

INTRO

Webster Def: **guilt** – 1. The state of having done a wrong or committed an offense 2. a painful feeling of self-reproach resulting from a belief that one has done something wrong or immoral

How Does Man Deal with Guilt?

(1) Villainizing Guilt

“ Our culture has declared war on guilt. The very concept is considered medieval, obsolete, unproductive. ...According to Dr. Wayne Dyer [author of the 1976 mega-bestseller, “Your Erroneous Zones”], guilt is nothing but a neurosis. “Guilt zones,” he wrote, “must be exterminated, spray-cleaned and sterilized forever.” The library’s periodical catalog lists these recent magazine articles under the heading *Guilt*: “How to Stop Being So Tough on Yourself,” “Guilt Can Drive You Crazy,” “Guilt Mongering,” “Getting Rid of the Guilts,” “Stop Pleading Guilty,” “Don’t Feed the Guilt Monster”—and a host of similar titles. Even Ann Landers has written, “One of the most painful, self-mutilating, time- and energy-consuming exercises in the human experience is guilt. ... It can ruin your day— or your week or your life— if you let it. ... Remember guilt is a pollutant and we don’t need any more of it in the world.” ” John MacArthur, “The Vanishing Conscience,” p. 19, 20

(2) Justifying Guilt

“ The headline of an advice column caught my eye. It summed up the universal counsel of our generation: ‘IT’S NOT YOUR FAULT.’” A woman had written to say she had tried every form of therapy she knew and still could not break a self-destructive habit. “The first step you must take,” the columnist responded, “is to stop blaming yourself. Your compulsive behavior is NOT your fault; refuse to accept blame— and above all, do not blame yourself Heaping guilt on yourself only adds to your stress, low self-esteem, worry, depression, feelings of inadequacy, and dependence on others. Let go of your guilt feelings.”” John MacArthur, “The Vanishing Conscience,” p. 20, 21

(3) Relativizing Guilt Postmodernity

Seeking Remedy from Guilt by Saying that One Doesn't Believe in Sin is about as Effective to the Human Soul as Seeking Remedy from a Physical Disease by Saying I Don't Believe in Sickness

“ Guilt is present universally in the human soul, and we cannot deal with guilt without dealing with the religious questions it poses.” Paul Tournier

.... Might There Be a Better Remedy to GUILT?

John the Baptist: "Behold, the Lamb of God"

- (1) ***What Did this Statement Convey? Where Does John Get This Terminology to Describe Jesus Christ?***
- (2) ***What Does it Mean to You & Me?***

WHAT DID "LAMB OF GOD" MEAN? (What Does This Statement Convey?)

- Conveyance has to do with Content & Audience — not only what was said, but what they UNDERSTOOD it to mean

GENERALLY a Lamb related to Sin was about SACRIFICE

"Sacrifice was the central act of worship in Bible times, and was therefore understood by everyone." Nobuyoshi Kiuchi, "Zondervan Handbook to the Bible", p. 182

GOD'S PEOPLE LIVED THEIR LIVES ORDERED AROUND A SYSTEM OF SACRIFICE

- **The Centrality of the Tabernacle/Temple**
 - This Was CENTRAL because it was Central to God DWELLING IN THEIR MIDST

Ex 25:8 "And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst. Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it."
- **The Daily Offerings** But there was a Problem with God Dwelling in their midst — the Problem was the PRESENCE OF SIN
 - ***Sin Separates us From God***

Gen 2:17 "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die"

Isa 59:1-2 Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear; 2 but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.
 - ***Sin Has Consequences***

Rom 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death"

What is it that Keeps God From VISITING SIN'S CONSEQUENCE on His People? This System of Sacrifice

Leviticus Establishes the Guidelines for Sacrifice: 5 Different "Routine" Offerings described in Lev 1-6

“ There was a standard pattern of ritual. Worshipers brought their offerings to the forecourt of God's Tent. They laid their hand on their offering, indicating that it was their property and substitute, and slaughtered it. (If it was a public offering the priest did this).” Zondervan Handbook to the Bible, p. 181

- o **The Yearly Calendar and the Festivals** 7 Festivals involving Sacrifices
 - The Day of Atonement ... Lev 16
 - **Atonement** = to cover, to propitiate, to make satisfaction
 - The Passover Ex 12:1-7, 11-13, 46

Jn 1:29

~1500 Years of Festival Cycles with Millions of Lambs Slain ~1500 Yrs of Daily Sin Offerings with an Innumerable Number of Sacrifices

"Behold THE Lamb of God... who TAKES AWAY the sin of the world" FINALLY!

Heb 9:11 - 10:18 Scripture's Commentary on Scripture

DEALING WITH GUILT

Application — do you know what it is to have your sins "TAKEN AWAY"

Heb 9:14 the effect of the Blood of Christ — Our Consciences are Purified, so that we Can Serve the living God

As Ann Landers has written, "One of the most painful, self-mutilating, time- and energy-consuming exercises in the human experience is guilt. ... It can ruin your day— or your week or your life

UNLIKE Modern Man (Trying to Suppress & Silence Guilt)— God Placed Guilt as a Feature Item (Heb 10:3)

Guilt is Like the Bodies' PAIN MECHANISM — Pain Informs us that SOMETHING'S WRONG
– The Remedy to Pain isn't PAIN KILLERS It's CURE!! It's Healing! It's Relief!!

Heb 10:14-18 Guilty, yes — But Forgiven & ACCEPTED!

