

Prophetic Fall Feasts of The LORD

July 10, 2019 Lesson #27 Burnt Offering - All On The Altar

Lev. 16: 3, 5 Aaron had a ram for his burnt offering and a ram for the people's burnt offering.

Lev. 16:23-24 And Aaron shall come into the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall put off the linen garments, which he put on when he went into the holy place, and shall leave them there: And he shall wash his flesh with water in the holy place, and put on his garments, and come forth, and offer his burnt offering, and the burnt offering of the people, and make an atonement for himself, and for the people.

Once the High Priest was sure the scapegoat was officially lost in the wilderness, he went into the holy place of the tabernacle, took off the linen garments, bathed and put on His Official Garments.

On the Day of Atonement, the high priest was humble [Lev. 16:4], and he was alone [Lev. 16:11-17]. Yet, The High Priest emerged from the tabernacle with his clothes of beauty and glory.

This reminds us of our Lord's return to heaven, where He received the glory He had laid aside when He was here on earth.

The High Priest Offers The Burnt Offerings To God

- Offers a ram for himself and a ram for the people
- He also burned the fat of the sin offering [Lev. 16:25]

Burnt Offering: 'olah = most frequent offering.

Hebrew word for "burnt offering" actually means to "ascend," literally to "go up in smoke."

The smoke from the sacrifice ascended to God, "a soothing aroma to the LORD" (Leviticus 1:9).

Technically, any offering burned over an altar was a burnt offering, but in more specific terms, a burnt offering was the complete destruction of the animal (except for the hide) in an effort to renew the relationship between Holy God and sinful man.

Ps. 130:4 But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared.

- Forgiveness and the fear of the Lord go together.
- The privilege of forgiveness carries with it the obligation of commitment and obedience

Burnt Offering:

- ❖ Symbolized: Total Surrender Of A Worshiper's Heart And Life to God.
- ❖ Signified voluntary and complete dedication and consecration to the Lord.
- ❖ The whole animal is brought to the altar and the whole is offered as a GIFT to the LORD.

Consider: Jesus offered Himself up to the Father in total obedience.

Heb. 10:5-7 Wherefore when He cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

⁶ In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. [to accomplish His will]

⁷ Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

The presentation of ourselves to God is a sacrificial act. In the Old Testament dispensation, men expressed worship and devotion to God by means of sacrifice. Thus the presentation of our bodies is couched in sacrificial terminology.

- ❖ Ours is a living sacrifice. Although the commitment of our lives can be identified with a point in time, our sacrifice is continual.
- ❖ We are to say NO to our own desires, preferences and tendencies.
- ❖ Serving others in preference to ourselves is a sacrifice.

Apostle Paul: *Because You Have Experienced God's Mercy, Give Yourself Totally To Him.*

Rom. 12:1-2 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.

² And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

A. The MOTIVE for all Christian living is that you have experienced God's mercy in Christ. Truth: Motive is crucial in everything we do. Have you had someone act nicely towards you and then you found out he was doing it to manipulate you into doing something for him?

His ulterior motive canceled everything nice he had done.

Your motive for giving yourself totally to God is CRUCIAL.

My proper response to receiving God's mercy is to give myself totally to Him out of gratitude.

Illus.: Years ago, Captain Shaw, a medical missionary in India, visited a leper colony that his mission was taking over. He saw 3 men with shackles on their hands and feet, cutting into their diseased flesh. His eyes brimmed with tears as he told the guard, "Please unfasten the chains." The guard replied, "It isn't safe. These men are dangerous criminals as well as lepers."

Captain Shaw took responsibility. He said, "They're suffering enough."

After the shackles were removed, he tenderly treated the men's bleeding wrists and ankles.

Two weeks later, Captain Shaw questioned his freeing these criminals. He had to make an overnight trip and hesitated to leave his wife and child alone. His wife insisted he go.

