



The Sin-Forgiving Sacrifice

Leviticus 4; 16

Hey! As you read the story, underline the parts you think are important.

Ashley, Eugene: Hi, teacher! Can we ask a question?

Teacher: Of course. What are you guys so curious about?

Ashley: The Bible talks about the tabernacle, but what was there? I mean, what is it?

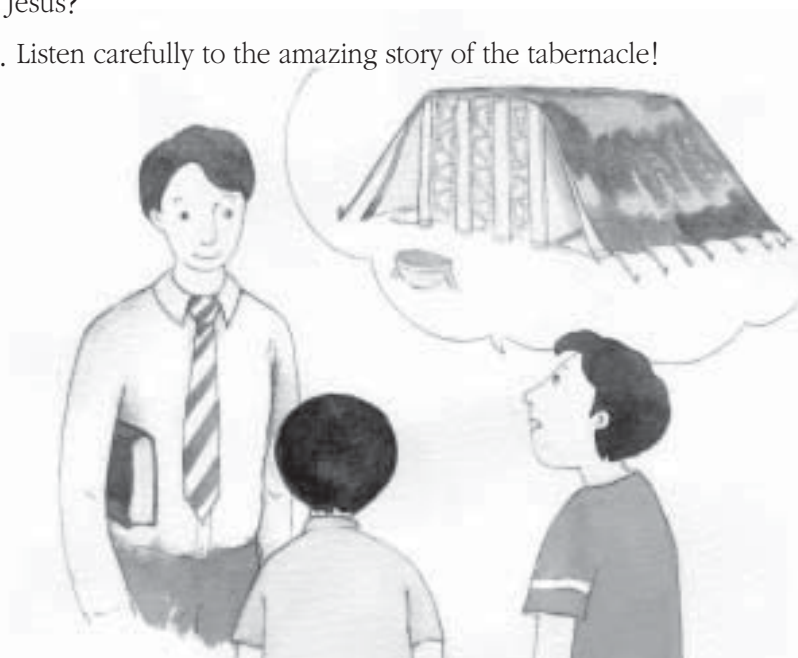
Eugene: Yeah. Every time I read about the tabernacle in the Bible, it's so hard to understand. Can you explain it to us, with very easy, simple terms, so we can understand?

Teacher: HAHAAHA! That was the reason?! Well, then I guess you've come to the right person. You see, when you study the tabernacle, you get to know Jesus.

Ashley: What? We get to know Jesus? Ah! That reminds me of that Pastor who spoke about the sacrifice at the tabernacle! Remember, in the Summer Retreat?

Eugene: Teacher, tell us about it. What happened at the tabernacle? And what does it have anything to do with Jesus?

Teacher: All right, then, kids. Listen carefully to the amazing story of the tabernacle!



Son: Hey, dad! All the people are gathering at the tabernacle. Is something special going on today?

Father: Today is the Day of Atonement. This is when we can be forgiven of our sin, as long as we follow the way of God. God has given us a way where we can be forgiven of our sins. It's the sacrifice we do every year.

Son: Oh, that! Yeah, I remember... But hey dad, I don't understand how our sins can be forgiven.



Father: Well, son, what we first need is some cattle to take our sins for us.

Son: Oh, so that's why some people were bringing goats before. Wait, so do the goats have to die or something? But they didn't even do anything!

Father: Well, yes. It's true that they don't deserve to die, but innocent livestock must suffer for us instead. You see, it's the blood that can save us, which is why we have to kill them in order to be forgiven of our sins. It's the way of God, which He has spoken to us.



The father and son joined the rest of the Israelites at the tabernacle and saw as the high priest put his hands on a young goat to transfer the sin of Israel to the goat. The high priest then killed the goat on the altar of burnt offering.

Son: Aw, man! Why does the goat have to die and shed all its blood like that? Does God hate sins that much?





Father: It's the only way, son. Now the high priest is entering the holy place. Inside is the holy of holies, or the Most Holy Place, which is where the high priest sprinkles the blood of the goat on the Ark of the Covenant. If God decides to forgive us our sins, the high priest will come out of the holy of holies safely, but if our sins are not forgiven, the high priest will die there.



Son: Well, it sounds like the high priest is still alive.

Father: Ah! Yes, son. This year, God has forgiven us all of our sins. Thank God.

Teacher: And that's what would happen at the tabernacle.

