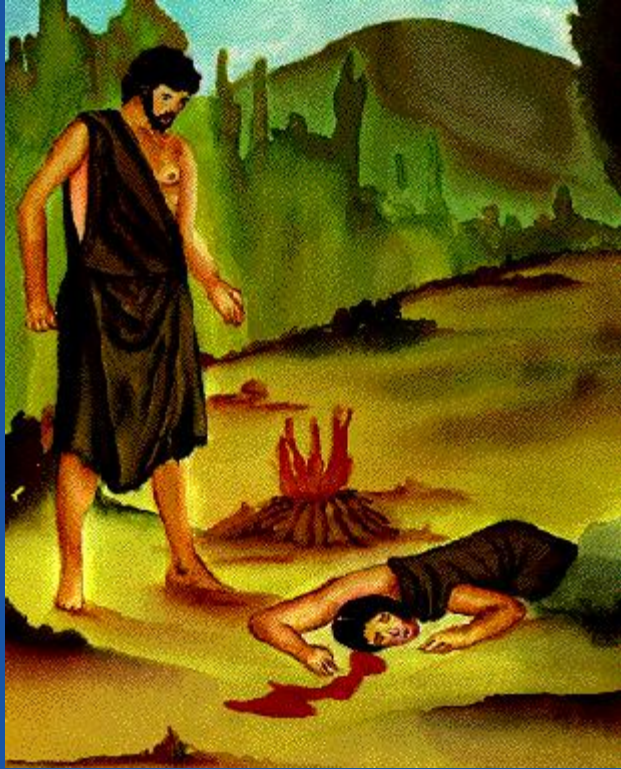


DEUTERONOMY 21: THE BROKEN-NECKED HEIFER



- Verses 1 – 9 discuss the problem of an unsolved murder
- Bloodguilt is the issue!
- NOT about trying to identify the murderer or bringing someone to justice
- Ritual involves breaking the neck of a Heifer (NOT a RED Heifer)



THE CAUSE
GUILT

THE REMEDY

ATONEMENT

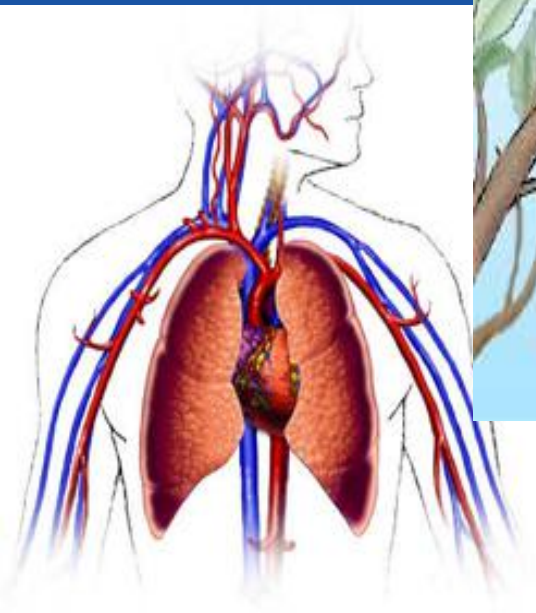
BLOOD

MANY FACETS OF BLOOD

- Used for making covenants
- May not EAT blood
- Cannot take the blood of an innocent person (murder)
- Used for atonement
- Central in almost all known ancient worship practices



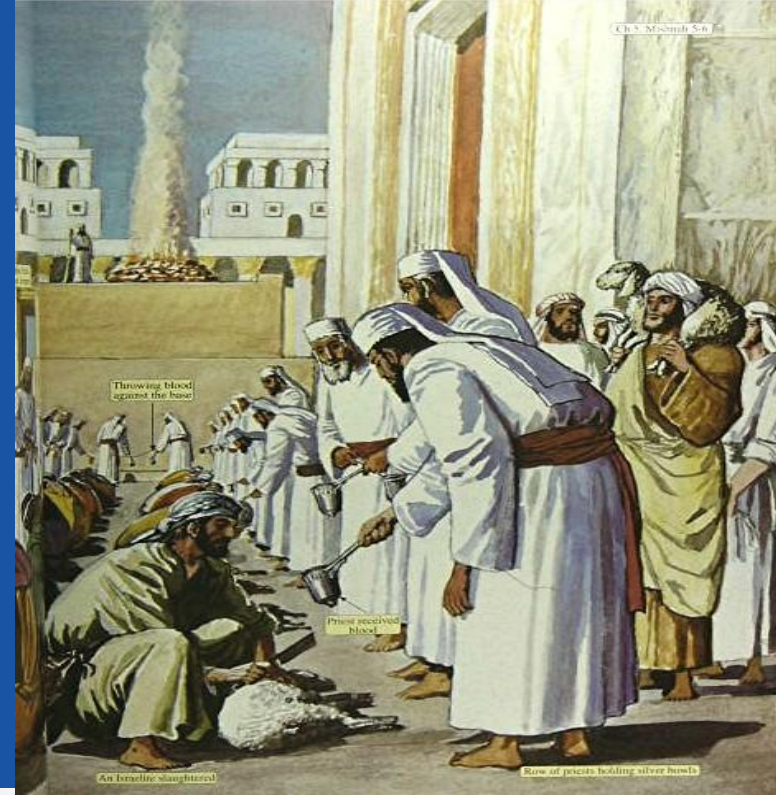
ALL LIFE IS NOT EQUAL



- God killed an animal to cover Adam and Eve
- Only blood could atone
- Plant life is of lesser value than animal life **BECAUSE** animal life is filled with blood
- Adam and Eve's shame resulted from their guilt
- Their guilt resulted from their sin
- The blood of the animal atoned for their sin

