

MODERN JEWS & THE TORAH



Do the modern-day Jews still follow the Old Law, more specifically, its requirements as they pertain to animal sacrifices?



Why aren't animal sacrifice rituals being carried out by Jews today as prescribed in the Old Testament laws they claim to observe?



Jews today do not perform animal sacrifices, even though they still follow the teachings of the Torah (first five books of the Old Testament where the sacrificial system is outlined).



- The system of sacrifices and offerings could ONLY be carried out at the Temple in Jerusalem according to the Old Testament laws.
- 1. Sacrifices had to be made at the central sanctuary, first the Tabernacle, and later at the Temple in Jerusalem (Deut. 12:13-14)
- 2. Only Levitical priests could perform the sacrifices (Numbers 18:1-7)
- 3. There had to be an altar for burnt offerings, which was originally movable but became a permanent fixture at the Temple (Exodus 27)



Public worship rituals, calendar, and traditions of modern Judaism still reflect the ancient sacrificial system instituted in the Torah.



Atonement Dilemma: Without the annual sin offerings, especially on Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement), how do Jews believe they can have their sins forgiven and atoned for? The sacrifices were the prescribed means in the Torah.



<u>Purity Dilemma</u>: Certain sins and forms of uncleanliness required specific sin offerings and purification rituals involving animal blood according to the Law. Without these, how can Jews achieve ritual purity?



Obedience Dilemma: The Torah commands animal sacrifices as part of obeying God's covenant with Israel. By not performing them, are Jews disobeying and violating the Law they view as eternally binding?



Biblical Priority Dilemma: If sacrifices were so central in the Torah, how can Jews justify completely setting aside those commandments while maintaining other ritual laws?



QUESTION: Do modern Jews see the sacrificial system as permanently obsolete or just temporarily suspended until a new Temple is built?



QUESTION: How can sins requiring a blood sacrifice be adequately dealt with through prayer and rituals instead?



QUESTION: Will Jews ever be able to truly follow the Torah's commandments without reinstating the sacrificial cult as prescribed?



QUESTION: For Jews expecting a Third Temple, what plans exist for reconstituting the Levitical priesthood and acquiring animals?