

# Animal Sacrifice



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=  
mw8JD972M78](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mw8JD972M78)

- Animal sacrifice vs. Human sacrifice
- Holocaustum (Hebrews)
- Animal sacrifice vs. Ritual slaughter  
(continuation of ancient hunting rituals?)

# Ancient Egypt

- Origins of animal sacrifice? (4400-4000 BC)
- Goats, sheep, but also hippos and baboons – later restricted to livestock

# Ancient Greece

- Sacrifice of domestic animals at altars + hymns and prayers
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CuzOezP5ifI>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y8H1iZq73k0>

# Ancient Rome

- Similar to Greek sacrifice
- Dii superi – daylight and public – white infertile victims of their own sex: Juno – white heifer, Jupiter – white castrated ox
- Di superi with connection to earth (Mars, Janus, Neptune) – fertile victims
- Banquet after the sacrifice



- Chthonic gods – dii inferi – nighttime + dark fertile victims, holocaustum and no banquet, since „living can't share meals with dead“
- Goddesses of fertility (Ceres) – pregnant victims
- Demi-gods and heroes – black and white victims (dual nature)