

# MESSAGE

Occasion : Evening Worship  
Date : February 24, 2015 / March 12, 2017

**TITLE : SACRIFICES THAT PLEASE GOD**  
Text/s :

1 Peter 2:5

5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

KJV

1 Peter 2:9-10

9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

KJV

Heb 13:15-16

15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

16 But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

KJV

Rom 12:1

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

KJV

Bible Reading :

Ps 107:21-24

21 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

22 And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.

23 They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters;

24 These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep.

2 Sam 24:18-25

18 And Gad came that day to David, and said unto him, Go up, rear an altar unto the Lord in the threshingfloor of Araunah the Jebusite.

19 And David, according to the saying of Gad, went up as the Lord commanded.

20 And Araunah looked, and saw the king and his servants coming on toward him: and Araunah went out, and bowed himself before the king on his face upon the ground.

21 And Araunah said, Wherefore is my lord the king come to his servant? And David said, To buy the threshingfloor of thee, to build an altar unto the Lord, that the plague may be stayed from the people.

22 And Araunah said unto David, Let my lord the king take and offer up what seemeth good unto him: behold, here be oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing instruments and other instruments of the oxen for wood.

23 All these things did Araunah, as a king, give unto the king. And Araunah said unto the king, The Lord thy God accept thee.

24 And the king said unto Araunah, Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing. So David bought the threshingfloor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

25 And David built there an altar unto the Lord, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the Lord was intreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.

KJV

Song/s :

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## INTRODUCTION

The word sacrifice is a complex and comprehensive term. In its simplest form it may be defined as "a gift to God," a presentation to Him of some material object, the possession of the offerer, as an act of worship. It may be to attain, restore, maintain or celebrate the offerer's relation to God. It is faith in action and is inseparable to the Christian faith.

Man is mentioned to have began to call on the name of the Lord in Genesis 4:26, but man bringing an "offering" to the Lord is mentioned as early as Genesis 4:3-4. So, indeed, to offer a sacrifice is as natural to man as to pray, the former indicates what he feels about himself, the latter what he feels about God; the one means a felt need of propitiation, the other a felt sense of dependence.

When Abraham was instructed by the Lord to offer up his son Isaac, the Lord teaches us by that instance the principle that He is worth the greatest and dearest cost in making a sacrifice; and when the Father Himself sent His only Begotten Son to be the final sacrifice for sin on the cross, He taught us that if He Himself willingly offered His highest priced Son, we can also offer even our highest priced possession.

The sacrifice taught us today to offer does not use blood or animals anymore. However, the principle of "cost" to the offerer remains. This can clearly be seen in the Apostle Paul's admonition in Romans 12:1 where he says, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God..." Everyone reading this passage would realize the cost behind the act.

**An understanding of sacrifice and offering in the OT is a prelude needed to grasp the significance of Christ's supreme sacrifice and offering of Himself in the NT. His sacrifice and offering was eternally efficacious for all man-kind and brought an end to the official Levitical sacrificial institution of the OT. Paradoxically, it accomplished everything that institution had pointed toward and striven for — reconciliation of humankind to God and the true worship of God from the heart, along with all which that entailed.**

The terms for sacrifices and offerings are numerous. One term for an offering in general is Hebr. qorb<sup>1</sup>n (lit. "thing brought"; e.g., Lev 2:1; LXX korbán, doëiron). The general term for the burnt offering is cêlâ (perhaps from ±<sup>1</sup>lâ, "go up"; LXX holokaútoëma, kárpoëma); related terms are k<sup>1</sup>lîl, whole burnt offering (LXX holokútoëma, hápas, etc.), and t<sup>1</sup>mî¼, daily burnt offering (LXX endelichismós, diá pantós).

Several words are used to describe the presentation of the various offerings. The ones found most often are the hiphil of bô<sup>o</sup>, "bring"; the hiphil of n<sup>1</sup>gaš, "present, bring near"; the hiphil of q<sup>1</sup>ra», "bring near"

In addition to the words listed above, several other key words appear in the texts dealing with sacrifice and offering. Among the most important terms are kipper (piel of k<sup>1</sup>par), "make atonement"; r<sup>1</sup>fâ, "please, be pleasing"; and rç(a)µ nîµó(a)µ, "pleasing odor."

In Leviticus the verb kipper (LXXhiláskesthai) often describes the purpose and result of sacrifices and offerings. In fact, all the major sacrifices (burnt, cereal, peace, sin, guilt) are specifically said to atone (kipper, Ex 29:33).

**All kinds of offerings were recognized as a "sweet/ pleasant aroma" (LXX osmçieuoedias) to the Lord (Lev 1:9,13,17; 2:2,9,12; 3:5,16; 4:31; cf. Gen 8:21; etc.).** The exact significance of this term is uncertain, but it seems to refer to the ritual surrounding the sacrifice as well as the materials offered. **The form, the content, and the attitude of the person involved in the sacrificial process were satisfactory when the offering was "a pleasing odor" to the Lord. The idea of feeding Yahweh is not an aspect of Israel's worship. The term rather implies approval and acceptance par excellence before God** (see Daly, pp. 70 ff).

