

An Offering of Sacrifice; Hebrews 13:7-16

I. Offering

- A. A very familiar term and idea for us, offerings and sacrifices
- B. But what does that look like for us today?
- C. We don't bring animals to the building and offer them to God
- D. We don't have a specific set of sacrifices like in the Law of Moses
- E. So just what is (and is not) our sacrifice to God?

II. Forgiveness

- A. You don't get very far into the Bible until you read about offerings and sacrifices
 - 1. Genesis 4:2–5; 2 And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. 3 In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, 4 and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, 5 but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell.
 - 2. Genesis 4:2–5; 2 Después dio a luz a Abel, hermano de Caín. Abel se dedicó a pastorear ovejas, mientras que Caín se dedicó a trabajar la tierra. 3 Tiempo después, Caín presentó al Señor una ofrenda del fruto de la tierra. 4 Abel también presentó al Señor lo mejor de su rebaño, es decir, los primogénitos con su grasa. Y el Señor miró con agrado a Abel y a su ofrenda, 5 pero no miró así a Caín ni a su ofrenda. Por eso Caín se enfureció y andaba cabizbajo.
- B. In Genesis 8, Noah offered burnt offerings to God
- C. Abraham offered Isaac, his son
 - 1. Genesis 22:6–8; 6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. 7 And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” 8 Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.
 - 2. Genesis 22:6–8; 6 Abraham tomó la leña del holocausto y la puso sobre Isaac, su hijo; él, por su parte, cargó con el fuego y el cuchillo. Y los dos siguieron caminando juntos. 7 Isaac le dijo a Abraham: — ¡Padre! — Dime, hijo mío. — Aquí tenemos el fuego y la leña— continuó Isaac—; pero, ¿dónde está el cordero para el holocausto? 8 —El cordero, hijo mío, lo proveerá Dios—le respondió Abraham. Y siguieron caminando juntos.
 - 3. Offerings of sacrifice to God were well known by now, even Isaac asked where the sacrifice was for the burnt offering
- D. Jacob offered sacrifices to God many times
- E. The Law that God gave to Moses on Mount Horeb (Sinai) was filled with all kinds of sacrifices
 - 1. The Burnt offering
 - 2. The Grain offering
 - 3. The Peace offering
 - 4. The Sin offering
 - 5. The Guilt offering
 - 6. The Trespass offering
 - 7. The Day of Atonement

- F. These sacrifices were to move the Israelite from being out of fellowship with God to being in fellowship with God
- G. God only forgave sin with the Sin offering or the Day of Atonement
- H. We know that only Jesus blood can wash away sins, so these sacrifices were a shadow of Jesus' sacrifice

III. Sacrifices

- A. So, we know there are no sacrifices we can offer to God that will put us in fellowship with God, only Jesus' sacrifice, the shedding of His blood does that
- B. What do our sacrifices look like, then?
 - 1. Romans 12:1; I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.
 - 2. Romanos 12:1; Por lo tanto, hermanos, tomando en cuenta la misericordia de Dios, les ruego que cada uno de ustedes, en adoración espiritual, ofrezca su cuerpo como sacrificio vivo, santo y agradable a Dios.
 - 3. Ephesians 5:1–2; 1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
 - 4. Efesios 5:1–2; 1 Por tanto, imiten a Dios, como hijos muy amados, 2 y lleven una vida de amor, así como Cristo nos amó y se entregó por nosotros como ofrenda y sacrificio fragante para Dios.
- C. While these scriptures are very important to us, they are vague
 - 1. What does a "living sacrifice" look like?
 - a) Some equate that with our body being a temple and therefore we must watch what we put in it
 - b) 1 Corinthians 6:19; Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,
 - c) 1 Corinthians 6:19; ¿Acaso no saben que su cuerpo es templo del Espíritu Santo, quien está en ustedes y al que han recibido de parte de Dios? Ustedes no son sus propios dueños;
 - d) But I don't think that is what Paul is talking about
 - e) Paul is talking about a lifestyle of sacrifice; living it out daily in our lives
 - f) That is why I said it is vague
 - 2. What does "walk in love" look like?
 - a) Paul equates walking in love with Christ's sacrifice
 - b) Again, very important, but also vague

IV. Sacrifice of Praise

A. The Fruit of Lips

- 1. Hebrews 13:15; Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.
- 2. Hebreos 13:15; Así que ofrezcamos continuamente a Dios, por medio de Jesucristo, un sacrificio de alabanza, es decir, el fruto de los labios que confiesan su nombre.
- 3. Isaiah 57:18–19; 18 I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him and his mourners, 19 creating the fruit of the lips. Peace, peace, to the far and to the near," says the Lord, "and I will heal him.
- 4. Isaias 57:18–19; 18 He visto sus caminos, pero lo sanaré; lo guiaré y lo colmaré de consuelo. Y a los que lloran por él 19 les haré proclamar esta alabanza: ¡Paz a los que están lejos, y paz a los que están cerca! Yo los sanaré—dice el Señor—,
- 5. I'm not sure that Paul is trying to reference Isaiah