The next morning she went to the front door and was startled to see the 3 former criminals lying on her steps. One said, "We know the doctor left. We stayed here all night so no harm would come to you." These men had experienced the doctor's mercy. They responded out of love and gratitude by serving him.

Consider: Many Christians can see giving God an hour or two on Sundays. Maybe when they have time, they can volunteer to serve in the church. Many will give God 10% of their income; if they have anything left after taxes and bills. Some super dedicated Christians might serve the Lord in fulltime service. But offering my body to God as a living sacrifice - that sounds pretty radical. Why would I do that?

John Phillips "The challenge has to do with the believer's body, which Paul now reveals to be the ultimate key to the practice of the victorious Christian life.

- It is an axiom of Bible study that when we come across the word "therefore" we should pause and see what it's there for! In this case it links God's demand for the believer's body with those "mercies" Paul has been describing in the doctrinal sections of Romans.
- Paul began by showing that we all are hopelessly, helplessly lost in sin.

Rom. 3:10-12 There is none righteous, not not one; there is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God; all have turned aside, They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

Rom. 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
Thankfully, God is all about mercy.

- None of us can claim that God owes us salvation because of our good works.
- We have ALL disobeyed God thousands of times. We deserve His judgment.
- All we can do is cry out to Him for mercy. God's abundant mercy is ours for the asking.

Rom. 10:13 For whosoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.

- Harrison - Whereas the heathen are prone to sacrifice IN ORDER TO OBTAIN mercy, Biblical faith teaches that the divine mercy provides the BASIS of sacrifice as the fitting response.
- Paul is saying: "Therefore"...now that you are justified by grace through faith & at peace with God, now that you are redeemed from the power of Sin, now that you are being progressively set apart from the world & unto God (sanctified, made holy), and finally knowing that you will soon to be glorified...on the basis of these "precious & magnificent promises" (all of these being "mercies of God") Paul begs Christians to live a certain way in light of what God did for them. Paul pleads for the brethren to give God their bodies.
- It is of little avail to know theoretically the truths of Romans 1-11 if the body is not surrendered so that the life of Christ can be expressed in the everyday affairs of life.

II Cor. 4:7-11 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. ⁸ We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. ¹¹ For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

- Sound doctrine must always be the basis for godly living. The Mormons are reputed for emphasizing family life which is a worthy emphasis. But they deny the Biblical truth about the person and work of Christ as Paul lays out in Romans 1-11. They have a religion based on works. Their house has no foundation.
- On the other hand, there are men who are theologically articulate regarding the great truths of Rom. 1-11, but who are mean-spirited and unloving towards their wife and children. What good is the foundation of sound doctrine if you do not build on it love for God and others as He commands? The world will mock the truth if we do not show it by our godly lives.

Wuest - Doctrine must always precede exhortation since in doctrine the saint is shown his exalted position which makes the exhortation to a holy life, a reasonable one.

In doctrine, the saint is informed as to the resources of grace he possesses with which to obey the exhortations.

Eph. 2:4-7 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

⁵ Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) ⁶ And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: ⁷ That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Wiersbe - The Christian life is not based on ignorance but knowledge, and the better we understand Bible doctrine (Romans 1-11), the easier it is to obey Bible duties (Romans 12-16).

When people say, "Don't talk to me about doctrine—just let me live my Christian life!" they are revealing their ignorance of the way the Holy Spirit works in the life of the believer.

"It makes no difference what you believe, just as long as you live right" is a similar confession of ignorance. It does make a difference what you believe, because what you believe determines how you behave!"

Do not forget that the vital part of doctrine is "do"! James nailed this down by warning us not to be hearers but doers of the word, lest we live in a state of self-delusion [James 1:21- 26].

Truth: You have not really learned the Word of God unless you do the Word of God; not legalistically but empowered by the Spirit and strengthened by the grace of Christ Jesus

B. The basic commitment for Christian living is to give your body totally to God as a living, holy and acceptable sacrifice, which is your reasonable act of service.

