



**BROKEN LAWS
(GUILT)**

“break” literally = object
symbolically = nonphysical reality

break = **destroying** something **good**
dishonoring something **important**
disregarding a **custom/standard/law**

sometimes = courage

often = conceit

Arrogance, conceit, egotism ...

- Acting as if something important is unimportant or nonexistent
- Acting as if my own desire is a higher value than the value of law/tradition/object

Moral awareness of guilt = sense of
debt

Emotional awareness of guilt = sense of
shame

Spiritual awareness of guilt = sense of
culpability

BROKENNESS is not HOPELESSNESS

You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it ... The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit. A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

(Psalm 51:16-17)

Numbers 5:5-10 (Leviticus 5:1-7)

FAIL • broken **trust/peace** with fellowman
“wrongs”

• broken **expectations/relations** with God
“unfaithful”

• broken **conscience/confidence** of self
“guilty”

Numbers 5:5-10

FIX

- repair the deception/dishonesty
“*confess*”
- repay the debt/obligation as possible
“*restitution*”

asham = guilt AND guilt offering

Every effort must be made to pay the debt.
HOWEVER, this is often impossible

Forgive us our DEBTS as we also
have forgiven our DEBTORS ... for
if you forgive men their SIN against
you, your heavenly Father will also
forgive you. (*Matthew 6:12, 14*)

The NT describes sin as debt (in the same way the OT described guilt as debt). However, there is **no equivalent** word for asham (guilt > guilt offering). The idea of making **restitution** (to God) has vanished.

CHRIST paid all debt **past** and **future** in our behalf.

... as if no law was **ever broken**
[justification]

AMAZING!

- *parable*
 - a) son seeks to make amends by working as a servant
 - b) **REFUSED!**



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