Ashley: Oh, so in the Old Testament times, the people were forgiven for their sins like that.

Teacher: That's right. Do you remember what I asked you before, right before you were saved?

Ashley: Uh, you mean about my puppy? You asked me if my puppy could die instead of me, and then you told me that it couldn't because God doesn't use that way anymore.

Teacher: Yeah, that's it. Animals can't die for us, but God has given us a different way.

You see, the Israelites had to give sacrifices every year for the forgiveness of their sins, but actually, that was an incomplete sacrifice. To make it complete, God sent Jesus Christ to this world, who is the one who died for us and why we can go to heaven.

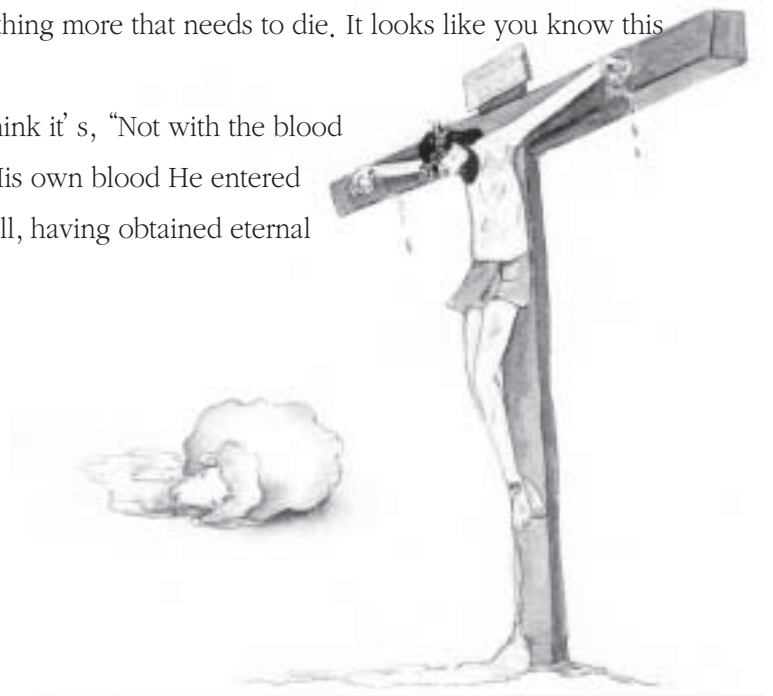
Eugene: Yeah, because He was like an innocent lamb, who didn't sin at all. Isn't that why it says, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" in John?

Teacher: Yes, that's right! That's why Jesus had to shed his blood and die. If there's no blood, then there's no forgiveness, you see.

Eugene: Yeah, and because Jesus died, goats and lambs don't need to be killed anymore, right?

Teacher: Yup, that's right. There's nothing more that needs to die. It looks like you know this pretty well, Eugene.

Ashley: Oh, I remember that verse. I think it's, "Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption."



but this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God.

Hebrews 10:12



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Teacher: Yes, that's the one.

Eugene: Teacher, my brother was talking about the high priest and Jesus, but I don't get it. What's so similar between them?

Teacher: Ah, hehehe. Good question. Well, you see, whenever the priest went into the holy place to sprinkle the blood on the Ark of Covenant, the Israelites had to see him come out alive for them to know that their sins were forgiven, right? If he came out alive, they were forgiven, but if he didn't, they were not. It was the same for Jesus.

Eugene: Oh, so if Jesus lived, we're all forgiven, but if He stayed dead, then we're not?

Teacher: Yeah. Jesus died because of our sins, and in order to let us know that we have been made righteous (meaning our spirits are clean before God), He resurrected.

Eugene: Ah, that makes a lot of sense!

Teacher: Yeah, I know, right? That's why the Bible is such an amazing book.

Ashley: I'm so glad we don't need to worry about our sins like how the priests used to worry every year! We don't have to die anymore. It's really good to know that Jesus resurrected and is living in Heaven even to this day. Thank God!

Eugene: Yeah, thank God!

Teacher: Thank God indeed!





How Great is God's Grace for You?

The grace of God is an amazing thing for us all. Although God died once for all the people in the world, His death has a personal meaning to each and every one of us. We are saved through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. If you feel and understand the personal importance of Jesus' death for you, write down and share how His death affected you and how you feel and think about it.

(This is called a "Testimony.")

Parents

Teacher