



GLC WEEKLY

(14 April 2022)

Jesus Was Crucified for Our Unintentional Sin

Thomas W. Jacobson, Global Life Campaign

Our sins, both unintentional and intentional, small or great, minor or mortal, cost Jesus His life. Jesus was crucified to atone for our sins. This week, we remember Jesus' betrayal, mock trial, brutal beating, and horrible crucifixion. We call the day of His crucifixion and death "Good Friday" because He paid the full penalty for our sin and, on the third day, rose from the dead.

Yesterday I was reading the book of Leviticus, and in chapter 4 "the LORD spoke to Moses" and gave him the Law of God pertaining to sin offerings. I thought He would first speak about intentional sin, but He began: "If a person sins unintentionally . . ." (4:2), and addressed four individuals or groups:

- "(I)f the anointed priest sins so as to bring guilt on the people" (4:3);
- "(I)f the whole congregation . . . commits error" (4:13);
- "When a leader sins and unintentionally does . . ." (4:22); or
- "(I)f anyone of the common people sins unintentionally" (4:27).

"(W)hen the sin which they have committed becomes known" (Leviticus 4:14, 23, 28), what does God require them to do to be forgiven and restored? God requires the person or community to acknowledge, confess (agree with how God sees), and repent (turn from and go the opposite way) of the sin. But that is not enough. God requires a blood sacrifice for atonement of sin, "for without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness" (Hebrews 9:22). Afterwards, God will grant forgiveness: "the priest shall make atonement for them, and they shall be forgiven" (Leviticus 4:20, 26, 31, 35).

Jesus began His ministry with these words: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17). In our time, there is a great reluctance to acknowledge anything as sin, or ourselves as sinners; yet without repentance for sin, we cannot enter His kingdom. By offering up Himself "once for all" (Romans 6:10), being "obedient to the point of death" (Philippians 2:8), Jesus made atonement for all of our sins (Hebrews 2:17). He also became our Eternal High Priest, who "always lives to make intercession for" us, and proclaims, "they shall be forgiven" to all of us who humble ourselves and repent of our sins (Hebrews 3:1; 7:25; 1 John 1:8-10).

Regarding abortion, an aspect that I have struggled with is the level of awareness and responsibility of a girl or woman who is deceived, aborts her child, and later comes to the stunning realization: "I killed my baby!" Leviticus chapter 4 and other Scriptures make very clear that no matter what the level of awareness was, acknowledgement, confession, repentance and atonement are essential to receive forgiveness and restoration. On this Good

Friday and Easter weekend, would it not bring great joy to us if men and women involved in abortion became aware of, confessed and repented of their sin, and received Christ's atonement and forgiveness? Not only would they be restored personally, but if many, even millions guilty of this sin in our land, did the same, the greatest spiritual revival could be unleashed in our nation, and the nation could be restored.

For the Giver of Life, Giver of Forgiveness, and Restorer of our souls,

Thomas W. Jacobson,
Founder & Executive Director
Global Life Campaign
TJacobson@GLC.life