

Fulfillment Of the Sin Sacrifice

Second Edition

Why did Christ have to die?
How does His Sacrifice saves us?
What are the reasons?

First Century Theology

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Foreword

After the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, His apostles went out in power to preach the true Gospel of the coming Kingdom of God. One crucial aspect of that Gospel was the essential acceptance of Jesus as our Savior. Most people in the Christian world view this aspect too superficially. This is due to reliance on New Testament scripture only. By doing this, the true and deeper meaning of the acceptance of Christ is lost on most Christians.

What does it really mean to accept Christ? This book opens one of the many aspects of what that acceptance really entails. It is not in vain that we have the Old Testament scriptures included in our Bibles! The whole Bible is required to understand the full Gospel message. The original apostles were well equipped to preach the whole message using Old Testament Scriptures. This was what the apostle Paul did.

"23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into *his* lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the **law of Moses**, and *out of* the **prophets**, from morning till evening."
(Acts 28:23, KJV)

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

This book endeavors to expand on the initial concept of accepting Christ. It shows one aspect of that acceptance. There is much more to this requirement for salvation, and it will be dealt with in subsequent books. Therefor, what is discussed here is by no means the complete story. This is however a start. For those that are serious about salvation, it is imperative to study and become fully acquainted with the full implications of what it means to accept Jesus Christ as our personal Savior.

Prelude

The following fictitious story will help to put the reader in the right frame of mind to grasp the truth of the sin Sacrifice.

The owner of a growing business had many children. His desire was to build an empire for his children. The way to do this was to educate his children into the finer skills of the business. One of the main duties would be to travel far and wide to establish and manage new opportunities in outlying areas. To do this the children would have to learn to travel far and fast on speedways, in order to cope with business demands.

The father decided that he would give these children expensive executive cars. Not only would they be able to travel fast on super highways, it would also give them credibility in the business world.

But these are powerful machines that can kill in the hands of immature, undisciplined and inexperienced people. So he decided to start them off on slower town cars. Some children took up the challenge, but some didn't take it serious enough. Some demanded executive cars from the beginning! They ended up without any cars. The father knew better than to spoil them and allow them to self-destruct. There were many attitude problems. Selfishness, egotism,

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

and other problems grew between the children. One of the problems was that they were upset with the dad's decision that the oldest brother would take over as head of the empire. After seeing the obedient ones appearing to learn the law of the road, the father had some hope for them, but to his dismay, they still caused accidents. They still transgressed occasionally. This could be deadly! Somehow he had to do something that would result in total and permanent obedience, complete discipline, and a total loving and caring attitude, without hate and revenge.

One day one of the sons was refused a date by his girlfriend. In his anger and spurned on by his hurt ego, he skipped a stop sign and crashed into another car. This was extremely disappointing. The father could never trust them with these executive cars, let alone his business. Sooner or later they would self-destruct. How could he rid them permanently of these human flaws? He decided on an incredibly brave and heartrending exercise. He would arrange for these children to be put under pressure. Then when they break the law skipping a stop sign, their oldest brother would cross the intersection at that moment, having the right of way, in perfect obedience, on a motorbike. This required an incredible amount of love and dedication on the part of the eldest son to offer himself in such a sacrifice!

The day when all this happened, the children in the small runabout was enraged again because they were not invited to a party, and what's more, their

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

friends went, and with other partners. In their rage, they worked up each other's anger, writhing in their hurt egos. The driver at that time was fuming, and skipped the stop sign on the way home, as has happened before. They crashed into their oldest brother on his motorbike, flinging him through the air, and off the road. When they came to their senses, they realized that it was their oldest brother! They were all frozen with shock in their car! They could not believe what they had just done! One of them went to look at the elder brother, lying in the field. He was hurt very badly, crying in pain, and probably dying. They phoned for the ambulance, and initially could not phone the dad, but he knew what had happened.

That night the children were in a state of shock. They mourned their deeds, and in particular the attitudes they had. They died that night emotionally, having apparently killed their own brother. They would finally be prepared to be the least, and to give love rather than to demand it. This would manifest itself in perfect love and obedience, no matter the circumstances. They had in fact crashed their own bloated egos. They would in future be willing to consider others first in fairness, before seeking their own interests, in selfishness.

The oldest brother fortunately did not die. The father had an ambulance ready and waiting for the accident to happen, and the paramedics were able to save the eldest son. He fully recovered.

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

A few months later, the dad arranged a function. That night the older brother came home, and the children had to face the brother they almost killed in their selfish rage. The dad knew that they will never disobey the rules of the road again, as the hurt and possible death of their oldest brother at their hands would always be uppermost in their minds and heart. Furthermore, by understanding the amount of love the elder brother have for them and to what lengths he would go to help them, they would not mind for him to become the head of the empire.