THE SUBSTITUTE

- A sacrifice is a substitute for the life of the perpetrator of the offense
- Cain brought plant life, Abel brought life with blood (animal)
- God rejected plant life as an atoning sacrifice
- Unjustified killing brings **BLOODGUILT** upon the killer
- It can only be satisfied with the blood of the guilty person.... **NO substitute!!**





BLOODGUILT

- Bloodguilt arises when God's laws of Blood are violated
- Gen 4:10 *"....the voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground..."*
- Violation of blood defiles the perpetrator, the land, and the local community
- Bloodguilt brings a negative SPIRITUAL effect
- **This law is still in effect!!**

THE CASE OF THE UNIDENTIFIED MURDERER



- The issue is NOT about finding the killer
- Rather, it is about what to do about the bloodguilt that now exists and how to absolve it
- Body is found out in the open, not inside a town
- Elders and judges measure to determine which town is nearest to the crime scene
- Closest town is assigned the bloodguilt AND the duty to absolve it

RITUAL HAPPENS IN A WADI

- A wadi is a riverbed that is usually dry
- Instruction is that the wadi must be “flowing strong”
- “flowing strong” is a poor translation. *Eitan* more means “hard” in the sense of **intolerant or unyielding**
- Heifer’s neck to be broken in the wadi
- Killing is cruel, but is similar to Ex. 13, 34 instruction to destroy impure firstborn animals

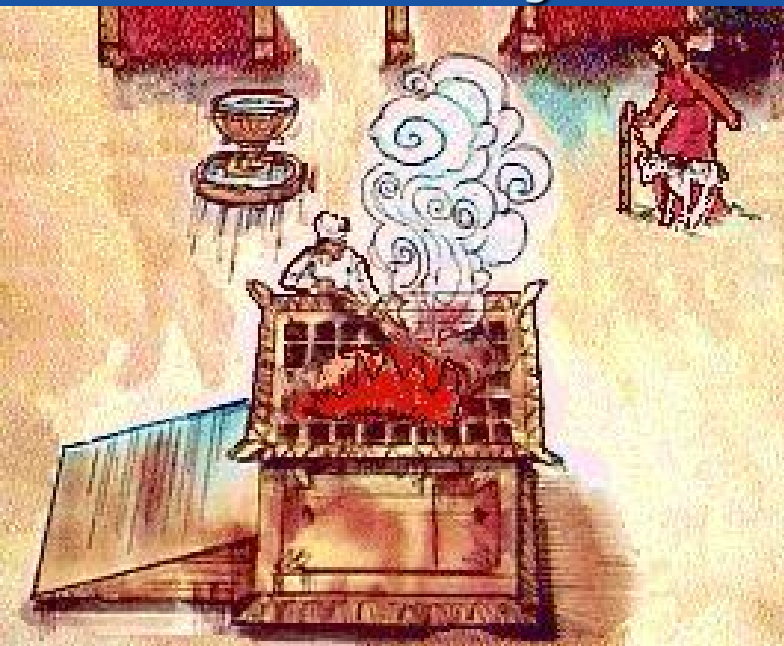


THE RITUAL PROCEEDS WITH PRIESTS



- The role of the Priests is small, mainly to supervise
- This ritual of the Heifer is NOT A SACRIFICE!
- Elders of the town assemble and wash their hands over the dead Heifer, signifying innocence
- Pontius Pilate did the same thing in front of Jesus
- The Elders do NOT make a vow to God, they say a PRAYER of declaration
- It is the prayer that is key, because the elders stand on their REDEMPTION as cause for absolution

“....and they will be forgiven of bloodguilt..”

