

Spiritual Sacrifices

Pastor Anthony J. Shetley
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God sent and revealed His Son to us that we know
and have a personal relationship with Him.

We are saved by His grace and appointed unto good works.

Our good works are spiritual sacrifices that we offer up to God as His Royal Priest.

Jesus is coming quickly, and He is bringing rewards with Him
to give every person according the works which they have done.

Jesus said, "We must work while it is still today
for the night is coming when we can't work anymore."

The church will stand before the judgment seat of Christ to give an account for what
we have done, good or bad. We must be diligent to hear our Lord say,
"Well done, My good and faithful servant."

What on earth is the church for? My friend, the church has a reason and it's only for a season. Soon Jesus is coming to call His to a meeting in the air. From there, we will go with Him to His Father's house where they are many dwelling places which Jesus has prepared for us.

What is the church for?

(Ephesians 2:8, NASB) "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God."

(Ephesians 2:10, NASB) "*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.*"

There is a reason the church is called the household of faith! The church is a spiritual building being built by Jesus Christ with every man or woman who believes that He is the Son of God and have acted upon their faith by surrendering to Him as their Lord.

"Every knee must bow; every tongue must confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!"

When the apostle Peter made his confession, Jesus proclaimed that He was going to build His church on the rock of personal faith in the divine revelation of the Father concerning His Son, Jesus Christ.

Jesus had known Peter way before Peter ever knew him and had given him the name Petras or Peter which is to say, you are a rock - a living stone as Peter would come to understand it.

(1 Peter 2:5) "You also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

My friend God is building a church and as in any building project, one day it will be complete.

"That He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless." (Ephesians 5:27, NASB)

Church, the rapture could take place at any time. ARE YOU READY?

We are Living stones. Our soul has been made alive by the Holy Spirit! We have been placed in His building, the church which is a spiritual house because of the indwelling Holy Spirit!

The church has been ordained to offer up spiritual sacrifices. Sacrifices that are spiritual in nature.

Spiritual sacrifices come from a heart whose desire is the Lord; a heart prompted by God's Spirit to "*prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*" (Romans 12:2, NKJV)

The substance of our spiritual sacrifices are our good works; our actions; and our deeds.

For a sacrifice to be accepted by God, it must be offered by one who has been chosen and qualified. In the Old Testament, the sacrifices to God could only be offered by a priest; not just any priest, but one that had been sanctified.

God's word proclaims that Jesus Christ, our High Priest, offered Himself as the atoning sacrifice for our salvation. By placing our faith in Him and Him alone, we are washed in the blood of the precious lamb of God. He was the acceptable sacrifice required to fulfill the righteous requirement of the law.

"For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one Father; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren!" (Hebrews 2:11, NASB)

He has qualified us to be chosen by God as His royal priests! He has placed us in His spiritual building which He is erecting for His glory! It is out of our relationship with God's Son, Jesus Christ that we can now produce good works which are accepted by God as righteous.

To describe these sacrifices as spiritual does not mean that they are symbolic of something mystical or intangible. These sacrifices were demonstrated in the life of Jesus Christ and taught to us, His church.

"We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work." (John 9:4, NASB)

What are spiritual sacrifices accepted by God?

Prayer: *"And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand."* (Revelation 8:4, NASB)

"And fixing his gaze on him and being much alarmed, he said, "What is it, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and alms have ascended as a memorial before God." (Acts 10:4, NASB)

Worship

- In Song: *"Let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name."* (Hebrews 13:14–15, NASB)
- Prayers and Lifting of Hands: *"May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice."* (Psalm 141:2, NIV)

Giving: *"I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God."* (Philippians 4:18, NIV)

Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return. (Luke 6:38, NASB)

The Basic Help and service to others: *"And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."* (Hebrews 13:16, NASB)

"So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith." (Galatians 6:10, NASB)

God is working in us and through us by His Holy Spirit through His Son, Jesus Christ.

"But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person's work has any value." (1 Corinthians 3:13, NLT)