The picture of animal sacrifice was behind Paul's appeal to offer ourselves as a living sacrifice.

1. This commitment is an act of the will. It isn't automatic.

Each must decide to give your body, possessions and your entire life to God.

➤ God will only ask me to do what is His will for me. I must entrust my all to Him.

2. This commitment is both initial and ongoing.

➤ Remember: living sacrifices have a way of crawling off the altar.

➤ We must keep renewing this commitment.

➤ As you grow in your Christian life, you become aware of areas in your life that are not yielded. So you choose to put those things on the altar.

➤ You become more aware about the Lordship of Jesus Christ. So you yield again and again.

➤ There is an initial time when you present your life to the Lord.

But it is also progressive as you grow to understand more about God.

Ps. 103:1-4 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

² Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

³ Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; ⁴ Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

3. This commitment involves your body and your mind.
 - The Christian is to view the body as a living and holy sacrifice to be offered to God for His service.
 - Our bodies also encompass our minds, which Paul focuses on in verse 2. It includes our eyes and ears. What am I allowing through the portals of my ears and eyes?

In the Greek world as in our own, there was a need for emphasis upon the need to present our bodies as living and holy instruments to God.

- ❖ They believed the body was evil and the mind was good. Consequently, there was little concern given to the deeds performed in the flesh.

Truth: It is not our physical body that is totally depraved; it is all our old sin nature.

Rom. 6:11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 12:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

Rom. 6:12-13 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 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.

Rom. 6:13 [NLT] Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.

- ❖ The new life of the Christian should be manifested through the body: our mind, eyes, ears, feet and hands.
 - The body includes our tongues which we should use to praise God. [Heb. 13:15]
 - Eph. 4:29 We should build up others; not tear them down.
 - Eph. 4:15 We are to speak the TRUTH in love.
 - Our bodies include our hands and feet.
 - Rom. 10:15 Use our feet to take the good news to others.

A Paradox: Presenting our bodies to God is a positive thing, yet it is also costly and requires all that we are and have.

Mark 8:34-35 If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it.

David Livingstone: endured years of hardship taking the Gospel to Africa, said, "I never made a sacrifice. Of this we ought not to talk when we remember the great sacrifice which He made who left His Father's throne on high to give Himself for us."

4. This commitment and dedication is your reasonable [logical or rational] service of worship. In light of what God mercifully has done for us, it's only reasonable that we give ourselves totally to Him.

Our response of gratitude must be to give our life back to God as a sacrifice of praise.

David Livingstone: Forbid it that we should ever consider the holding of a commission from the King of Kings a sacrifice, so long as men esteem the service of an earthly sovereign an honor."

God calls us to make a choice about the way that we live for Him.

In writing to Philemon, Paul told him, [Phil. 1:8-9] Therefore, though I have enough confidence in Christ to order you to do that which is proper, yet for love's sake I rather appeal to you.

Vance Havner - God wants self before substance and service...Self, service, substance is the divine order, and nothing counts until we give ourselves.

M H Miller - Consecration is handing God a blank sheet to fill in with your name signed at the bottom.

In Rom. 12:1, Paul calls upon the Christian to actively choose to become a living sacrifice as an act of worship.

Rom. 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

- Our obligation is in passive terms. We are called upon to BE CHANGED.
- Presenting my body as a living sacrifice should result in the transformation of my life.
 1. My commitment to become a living sacrifice is a commitment to change.
 - ❖ A commitment to radical change, a reversal of my thinking and values, of my motives and methods.
 - ❖ It is not a minor repair but a tearing down and complete rebuilding.
 2. Becoming a living sacrifice is the commitment to BEING changed.
 - ❖ I give myself over to God's influence and control.
 - ❖ As I turn away from the world's shaping influence, its influence should diminish.
 - ❖ God's infinite wisdom, contained in His Word and conveyed by the Holy Spirit, should begin to transform my thinking and my actions.
 - ❖ I am urged to enter into the life-long process of renewal and restoration.
 3. The process of transformation is a life-long work of God for which I am responsible.
 - ❖ The verb is in the passive voice, indicating it is a work of God in us.
 - ❖ It is also in the imperative mood which indicates that we are not totally passive in the process.