- a) Isaiah seems to be talking about the restoration of Israel after God's judgment on them for Idolatry
 - b) The Hebrew writer seems to be referencing the Day of Atonement and the burnt offering sacrifices
 - c) "sacrifices for sin are burned outside the gate," "Jesus also suffered outside the gate"
 - d) Leviticus 6:12–13; 12 The fire on the altar shall be kept burning on it; it shall not go out. The priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and he shall arrange the burnt offering on it and shall burn on it the fat of the peace offerings. 13 Fire shall be kept burning on the altar continually; it shall not go out.
 - e) Levítico 6:12–13; 12 Mientras tanto, el fuego se mantendrá encendido sobre el altar; no deberá apagarse. Cada mañana el sacerdote pondrá más leña sobre el altar, y encima de éste colocará el holocausto para quemar en él la grasa del sacrificio de comunión. 13 El fuego sobre el altar no deberá apagarse nunca; siempre deberá estar encendido.
 - f) The burnt offering was a freewill offering, given by the worshipper voluntarily; meaning "all that I am belongs to you, God"
 - g) "The *fruit of lips* would involve worship in song, prayers, preaching, teaching, and exalting the virtues and glories of God and the Savior, Jesus Christ." Gerald Paden
 - h) We should continually offer praise to God through our words, whether in speech, prayers, or song
- B. If we equate this with the burnt offering, then our worship is an offering made to God to tell Him, "all that I am belongs to you!"

V. Do Good

- A. Do not neglect
- B. The character of a person is defined in how they behave
- C. Our behavior helps to define other's reaction to the Kingdom of God
 - 1. Matthew 5:14–16; 14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
 - 2. Mateo 5:14–16; 14 Ustedes son la luz del mundo. Una ciudad en lo alto de una colina no puede esconderse. 15 Ni se enciende una lámpara para cubrirla con un cajón. Por el contrario, se pone en la repisa para que alumbre a todos los que están en la casa. 16 Hagan brillar su luz delante de todos, para que ellos puedan ver las buenas obras de ustedes y alaben al Padre que está en el cielo.
 - 3. Philippians 2:14–15; 14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,
 - 4. Filipenses 2:14–15; 14 Háganlo todo sin quejas ni contiendas, 15 para que sean intachables y puros, hijos de Dios sin culpa en medio de una generación torcida y depravada. En ella ustedes brillan como estrellas en el firmamento,
- D. Our "doing good" not only physically benefits the "world," it also spiritually benefits them by shining the light of Jesus
- E. If we look at our "doing good" through the eyes of the burnt offering, then we are saying to God, "everything I do, I do as service to You in Your Kingdom!"

VI. Share what you have

- A. This word is used to speak of a gathering of saints in worship
 - 1. Acts 2:42; And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.
 - 2. Hechos 2:42; Se mantenían firmes en la enseñanza de los apóstoles, en la comunión, en el partimiento del pan y en la oración.
 - B. This word is used to speak of our fellowship, our participation, our sharing in Christ's body and blood
 - 1. 1 Corinthians 10:16; The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?
 - 2. 1 Corintios 10:16;vEsa copa de bendición por la cual damos gracias, ¿no significa que entramos en comunión con la sangre de Cristo? Ese pan que partimos, ¿no significa que entramos en comunión con el cuerpo de Cristo?
 - C. This word is used to speak of our financial contribution to the poor
 - 1. Romans 15:25–26; 25 At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints. 26 For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem.
 - 2. Romanos 15:25–26; 25 Por ahora, voy a Jerusalén para llevar ayuda a los hermanos, 26 ya que Macedonia y Acaya tuvieron a bien hacer una colecta para los hermanos pobres de Jerusalén.
 - 3. Philippians 4:18; I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.
 - 4. Filipenses 4:18; Ya he recibido todo lo que necesito y aún más; tengo hasta de sobra ahora que he recibido de Epafrodito lo que me enviaron. Es una ofrenda fragante, un sacrificio que Dios acepta con agrado.
 - D. This fellowship, sharing, contribution, partnership is called a sacrifice
 - E. If we look at this fellowship through the eyes of the burnt offering, then we are saying to God, "all that I have is Yours, to be used in Your Kingdom!"
- VII. An Offering of Sacrifice
- A. Jesus provided the only sacrifice needed to cleanse us of our sins
 - B. All that I am belongs to You
 - C. All that I do, I do in service to You
 - D. All that I have is Yours