

The Grain Offering: Lev. 2:1-16, 6:14-23

March 28, 2018

The King James Version calls this the *meat offering* even though no animal flesh is involved. It is helpful to remember that *meat* in KJV English usually means the same as *food* to us. Darby calls this offering by its technical term, the *oblation*.

Questions:

1. We read in Col. 2:17, Heb. 8:5, and Heb. 10:1 that the law and sacrifices are but shadows of the perfect reality that is to come, which is found in Christ. What does each of these aspects of the grain offering symbolize in Jesus's life?

Starting with fine flour

Placing a handful of flour on the altar

Cooking bread in an oven or covered pot

Frying bread on a griddle

Mixing oil with the flour (oil signifying the Spirit)

Adding frankincense to the flour that is burned on the altar

Excluding leaven (yeast) in the offering

Prohibiting honey in the offering (Kelly: *He came not to gratify even the amiable side of human nature. He came to do the will of God.*)

Including salt in all offerings (see Num. 18:19, 2 Chron. 13:5)

Priests eating the offering

2. Is this an atoning offering?
3. Only the priests could eat the bread of the grain offering, not the ordinary Israelite who brought it. Does this mean that full communion with Christ is reserved for a special class of Christians?
4. The grain offering alone does not involve the death of an animal. What might that signify?
5. The collection in many churches is called the offering, as in passing the offering plate. Is this an appropriate term? How does that donation correspond to what we've read in Leviticus, and does it not?
6. While we're at it, what does *Leviticus* mean?