

The Need to Restore

Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Leviticus 5-6.

B. The trespass offering deals with how to restore harmony in broken relationships.

II. The trespass offering described.

A. This sacrifice comes last.

1. The place to start is in relationship to God.

2. This gives power to carry out loving others.

B. This sacrifice has to do with the individual wrong acts that people have done.

1. All people can be forgiven, but not all trespasses can be passed over.

2. God can handle our guilt but man cannot always handle our wrongs.

a. Some things must be dealt with harshly.

b. God sometimes remove things that cause terrible tension in society.

III. The unique character of the trespass offering.

A. It stressed making good a wrong that had been done as far as it could be.

B. It is sometimes necessary to go back and correct problems that have been done in the past.

C. The classes of sin involved.

1. The sin of guilty silence. We have difficulty administrating justice because people do not want to get involved.

2. The matter of unclean things. God is teaching men about the things that will ultimately destroy them if they continue in a given way.

3. Rash oaths. A rash oath was a demonstration that man was trying to be something that he was not—man is not master of his own fate.

a. The trespass offering was to meet all of the sins mentioned.

b. It is necessary to admit wrong so we can accept the forgiveness that comes from the offering. Relationships are restored when wrong is admitted.

4. Sins of ignorance. This is to do something with full conviction only to find out that we have done something wrong later.

5. Cheating or lying against a neighbor. There will never be healing here until it is restored.

Application questions:

1. How can it be said that not all trespasses are forgiven?

2. Have you ever committed any of the sins that needed to be restored? What did you learn from your experience?

3. What steps can Christians take to be more responsible in the classes of trespasses the speaker mentions? Explain.
