

## *Blood for Atonement*

17:1 **T**HEN the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 “Speak to Aaron and to his sons, and to all the sons of Israel, and say to them, ‘This is what the LORD has commanded, saying, 3 “Any man from the house of Israel who slaughters an ox, or a lamb, or a goat in the camp, or who slaughters it outside the camp, 4 and <sup>a</sup>has not brought it to the doorway of the tent of meeting to present *it* as an offering to the LORD before the <sup>1</sup>tabernacle of the LORD, bloodguiltiness is to be reckoned to that man. He has shed blood and that man shall be cut off from among his people. 5 <sup>1</sup>“The reason is so that the sons of Israel may bring their sacrifices which they were sacrificing in the open field, that they may bring them in to the LORD, at the doorway of the tent of meeting to the priest, and sacrifice them as sacrifices of peace offerings to the LORD. 6 “And the priest shall sprinkle the blood on the altar of the LORD at the doorway of the tent of meeting, and <sup>a</sup>offer up the fat in smoke as a soothing aroma to the LORD. 7 “And <sup>a</sup>they shall no longer sacrifice their sacrifices to the <sup>1</sup>goat demons with which they play the harlot. This shall be a permanent statute to them throughout their generations.”

**8** “Then you shall say to them, ‘Any man from the house of Israel, or from the aliens who sojourn among them, who offers a burnt offering or sacrifice, 9 and <sup>a</sup>does not bring it to the doorway of the tent of meeting to <sup>1</sup>offer it to the LORD, that man also shall be cut off from his people.

**10** <sup>a</sup>“And any man from the house of Israel, or from the aliens who sojourn among them, who eats any blood, <sup>b</sup>I will set My face against that person who eats blood, and will cut him off from among his people. 11 ‘For <sup>a</sup>the <sup>1</sup>life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for <sup>b</sup>it is the blood by reason of the <sup>1</sup>life that makes atonement.’ 12 “Therefore I said to the sons of Israel, ‘No person among you may eat blood, nor may any alien who sojourns among you eat blood.’ 13 “So when any man from the sons of Israel, or from the aliens who sojourn among them, <sup>1</sup>in hunting catches a beast or a bird which may be eaten, <sup>a</sup>he shall pour out its blood and cover it with earth.

**14** <sup>a</sup>“For *as for the* <sup>1</sup>life of all flesh, its blood is *identified* with its <sup>1</sup>life. Therefore I said to the sons of Israel, ‘You are not to eat the blood of any flesh, for the <sup>1</sup>life of all flesh is its blood; whoever eats it shall be cut off.’ 15 <sup>a</sup>“And when any person eats *an animal* which dies, or is torn *by beasts*, whether he is a native or an alien, he shall wash his clothes and bathe in water, and remain unclean until evening; then he will become clean. 16 “But if he does not wash *them* or bathe his body, then <sup>a</sup>he shall bear his <sup>1</sup>guilt.”

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<sup>a</sup> Deut. 12:5-21

<sup>1</sup> Lit., *dwelling place*

<sup>1</sup> Lit., *In order that*

<sup>a</sup> Num. 18:17

<sup>a</sup> Ex. 22:20; 32:8; 34:15; Deut. 32:17; 2 Chr. 11:15; Ps. 106:37f.; 1 Cor. 10:20

<sup>1</sup> Or, *goat-idols*

<sup>a</sup> Ex. 20:24; Lev. 17:4

<sup>1</sup> Lit., *do*

<sup>a</sup> Gen. 9:4; Lev. 3:17; 7:26, 27; Deut. 12:16, 23-25; 1 Sam. 14:33

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<sup>b</sup> Lev. 20:3, 6; Jer. 44:11

<sup>a</sup> Gen. 9:4; Lev. 17:14

<sup>1</sup> Lit., *soul*

<sup>b</sup> Heb. 9:22

<sup>1</sup> Lit., *soul*

<sup>1</sup> Lit., *who in hunting*

<sup>a</sup> Deut. 12:16

<sup>a</sup> Gen. 9:4; Lev. 17:11

<sup>1</sup> Lit., *soul*

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<sup>a</sup> Ex. 22:31; Lev. 7:24; 22:8; Deut. 14:21

<sup>a</sup> Num. 19:20

<sup>1</sup> Or, *iniquity*

<sup>i</sup>*The New American Standard Bible*, (La Habra, California: The Lockman Foundation) 1977.