

Eating with Friends!

A pleasing aroma

“The worshipper and his friends ate the meal together.” – Gordon Wenham

God thinks the food smells good, too!

The Peace Offering is a Recognition

Occasions for the peace offering

A Thanks Offering – response to an experience of God’s mercy

A Payment of Vows – response to God answering prayer

A Freewill (Love) Offering – response to unasked for generosity

Details on the ritual

Ancient language used to describe feelings and thinking is different than today!

Guts = Feelings

Heart = Thinking

In recognition of his blessing, we entrust ourselves wholly to God, giving him the very best of ourselves and all that we have.

Peace with God has already been established

The burnt offering is already given. They are already God’s people. Atonement is already made.

Understanding assurance, salvation, blessing, and peace

Compare Jonah to Psalm 1

Psalm 1 – “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; ² but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. ³ He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.”

The difference between having peace with God and experiencing peace with God

Romans 5:1 – We have peace with God through Christ’s death for us.

Ephesians 4:30 – We can grieve the Spirit by sinning.

Hebrews 12:11 – We can go through discipline which brings us back to righteousness and peace.

Heb 12:11 “For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.”

The Peace Offering is a Celebration

It is a communal celebration

Deuteronomy 12:7 “You shall eat before the Lord your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your households, in all that you undertake, in which the Lord your God has blessed you.”

2 Samuel 6:17-19

Gotta stay connected – input and output

Celebrating God is a part of worship that fuels our souls for service and joy

The Peace Offering is in Anticipation

New Testament Connections

The last supper is like the peace offering, in that they were both meals celebrated communally in recognition of the blood sacrifice for the forgiveness of sin.

Future

Revelation 19:6-9 “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. ⁷ Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; ⁸ it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. ⁹ And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.”

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. Does the peace offering sacrifice come before or after we have peace with God? How do you know?
2. What is the interworking between salvation, obedience, peace, and blessing?
3. How do you experience community and connection with God and people? Do you have input and output?
4. Why is this festive sacrifice a picture of heaven? Does this give you hope that you will experience eternal peace with God and your Christian brothers and sisters?