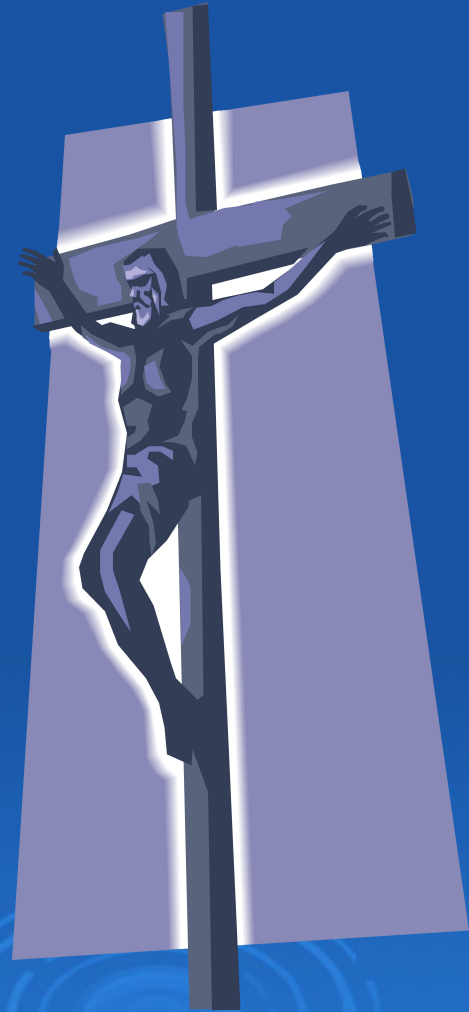


- The OT sacrificial rituals DID fully forgive!
- There is no such thing in the Bible as a difference between “cover” and “forgive”
- These various terms all translate the same Hebrew word *kipper* or *kaphar*
- Cover, forgive, absolve, expiate, all mean exactly the same thing!!



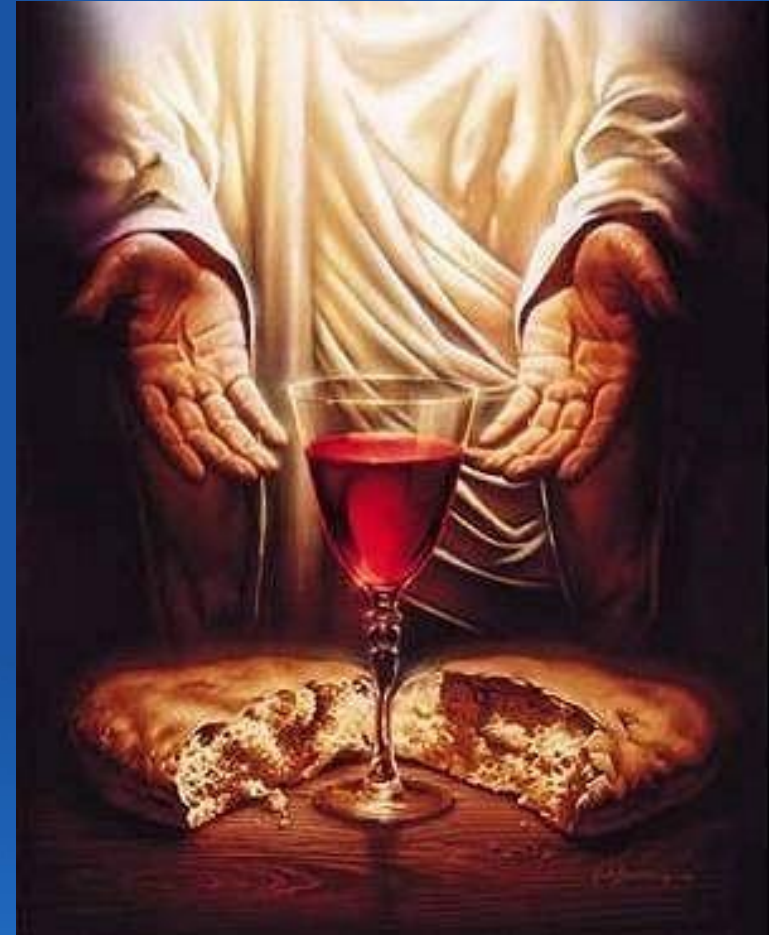
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

- Yeshua's sacrifice could atone for things the Sacrificial System could NOT
- The Sacrificial System did NOT create a path whereby a human could exchange his evil nature for a pure one
- Yeshua's sacrifice did NOT need to be repeated with each new trespass
- The Sacrificial System did NOT atone for "high-handed" or "intentional" sins, Christ's DID
- HOWEVER.....both the Sacrificial System and Christ's death brought FULL FORGIVENESS for the things they could atone for



PAUL SPEAKS ON BLOODGUILT

- 1Cor.11:27 *“...whoever...drinks the cup in an unworthy manner is guilty of profaning....the blood of the Lord...”*
- ONLY ONE exception concerning symbolic drinking of blood: Communion
- John 6:49 – 69
- *“Does this offend you?”*
- **“THIS”** is referring to Yeshua’s directive to drink His blood
- NOT taking the life of a murder keeps bloodguilt on the local community



CONSEQUENCES OF NOT AVENGING THE BLOOD OF THE INNOCENT

- America is a land stained with bloodguilt
- NOT taking the life of a murderer keeps the bloodguilt on the community
- Allowing Doctors to take the life of the unborn without consequence keeps bloodguilt on the community
- There is ONLY ONE REMEDY in the Scriptures for removing bloodguilt.....executing the perpetrator

ARMAGEDDON: CHRIST AS THE BLOOD AVENGER



- Why is the Battle of Armageddon so bloody and without mercy?
- It is like the Great Flood
- Only those who trusted God through Yeshua BEFORE the battle begins will be spared
- The Lord has declared the world bloodguilty and so will be destroyed
- **NOT A CALL FOR VIGILANTISM**