

**Table 1. Gradations of holiness**

|                         |   |                                     |                             |  |   |  |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|--|
| LIFE &<br>NORMALITY     | → | Increasingly abnormal               |                             | →  | DEATH &<br>TOTAL DISORDER                     |  |
|                         |   | <b>Very Holy</b>                    | <b>Holy</b>                 | <b>Clean</b>                                   | <b>Unclean</b>                                | <b>Very unclean</b>                      |
| <b>Place</b>            |   | Holy of Holies                      | Holy Place                  | court  | camp  | outside camp                             |
| <b>Time</b>             |   | Day of Atonement                    | festivals, Sabbath          | common days                                    |   |  |
| <b>Persons Admitted</b> |   | high priest                         | priest without deformity    | priests, Levites, and Israelites who are clean | those who are clean but have minor impurities | those with major impurities and the dead |
| <b>Animals</b>          |   | blood of perfect sacrificial animal | perfect sacrificial animals | clean animals                                  | unclean animals                               | carcasses                                |
| <b>Ritual</b>           |   | sacrificial (not eaten)             | sacrificial (priests eat)   | sacrificial (non-priests may eat)              | purification (one day)                        | purification (seven days)                |

Table 2. The five major sacrifices: their form and function

| Name      | Transliteration and traditional translation | Ref.1    | Ref.2   | Material Offered  | Disposition                                     | Focus of Ritual                          | Primary Purpose  |
|-----------|---|----------|---------|---|---|--|--|
| עֹלָה     | <i>'olāh</i><br>burnt offering              | 1        | 6:8–13  | individual male animal (its value according to the means of the offerer)  | all burned                                      | burning of the whole animal              | substitutionary atonement  |
| מִנְחָה   | <i>minḥāh</i><br>grain offering             | 2        | 6:14–23 | salted, unleavened grain or cakes   | part burned, the rest assigned to priests       | presentation of grain                    | tribute: thanksgiving and consecration to the covenant Lord      |
| שְׁלֵמִים | <i>shelāmim</i><br>peace offering           | 3        | 7:11–21 | animal from flock or herd (value depending on the means of the offerer)   | fat burned, the rest eaten as a fellowship meal | distribution of flesh to various parties | enjoyment of fellowship between the people and Yahweh            |
| חַטָּאת   | <i>ḥaṭṭā'at</i><br>sin offering             | 4:1–5:13 | 6:24–30 | bull (for priest or community)<br>male goat (for community leader)<br>female goat or lamb (for individual)<br>doves or pigeon or grain (for a poor person)<br>ram | fat burned, the rest eaten by priests           | manipulation of the blood                | purification of the sanctuary and the people                     |
| אֲשָׁם    | <i>'āshām</i><br>guilt offering             | 5:14–6:7 | 7:1–10  | ram   | fat burned, the rest eaten by priests           | value of the sacrificial animal          | reparation for the desecration of Yahweh's holy property or name |