I Tim. 4:7 ...exercise thyself rather unto godliness.

Phil. 2:12-13 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but not much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

- ❖ I must obey and work out the salvation God has given me.
- ❖ He is willing and working in us at the same time.
- 4. The means of transformation is the renewing of my mind.
 - ❖ All sin and obedience begin in the mind. The key to my overcoming sin and growing in godliness is to change my thinking.

Consider: these verses contain the principle of dedication before direction. Divine guidance comes as a result of dedication. God does not "cast His pearls before swine," nor does He reveal His directive will to the uncommitted.

5. The primary source for changing my thinking is God's Word.

Recall: Hebrews was written to "second generation believers" who were won to Christ by those who had known Jesus during His earthly ministry. Five warnings are given: "Take Heed" and pay attention to God's Word.

It points out the resulting, sad spiritual consequences if we do not heed God's Word.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------|----------------|
| 1. Drifting From The Word | = | Neglect | Heb. 2:1-4 |
| 2. Doubting The Word | = | Hard Heart | Heb. 3:7-4:13 |
| 3. Dullness Toward The Word | = | Sluggishness | Heb. 5:11-6:20 |
| 4. Despising The Word | = | Willfulness | Heb. 10:26-39 |
| 5. Defying The Word | = | Refusing To Hear | Heb. 12:14-29 |

Heb. 4:11 Let Us Labor [strive, be diligent, eager] therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

Note: Entering is Conditional - We Can Fail To Enter God's Rest - Our Inheritance

1. Give diligence = opposite of drifting
2. Focus on the REST - no room for mental laziness - so you do not fall by disobedience

Be In The Word Of God

Heb. 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

1. The Power Of God's Word can penetrate and expose the sin and unbelief in our hearts.
2. The Word of God is LIVING because it has life in it.
3. It is Powerful = energetic, active, productive, effective
4. Sharper = can cut through anything! It is a sin slayer.
 - a. 2 edged = Deeply cuts that we might die; cuts us again that we might live!
5. Piercing = not sheathed = extreme power of penetration to the very core of man's being
 - a. Illustration of Thorpe of the Hell-fire Club - 1700's
6. Discerner = not ignorant = critic

His Word sifts through the hearts and attitudes with unerring discrimination.

a. Do you ever feel the speaker is talking right to you?

7. Naked & open = not hidden nor veiled = nothing to hide in or behind

Isa. 55:11 So shall My Word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

Truth: If I am not saturating my mind with God's Word, I will not be changed into His image.

I must come to know God as He has revealed Himself in His Word.

James 1:21 Therefore lay apart all filthiness and the superfluity of wickedness, and receive with meekness the engrafted Word, which is able to save your souls. WOW!

The dedicated Christian is not one whose actions are shaped by his personal whims and desires, nor does he conform to the values and goals of the world about him.

The Christian is one whose life is conformed to the Word of God and whose whole thought process is being re-shaped.

Just as at the fall, man's intellectual facilities were corrupted, so the Christian experience should be a life-long process of restructuring our thinking in conformity to God's Word and God's will.

Christian dedication is not only based upon a mental apprehension of doctrine (Romans 1-11], but it is a life-long process of reshaping our entire outlook on life.

We are to stop being squeezed into the mold of the world (to use J. B. Phillip's terminology), and to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. Salvation commences the dawn of a new age to come. We have our citizenship changed from an earthly kingdom to a heavenly one.

We are now strangers and pilgrims (Philippians 3:20; 1 Peter 2:11; cf. Hebrews 11:13).

Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid?

Your heart, does the Spirit control?

You can only be blest and have peace and sweet rest,

As you yield Him your body and soul.