

The Book of Leviticus
The Sanctity of Blood
Leviticus 17:1-16 (page 80)

Sunday, January 17, 2016

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We are to worship God alone and no other (Lev 17:1-9)

- We are not be involved in idolatry (Lev 17:1-7)
- We are to preserve the unity of our worship (Lev 17:8-9)

God protects the sanctity of blood
(Lev 17:10-16; Gen 4:10; 9:1-6)

- Man is not to eat the blood of any animal - whether domestic or wild game (v 10, 13-16)

The reasons for this include:

- The life of the creature is in the blood (v 11)
- The function of shed blood is divinely appointed for the atonement of mankind (v 11)

The significance of the blood in verse 11 is foundational to the ultimate atonement provided by the blood of Christ (Heb 9:22)

The blood of Christ was superior to the past sacrifices because:

- it alone could take away sins (Heb 9:28; 10:3-10)
- His blood provides redemption and forgiveness (Eph 1:7); justification (Rom 5:9); reconciliation and peace (Col 1:20)
- It is the only means of salvation (1 Peter 1:18-19; Acts 4:12)
- Jesus Himself emphasized this truth (John 6:53-59)
- We are to treasure the blood of Christ and not profane it (1 Cor 11:23-32; Heb 10:28-31)