Sacrifice

- 1. The same generic Hebrew word is used for peace offerings, the Passover lamb, burnt offerings, and sin offerings. The same word is used in Hosea 6:6 (quoted by Matthew 9:13, 12:7) and Psalm 40:6 (quoted by Hebrews 10:5, 8). No argument can be made based on which word was used. The context is the only clue concerning which type of sacrifice is referenced.
- 2. The same Greek word as in Matthew 9:13, 12:7, Hebrews 10:5, 8 is used in the New Testament to describe sin offerings (Hebrews 5:1, 7:27, 8:3, 9:9, 10:1, 10:3, 10:6, 10:11), Abel's sacrifice (Hebrews 11:4). And temple sacrifices (Luke 13:1). Again, no argument can be made based on word choice. The context tells the type.
- 3. The same Greek word is used of:
 - Christians (Romans 12:1, Philippians 2:17)
 - Jesus (Ephesians 5:2, 1 Corinthians 5:7, Hebrews 9:23, 9:26, 10:12, 10:26)
 - A gift (Philippians 4:18)
 - Praise (Hebrews 13:15)
 - Doing good and sharing (Hebrews 13:16)
 - General Christian activities (1 Peter 2:5)
- 4. When an inspired writer is being poetic or wants to include all types of sacrifices, the phrase "sacrifice and offering" may be used (Hebrews 10:5, 8, quoting Psalm 40:6).
- 5. When Paul brought offerings for himself and four others, the exact type was not specified. If this was part of a Nazirite vow, the offerings were both sin and burnt offerings, perhaps including grain, drink, peace, wave, and heave offerings (Number 6:2 21). If the offerings were for some other type of uncleanness, the ritual would include sin and burnt offerings. There is not enough detail in Acts to establish a context. Offering is used in a generic sense.
- 6. The same Greek word as is used for grain offering (Hebrews 10:6, 8) is used for:
 - Paul's offering of the Gentiles (Romans 15:16)
 - Jesus (Ephesians 5:2, Hebrews 10:14)
 - Offering for sin (Hebrews 10:18)
- 7. Applications of sacrifices made concerning Jesus:
 - Yom Kippur (2 Corinthians 5:21)
 - Passover (1 Corinthians 5:7)
 - Peace and sin offering (Ephesians 5:2)
 - Cleansed heaven (Hebrews 9:23)
 - Blood atonement (Hebrews 9:25, 10:12)
 - Participation (1 Corinthians 10:16 21)
 - Reminder (1 Corinthians 11:23 27)
- 8. Applications of sacrifices made concerning Christians:
 - Evangelism (Romans 15:16)
 - Praise (Hebrews 13:15)
 - Doing good and sharing (Hebrews 13:16, Philippians 4:18)
 - General Christian activities (1 Peter 2:5)
 - Faith (Philippians 2:17)
 - Our bodies (Romans 12:1)

More details on the applications made in the New Testament of the Mosaic sacrificial system:

- 1. Specific comparisons are not made in the New Testament concerning heave or wave offerings.
- 2. Wave offerings are called such because they are waved before God, then given to the priest (Numbers 18:8 20). Heave offerings and wave offerings seem to be together. Usually the distinction is by weight (hard to wave a quarter of a calf), but at least once the heave offering is just a loaf of bread (Leviticus 7:14), but it could be a lot of loaves. In one place, only heave offerings are mentioned (Numbers 15:17 21), but I can see no distinction. Perhaps wave offerings are sheaves and heave offerings are products.

At Aaron's ordination (Exodus 29:24 - 28, Leviticus 8:22 - 29)

Peace offering (Leviticus 7:11 - 34, 9:21)

Grain offerings (Leviticus 10:12 - 15)

Cleansing a leper (Leviticus 14:1-32)

Feast of Unleavened Bread, firstfruits (Leviticus 23: 6-15)

Feast of Pentecost, firstfruits (Leviticus 23:16 – 21)

Adultery test (Numbers 5:23 - 26)

Nazirite (Numbers 6:13 - 20)

- 3. Having no inspired commentary, all I can do is speculate. Wave and heave offerings are, in some cases, first fruits. Jesus, Christians, and the indwelling Spirit are all firstfruits. Jesus is called a first fruit (1 Corinthians 15:20-23)
 - Christians who die before Judgment are called first fruits (James 1:18, Revelation 14:4) First converts in a region (Romans 16:5, 1 Corinthians 16:15)
 - We have the first fruits of the Spirit (Romans 8:23)
- 4. The part of the sacrifice that became the portion of the priest was likened to gifts for those who spread the gospel (1 Corinthians 9:13 14)