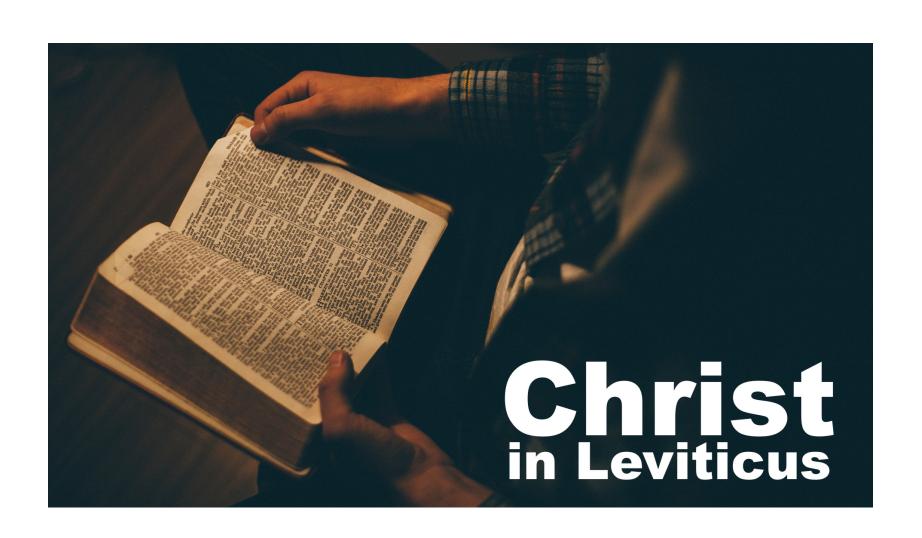




Four Challenges

- Where can Christ be found in the Old Testament?
 - Christ can be found in every OT verse.
 - Christ can not be found in any OT verse.
 - Finding Christ in a text when he's not "there."
 - Not finding Christ in a text when he "is there."



Some Considerations

- Christ's "presence in" the OT can be confirmed:
 - By NT declaration
 - Gen 1.1 -> Jn 1.1ff
 - By NT figures of speech (images/types)
 - Exodus 13.21ff, 14.19ff, 40.34ff -> 1 Cor 10.1ff
 - By NT prophetic fulfillment/explanation
 - Is 7.14 -> Mt 1.21-23
 - Hos 11.1 -> Mt 2.15
 - Jer 31.15 -> Mt 2.17-18
 - Gen 12.1ff -> Gal 3.6ff, 16ff



- The holiness of, and thus the sovereignty of, God
 - God exists (Lev 18.2)
 - Obey what God directs (Lev 18.4)
 - Live by what God directs (Lev 18.5)
 - Obey God only (Lev 19.3-4)
 - Obey God to serve others (Lev 19.10)
 - Obey God -> to be consecrated/holy (Lev 20.7)



- The sacrifices directed by God
 - Assume God's holiness
 - Assume that we are not holy
 - Assume that we can become/be declared holy by God
 - Leviticus' sacrifices
 - Are not just descriptive
 - They are prescriptive
 - They are a way to make what was unholy pure again
 - Sacrifice assumes covenantal relationship/fellowship with God



- The sacrifices directed by God
 - Require death/surrender/submission to God
 - Sacrifice assumes a loss ...
 - In anticipation of a gain
 - In anticipation of an unearned gain
 - Assumed that the sacrificial loss
 - Reflected a loss of self/admission of sin (contrition) ...
 - And resulted atonement/expiation
 - Drawing us near to God/thus accepted by God



- The sacrifices directed by God
 - Were a gift/tribute to God
 - As directed by God
 - But they were not
 - Payment for holiness
 - Payment for atonement
 - Payment for fellowship/covenant relationship



- The sacrifices directed by God
 - Were a gift/tribute to God
 - Though offered in the context of ...
 - Atonement/expiation
 - They did not earn atonement/expiation
 - Sacrifices were, nevertheless, ...
 - Still directed/desired/expected by God ...
 - As part of the atonement/expiation process
 - In anticipation of the coming perfect sacrifice/priest



- The atoning power/efficacy of sacrifices directed by God ...
 - Was not in our ability to offer sacrifices
 - Was not in the value of the sacrifices themselves
 - Was not in the act of the sacrifices themselves
 - Was always rooted in the grace, mercy, love and power of God



- The atoning power/efficacy of sacrifices directed/desired by God ...
 - Was rooted in the relational nature of the Godhead
 - Was grounded in the nature of God's boundless love
 - Was manifested in the role of the OT priesthood
 - Was based in the divine principles/practice of holiness/purity
 - Was fulfilled in every respect by the work of Jesus Messiah



Christ in Leviticus

- Christ the perfect sacrifice:
 - "He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." (Heb 9.26)
- Christ the perfect high priest:
 - "Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession." (Heb 4.14, cf. 4.14-5.10)



Christ in Leviticus

- Christ accomplished what the law (of sacrifices) could not:
 - "For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh," (Rom 8.3)
- In life and in death, Christ perfectly demonstrated what it meant:
 - That God exists That God was singular To be God/like God
 - To love God with all your heart, soul, strength and mind.
 - To love your neighbor as yourself.
 - For us to follow in his footsteps