” of thanksgiving to God
- Bread of the presence (12 loaves of bread)
- Looking forward to Christ: *“From the rising of the sun to its setting, my name is great among the nations; Incense offerings are made to my name everywhere, and a pure offering;”* (Malachai 1:11)

# Types of Sacrifices

- Peace Offering
- *Shelamim* (offering of peace or completion)
  - Unblemished animal
  - Food and drink
- Symbolism
  - Joyful communion with God
  - Expressed in a sacrificial communion meal
- Looking forward to Christ - Rabbis had a saying: in the messianic age, all sacrifices will end, except this kind of sacrifice

# Types of Sacrifices

- Sin Offering
- *Hattath* (sacrifice that atones for sin to restore communion)
  - Animal
  - Blood poured out, fat burned on altar
  - Rest burned outside the camp
  - Lay hands on animal – animal becomes the sin bearer
- Symbolism
  - Forgiveness of sins
  - Restoration of covenant (blood sprinkled 7 times – number of covenant)
  - Nothing joyful, solemn (no oil, etc.)
  - Prerequisite – repentance for sin
- Looking forward to Christ – *“For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.”* 2 Corinthians 5:21

# Types of Sacrifices

- Guilt Offering
- *Asham* (“trespass” offering)
  - Very similar to sin offering
  - Atonement for one specific offense
  - Contraction of uncleanness; rash oath; etc.
- Symbolism
  - Removes guilt
  - Penance for impurity or unwitting sin (without full knowledge or consent)
- Looking forward to Christ – same as sin offering

# Jewish Feasts

- Regular Feasts
  - Daily Sacrifice
  - Sabbath Sacrifice
- Spring Feasts
  - Passover
  - Unleavened Bread
  - First Fruits
  - Pentecost
- Fall Feasts
  - Day of Atonement
  - Tabernacles



# Daily Sacrifice - *Tamid*

- Old Testament
  - Lamb, bread, oil, wine (libation)
  - Bloody sacrifice and un-bloody sacrifice
  - Perpetual, every morning and evening
- Jewish Tradition
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Hour (9am and 3pm)
  - Became time for prayer for Jewish people
  - Prayed the 18 Benedictions – *Amidah* (Standing prayer)
- How is this fulfilled in Jesus?
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Hour – Crucifixion
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Hour – Death

# Sabbath Sacrifice - *Shebat*

- Old Testament
  - Day of Rest for Worship after creation complete
  - Sacrifice of the Bread of the Presence
  - High Priest offered as everlasting covenant
- Jewish Tradition
  - Singing Psalm 92 with offering of Bread of the Presence
  - Singing Song of Moses with offering of wine
- How is this fulfilled in Jesus?
  - When does Jesus rest?
  - New creation, new covenant

# Passover - *Pesah*

- Old Testament
  - Memorial of Passover – 14 Nissan (March-April)
  - Sacrifice of Lamb and Unleavened Bread
- Jewish Tradition
  - Around time of Jesus 1-2 million Jews gathered in Jerusalem
  - 200-250 thousand lambs sacrificed
- How is this fulfilled in Jesus?
  - Lamb of God
  - Scourged, Crucified, Shedding of Blood

# Unleavened Bread - *Hamazzot*

- Old Testament
  - Eat only unleavened bread for 7 days after Passover – 15-22 Nissan
  - Pure bread and the bread of affliction
- Jewish Tradition
  - Joyful time of celebration of freedom from slavery
- How is this fulfilled in Jesus?
  - Jesus pure body
  - Road to Emmaus

# First Fruits - *Bikkurim*

- Old Testament
  - 16 Nissan
  - First fruits of harvest – wave offering
- Jewish Tradition
  - Ritual of great joy in carrying fruits to Jerusalem
  - Singing Psalm 30
- How is this fulfilled in Jesus?
  - Resurrection
  - 1 Cor 15:20.22-23 – “But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep...For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ”

# Pentecost - *Shevuoth*

- Old Testament
  - 6 Shivan (7 weeks from First Fruits)
  - Sacrifice of the harvest, leavened bread, and lambs
- Jewish Tradition
  - Also memorial of the giving of the Law on Mt. Sinai
- How is this fulfilled in Jesus?
  - Pentecost in the Acts of the Apostles

# Day of Atonement – *Yom Kippur*

- Old Testament - 10 Tishri (Sept – Oct)
  - Sin offering and scapegoat
  - Blood sprinkled in Holy of Holies
- Jewish Tradition
  - Stripping of High Priest
  - Miracle of the Scarlet Thread
- How is this fulfilled in Jesus?
  - Ascension

# Tabernacles - *Sukkoth*

- Old Testament – 15-22 Tishri (Sept – Oct)
  - Harvest celebration of grapes
  - Lived in Booths in Jerusalem for 7 days (memorial also of the Exodus to Promised Land – Lv 23)
  - Looking forward to times of the Messiah (Zech 14)
- Jewish Tradition
  - Rituals of Water and Light
- How is this fulfilled in Jesus?
  - John 7:37 – “Let anyone who thirsts come to me...”
  - John 8:12 – “I am the light of the world...”
  - Rev 7:9 – “I had a vision of a great multitude...”