They would be reminded of this annually on the anniversary of the accident. If ever there would be and inkling of rebelliousness against the law or their eldest brother who became head of the empire, they would simply remind themselves or be reminded of what they had done to him, and what he was willing to suffer for them so that they could repent of their attitudes and wrong habits.

In the years that followed they overcame their human nature by reflecting on the dreaded events of the accident. This empowered them to always obey the law, even under pressure, for their love was now complete, and they overcame their selfishness by considering their eldest brother's selflessness. They proved that they would always drive with others in mind, and never cause an accident again.

The day finally came when the Father would appoint the oldest son as head of his empire. At the banquet the father also gave the other proven

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

children their executive cars, and they felt like crying again at the feet of their oldest brother, who helped them to overcome their selfishness. Thanks to him they matured. Now they could be trusted with these powerful machines, and the dad could safely see his empire being expanded, knowing that they would never doubt the eldest son's love for them.

Most people will find this story unbelievable. No older brother will ever be willing to sacrifice his life so that his younger brothers and sisters can face the result of their transgressions and attitudes in his mutilation. Yet this most unlikely story is actually true!

Chapter 1

Introduction to the Father

God the Father created the earth for a purpose. He wanted it to be inhabited by a growing family, His family. He planted a garden for them to exist in, to live from its fruit, and to enjoy the beauty of paradise. His first earthly son and daughter would also be husband and wife, and produce physical children in an ever-growing family, expanding paradise to eventually fill the earth. They would develop civilizations according to His plans, that would facilitate maximum utilization of His creation to their benefit, and they would live in joy and happiness. The Father had great plans.

"18 For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I *am* the LORD; and *there is none else*."

(Isaiah 45:18, KJV)

God formed the earth to be inhabited by loving sons and daughters. They were supposed to build paradise.

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

But His very first earthly son decided to go against his Father's wishes. He and his wife would follow their own ideas, born from their own limited experience and viewpoints, following their own selfish inclinations, making decisions that favor their own immediate shortsighted wishes, and would not take into account God's supreme purposes.

God gave instructions to Adam, but he would fail to keep the rules, from the beginning. In the Garden of Eden, God gave them instructions.

"16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."
(Genesis 2:16-17, KJV)

God the Father could clearly see thousands of years into the future, and knew the final result of disobedience to His rules. Those rules would protect His creation and purpose. Disobedience would lead to self-destruction.

Out of love for His first earthly children He gave the command, but Adam and Eve would not listen. They would disregard the rules. Satan also spoke with Adam and Eve, and presented alternatives to them, opposing the Father!

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

"Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? 2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: 3 But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: 5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6 And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. 7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. 8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. "

(Genesis 3:1-8, KJV)

The Father's first earthly children gave in to Satan's temptation. They disobeyed, and followed their own selfish ways, hiding their true motives. Our first parents and their offspring became rather selfish. This selfish way would have negative effects. We can see the result in what happened between their

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

first children, Cain and Abel. Notice how the relationship between them deteriorated.

"3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. 4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: 5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. 6 And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? 7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee *shall be* his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. 8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him."

(Genesis 4:3-8, KJV)

Mankind's own ways led to self-destruction, even premature death. God the Father knew what He was talking about. He knew better, and did not raise a mere rumor when He said that mankind would die when they act in defiance of Him. The history of mankind bears witness to mankind's inhumane treatment of his own kind. Many people over the world throughout the millennia have wondered which is better: to suffer mankind's self-destructive selfish ways, or natural death before the tribulation? Even today people commit suicide, for life among human beings becomes unbearable for some!

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

Speaking of a future time, God through Christ prophesied concerning the terrible situations that mankind would develop for itself:

"6 And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them."

(Revelation 9:6, KJV)

In many ways in many places many people through the ages have felt this way, even today. This is a terrible way to live. How did it get this bad? It is all due to actions in defiance of a loving Father. Why are we doing this? We will deal with this later, but it is clear that this defiance started from the beginning, and so also the incidence of death.

"12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"

(Romans 5:12, KJV)

Will the Father allow mankind to self-destruct? Will He allow the final war to occur and blaze forth to annihilate life from the earth? No. He has a plan. It will become clear as we continue.

Why did the first earthly children, Adam and Eve, decide to follow their selfish ways? The snake in the garden, also known as Satan, misled him. This rebellion of mankind was predated by a prior rebellion. Actually, the decision to create mankind on earth was made in part to prove a prior heavenly

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

rebellion as wrong and in total error. The earthly rebellion was eclipsed by a heavenly rebellion. The conversion and saving of earthly mankind will also be followed by the rectification of heavenly things, as we will see later.

Let's investigate the heavenly rebellion, and why Satan became the snake in the Garden of Eden, and managed to mislead Adam and Eve.