The words r<sup>1</sup>fôn and r<sup>1</sup>fâ, "please, be pleasing, be acceptable," are often found in the sacrificial sections of Leviticus and elsewhere (e.g., Lev 1:4, "and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him," w@nirfâ lô le½zappçr±<sup>1</sup>iyw). A sacrifice not cared for properly islœ<sup>o</sup> yçr<sup>1</sup>fêh, "it will not be acceptable" (e.g., Lev 7:18; 19:7). **The sacrificial process as a whole was to be pleasing and acceptable to God** (cf. Lev 22; Ps 19:14 [MT :15 ]; Rendtorff, pp. 250-260); no aspect could be unacceptable.

1 Peter 2:5

5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

KJV

Sacrifice is a costly thing. But the sacrifices which God desires are not merely animals on the altar, or fruits of the harvest, or gifts of money and goods.

Ps 51:17

17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Ps 34:18

18 The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Mark 12:33

33 And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

### **The sacrifice of Christ pleased God**

Eph 5:2

2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

KJV

Rom 8:3

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

KJV

Heb 10:12

12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

KJV

Isa 53:10

10 Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

KJV

Heb 10:10-12

10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

KJV

Matt 3:16-17

16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

KJV

Matt 17:5

5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

KJV

Heb 12:2

2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

KJV

**The sacrifice of Christ brought to us all the graces of God from salvation to a life that pleases and glorifies Him. Such grace upon us made us**

1 Peter 2:5

5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

KJV

1 John 3:22

22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

KJV

1 Thess 4:1

4 Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.

KJV

Col 1:10

10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

KJV

Col 1:10

10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

NKJV

Col 1:10

10 That you may walk (live and conduct yourselves) in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him and desiring to please Him in all things, bearing fruit in every good work and steadily growing and increasing in and by the knowledge of God [with fuller, deeper, and clearer insight, acquaintance, and recognition].

AMP

What pleases God? We all know that without faith it is impossible to please God. And what is the highest demonstration of something that is of faith? --- Sacrifice. Abraham did.

Heb 11:6

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

KJV

And so we offer God sacrifices... sacrifices which are acceptable to Him.. and sacrifices that come by Jesus Christ... so everything is through Christ.

1 Peter 2:5

5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

KJV

## **A) The sacrifice of praise (by or through Jesus Christ) pleases God**

The testimony of what Christ had done for us pleases God.

Heb 13:15

15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

KJV

Hosea 14:2

2 Take with you words, and turn to the LORD: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips.

KJV

Ps 107:22

22 And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.  
KJV

1 Peter 2:5

5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

KJV

## **B) The sacrifice of service (by or through Jesus Christ) pleases God**

Service pleases God.

Heb 13:20-21

20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Rom 14:17-18

17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

18 For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men.

KJV

Col 1:10

10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

KJV

Col 1:10

10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

NKJV

Col 1:10

10 That you may walk (live and conduct yourselves) in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him and desiring to please Him in all things, bearing fruit in every good work and steadily growing and increasing in and by the knowledge of God [with fuller, deeper, and clearer insight, acquaintance, and recognition].

AMP

Ps 37:3

3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

3 Jn 1:11

11 Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.

2 Cor 9:8

8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

1 Cor 15:58

58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

KJV

Eph 2:10

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

II Th 2:17

17 Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.

2 Tim 3:16-17

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Titus 2:14

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Titus 3:8

8 This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

Titus 3:14

14 And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.

James 3:17

17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

Phil 1:9-11

9 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;

10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;

11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

Col 3:20

20 Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

I Jn 3:22

22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

### **C) The sacrifice of resources (by or through Jesus Christ) pleases God**

Stewardship Pleases God.

4790 sugkoinoneo - to become a partaker together with others, or to have fellowship with a thing

4790 sugkoinoneo (soong-koy-no-neh'-o); from 4862 and 2841; to share in company with, i.e. co-participate in: KJV-- communicate (have fellowship) with, be partaker of.

Phil 4:14

14 Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.

Phil 4:18

18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

1 Tim 6:18

18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

Gal 6:6

6 Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.

John 12:3-7

3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.

4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him,

5 Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?

6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.

7 Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this.

Eph 5:2

2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

2 Cor 9:12-15

12 For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;

13 Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men;

14 And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you.

15 Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

### **D) The consecration of our bodies to God (by and through Jesus Christ) is a sacrifice pleasing to God**

Rom 12:1

12 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

KJV

Rom 12:1

1 I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship.

AMP

Phil 1:20

20 According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.

KJV

Rom 6:13

13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

KJV

1 Cor 6:19-20

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

KJV

### **E) The spiritual sacrifices offered by the spiritual house (the Ekklesia) are acceptable and pleasing to God.**

1 Peter 2:5

5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

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1 Peter 2:9-10

9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

KJV

Phil 2:17

17 Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.

KJV