

# **Second Baptist Church of Doylestown**

## **Bible Study Notes**

**2-10-21**

### **Leviticus 2**

#### **Uncooked Grain Offering - Verses 1-3**

<sup>1</sup> "When anyone brings a grain offering to the LORD, their offering is to be of the finest flour. They are to pour olive oil on it, put incense on it <sup>2</sup> and take it to Aaron's sons the priests. The priest shall take a handful of the flour and oil, together with all the incense, and burn this as a memorial portion on the altar, a food offering, an aroma pleasing to the LORD. <sup>3</sup> The rest of the grain offering belongs to Aaron and his sons; it is a most holy part of the food offerings presented to the LORD.

**2:1-3** The grain offering accompanied all burnt offerings and was a gift of thanks to God. It reminded the people that their food came from God and that they owed their lives to him. Three kinds of grain offerings are listed: (1) finest flour with oil and incense, (2) baked cakes or wafers of finest flour and oil, and (3) roasted kernels of grain with oil and incense. The absence of yeast symbolized the absence of sin, and the oil symbolized God's presence. Part of the grain offering was burned on the altar as a gift to God, and the rest was eaten by the priests. The offerings helped support them in their work.

#### **Cooked Grain Offerings - Verses 4-10**

<sup>4</sup> "If you bring a grain offering baked in an oven, it is to consist of the finest flour: either thick loaves made without yeast and with olive oil mixed in or thin loaves made without yeast and brushed with olive oil. <sup>5</sup> If your grain offering is prepared on a griddle, it is to be made of the finest flour mixed with oil, and without yeast. <sup>6</sup> Crumble it and pour oil on it; it is a grain offering. <sup>7</sup> If your grain offering is cooked in a pan, it is to be made of the finest flour and some olive oil. <sup>8</sup> Bring the grain offering made of these things to the LORD; present it to the priest, who shall take it to the altar. <sup>9</sup> He shall take out the memorial portion from the grain offering and burn it on the altar as a food offering, an aroma pleasing to the LORD. <sup>10</sup> The rest of the grain offering belongs to Aaron and his sons; it is a most holy part of the food offerings presented to the LORD.

**2:4** This is another kind of grain offering, or in another form. The former was only fine flour and oil mixed together, and frankincense put on it. But this was made up into cakes, and baked in an oven, and not in anything else, according to the Jewish tradition. He that says, lo, upon me be a grain offering baked in an oven, he may not bring that baked otherwise. The fact that this Bread (whether baked in an oven or served separately), must be without leaven, because leaven symbolizes sin. Jesus was without sin. In fact, He was Holy. This offering therefore must be Holy, and without leaven. The oil here again, symbolizes the Spirit.

**2:9** This memorial (grain offering), speaks of the death of the body of Jesus Christ on the cross for us. In the very next verse, we will see the Bread, Jesus, feeding the living. The life of Christ is the living Bread. We Christians have life, because we partake of the Bread of life (Jesus Christ our Lord).

**2:10** Two very important things happened in Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. It glorified the Father (sweet savor), and it brought life to all who would believe. This Bread, we have been looking at here, is symbolic of the body of Christ. All must eat of this Bread to have everlasting life. John 6:53 "Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you." I have one question for you. Have you eaten of this living Bread?

### **Other Ingredients - Verses 11-13**

**11** "Every grain offering you bring to the LORD must be made without yeast, for you are not to burn any yeast or honey in a food offering presented to the LORD. **12** You may bring them to the LORD as an offering of the firstfruits, but they are not to be offered on the altar as a pleasing aroma. **13** Season all your grain offerings with salt. Do not leave the salt of the covenant of your God out of your grain offerings; add salt to all your offerings.

**2:11** Why was no yeast allowed in the grain offerings? Yeast is a bacterial fungus (or mold) and is, therefore, an appropriate symbol for sin. It grows in bread dough just as sin grows in a life. A little yeast will affect the whole loaf, just as a little sin can ruin a whole life. Jesus expanded this analogy by warning about the "yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees" (Matthew 16:6; see Mark 8:15). How do you visualize the effects of sin in your life? What do you do to eliminate sin from your attitudes and actions?

**2:13** The offerings were seasoned with salt as a reminder of the people's covenant (contract) with God. Salt is a good symbol of God's activity in a person's life, because it penetrates, preserves, and aids in healing. God wants to be active in your life. Let him become part of you, penetrating every aspect of your life, preserving you from the evil all around, and healing you of your sins and shortcomings.

**2:13** In ancient Middle Eastern lands, an agreement was sealed with a gift of salt to show the strength and permanence of the contract. Salt also points to the effects of a truthful agreement—it changes behavior. In Matthew 5:13 believers are called "the salt of the earth." Let the salt you use each day remind you that you are now one of God's covenant people, who actively helps to preserve and purify the world.

### **Offering the First Grain Harvested - Verses 14-15**

**14** "If you bring a grain offering of firstfruits to the LORD, offer crushed heads of new grain roasted in the fire. **15** Put oil and incense on it; it is a grain offering. **16** The priest shall burn the memorial portion of the crushed grain and the oil, together with all the incense, as a food offering presented to the LORD.

**2:14-15** Crushed heads of new grain mixed with oil and baked was typical food for the average person. This offering was a token presentation of a person's daily food. In this way, people acknowledged God as provider of their food. Even a poor person could fulfill this offering. God was pleased by the motivation and the dedication of the persons making it.