Introducing the heavenly children

In the distant past, perhaps millions of years ago, even before the earth was created, God created the heavenly host, or angels. They are mentioned in the Bible as angels, cherubs and even stars. The word Angel denotes their function as messengers, and stars as reflecting God's way of life, His Will and Law. All was well until a very senior angel conceived of the possibility to be different, to do things his own way, to act in defiance of God. Just like the worker that decided to introduce alterations of his own fancy in the manufacturing of products, in defiance of the clear instructions of the head design engineer, this angel came up with his own way of life, in defiance of the intended design. In so doing, he elevated himself to the level of head designer, opening the way for others to also experiment with their own alternatives, in an ill disciplined and eventual chaotic way. Everyone was acting in defiance of his master. This seemed

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

exciting at first, to break free from the discipline of the original design, to liberate and elevate the self. Initially it seemed exciting, but the results were disastrous.

Satan, also known as the dragon, enticed a third of the angels into his rebellion and disobedience. Speaking of a prior event while dealing with a prophecy that was being fulfilled, John wrote the following about two thousand years ago:

"And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. 4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth:"

(Revelation 12:3-4, KJV)

A third of the angels followed Satan into rebellion.

Christ also mentioned this when He walked on the earth:

"18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven."

(Luke 10:18, KJV)

What caused this to happen? Let's look at a clear description. Speaking of Satan being the spiritual motivator of the leadership of a particular earthly kingdom, Ezekiel said the following:

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

"12 Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. 13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone *was* thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. 14 Thou *art* the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee *so*: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. 15 Thou *wast* perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. 16 By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. 17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. "

(Ezekiel 28:12-17, KJV)

Satan decided to practice deceptive ways, to try and outsmart God and His Angels, and in so doing, become equal to God, to be a god himself. Satan wanted to be equal to the Father, and not following the Father. But the Master designer, the Mind that designed and created not just the physical universe

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

as we know it, but also the invisible spiritual world, knows what is best. He designed and created it for eternal existence, and asks for obedience out of love, to empower, expand and protect His design. He loves His creation, and is not trying to make life difficult for us. Only He knows how His creation functions best, and any alteration leads to damage and eventual destruction.

Satan and the fallen host left their assigned functions, responsibilities and duties. This has left the earth void and empty.

"6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."
(Jude: 6, KJV)

Personal creations in defiance to a loving God probably led to the creation of monstrous and vicious animals, always fighting each other, surviving through killing any perceived competition. (Consider the designs of computer games today, and how children enjoy their destructive ways!)

Several eras of animal kingdoms were experimented with, until God decided to intervene. He had to disprove Satan and the fallen host, and would do so through a renewal of the creation on the earth. This becomes clear when we carefully analyze the first two verses in the Bible.

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

"1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

(Genesis 1:1, KJV)

This occurred after the spiritual creation. Then the next verse states a condition that came to be.

"2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters."

(Genesis 1:2, KJV)

The word "was" could also have been translated "became". That would probably have been a more correct rendering of the Hebrew. We should rather understand that the earth became void and dark. This may have been the case due to the termination of the previous era of life forms.

What followed was then the preparation of the earth with plant and animal life forms more conducive to God's purpose. The Father would create mankind, physical beings, and would have them procreate, so expanding His family. But would they act in line with His Will? If not, they would be able to witness the self-destruction of their alternative ways in a more immediate and physical form. So also would the angels view the results on the earth. The results would be visible for all to see. One would be able to experience a physical death, but not yet a spiritual death. Through the approaching physical death people will hopefully come to their senses, and so

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

avoid the spiritual death. Christ was well aware of this purpose.

"28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him [God] which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."
(Matthew 10:28, KJV)

The laws of the earthly creation was set in motion to demonstrate that God's Laws lead to life, and defiance of God and His laws lead to death. The spiritual process of selfishness, lust, defiance and disobedience will then lead to physical actions that clearly demonstrate the destructiveness of a defiant attitude towards God.

"14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."
(James 1:14-15, KJV)

So we as earthlings are confronted with this choice, and it's clearly visible result.

"16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"
(Romans 6:16, KJV)

But the Father planned the ultimate destruction, the sin Sacrifice, for all to clearly understand the result

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

of our sin. In His death, we may begin to fully comprehend our sin, and turn around and repent.

"23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
(Romans 6:23, KJV)

Even the angels waited in anticipation to witness the sin Sacrifice.

"16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."
(1 Timothy 3:16, KJV)

The events on the earth are therefor of great importance for the angels, for they also see the result of rebellion and disobedience in death and destruction on the earth. It is going to have an effect on them as well. Hence they desired to understand the depths of insight concerning the sin sacrifice. Peter mentioned this eagerness of the angels to understand the salvation of mankind, as it will affect them as well.

"12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost

sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into. "

(1 Peter 1:12, KJV)

The angels watched as Adam and Eve made the wrong choice. And they watched as the second Adam, Christ, succeeded in excelling in total love, and demonstrated His sacrifice for us. He also showed the angels the awfulness of sin. We will delve deeper into what they saw and understood, and what we need to see and understand, to be saved from our sins.

Introducing Christ, our elder Brother

Almost two thousand years ago, religious and civil worlds were on a collision course. The forces of good and evil were headed for a cataclysmic clash. The fate of mankind was hanging in the balance, but God the Father was in control. All the angels of the universe were looking on, to witness God's power over evil. The reason for the existence of the physical creation was driven to its supreme purpose. The world would sit up and take notice, and ponder, and grow in wonder, sorrow and eventual repentance. What would initially appear as the

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

failure of the King, would turn out to be one of His finest moments.

Christ was involved in the formation of the nation Israel. He helped to establish the foundations of that civilization. He was there when the Ten Commandments were given. He discussed the laws of civilized structure and discipline with Moses, and Moses wrote it down.

"1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ."

(1 Corinthians 10:1-4, KJV)

This masterpiece of civilized code became the bedrock of the finest civilization that the ancient world knew. So wonderful was the existence of that kingdom in moral terms, that leaders of other nations traveled to it's capital, to witness for themselves that such a great kingdom and city did exist, with a king inspired by the wisdom of God.

"1 And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to prove Solomon with hard questions at Jerusalem, with a very great company, and camels that bare spices, and gold in abundance,

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.

2 And Solomon told her all her questions: and there was nothing hid from Solomon which he told her not.

3 And when the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon, and the house that he had built,

4 And the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel; his cupbearers also, and their apparel; and his ascent by which he went up into the house of the LORD; there was no more spirit in her.

5 And she said to the king, It was a true report which I heard in mine own land of thine acts, and of thy wisdom:

6 Howbeit I believed not their words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and, behold, the one half of the greatness of thy wisdom was not told me: for thou exceedest the fame that I heard.

7 Happy are thy men, and happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and hear thy wisdom.

8 Blessed be the LORD thy God, which delighted in thee to set thee on his throne, to be king for the LORD thy God: because thy God loved Israel, to establish them for ever, therefore made he thee king over them, to do judgment and justice."

(2 Chronicles 9:1-8, KJV)

Unfortunately the leaders of this most noble civilization did not give God the credit for their

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

great society, and mixed the true worship with paganism, causing God to allow them to fall from their glory, and even loose their power, and allowed another nation to destroy them, and take them away. However, for the prophecies to be fulfilled, the kingdom of Israel was restored, with Ezra and Nehemiah being the leaders. There needed to be a Temple in operation that Christ could come to, in order to prove some aspects of human nature, and the state of our existence. The prophecies had to be fulfilled.

However, it would not have been good for Israel alone to have had the opportunity to reach out for their Savior, and paradoxically turn on Him. It was God's will that all people should come to repentance. Therefor the gentile world also needed to be involved.

It was God's will that the strongest and most influential world power of that time should be present, and have the opportunity to choose good over evil. The first incidence of the Roman Empire was allowed to have its chance. Shortly before Christ was born, the Roman government gained control over Israel and Jerusalem, but was wise enough to allow the Jewish nation to continue with their religious practices. They allowed the religious authorities to have some authority over the people as well. It was understood as a way to maintain control. However, the Roman authorities were seen to be the final power over the religious authorities, in this case the Jewish Sanhedrin. This was a typical

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

separation of Church and state, with clearly defined authorities and limitations. This placed them both in a precarious position. The Romans could not fully comprehend nor participate in the Jewish religion, unless they admit that the God of the Jews were higher than the Roman emperor. The Jews, who knew they were worshipping the most high God, had to admit on a human plane that the Roman rulers were more powerful on an earthly level than the Jewish Sanhedrin, at least as far as their present physical life was concerned. Therefore, both would have been equally guilty if an innocent man was executed.

Christ understood this truce between church and state, as we can see from several of His remarks. Concerning monetary responsibility, Christ had the following to say:

"15 Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk.

16 And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men.

17 Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?

18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites?

19 Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny.

Fulfillment of the Sin Sacrifice

20 And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription?

21 They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's. "

(Matt 22:15-21, KJV)

Christ understood this coexistence and mutual responsibility, and accepted its importance. There is no reason why the status quo could not be maintained, as long as everybody concerned understood the boundaries and never crossed the line. But that happened in the end, and Christ was falsely accused.

The line was crossed. The clear distinction became blurred. Both Jew and Gentile had to become guilty of killing the Savior. Mankind's civilizations in general had to fail to choose God's goodness over mankind's evil, to comprehend their sinful nature.

Before we examine the events leading up to the death of our Savior, we need to investigate the true nature of the sacrifice. This was established from the earliest of times, as we shall see from the Old Testament.