

Heb 13:15-19

Spiritual Sacrifices to God

- I. Introduction:** The author of Hebrews urged his audience to respond to the message about Jesus with spiritual sacrifices rather than offer sacrifices at the Temple.

- II. Spiritual Sacrifices to God (Heb 13:15-19).**
 - A. The Sacrifice of Our Lips (v. 15).**
 - 1. The author of Hebrews urged his fellow Jewish Christians to offer up worship to Jesus as a sacrifice of praise instead of sacrificial animals on the altar.

 - B. The Sacrifice of Our Giving (v. 16).**
 - 1. The writer of Hebrews encouraged believers to do good and give generously to others because these are spiritual sacrifices that please God.

 - C. The Sacrifice of Our Obedience (v. 17).**
 - 1. The author encouraged his readers to obey the leaders God had placed in their lives so that they might bring joy to their leaders joy and blessings to them.

 - D. The Sacrifice of Our Prayers (vv. 18-19).**
 - 1. The author encouraged his audience to pray for their leaders, so that they might act honorably and lead with a clear conscience.

- III. Conclusion:** The author implored his Jewish audience to offer the spiritual sacrifices of worship, giving, obedience, and prayer so they would please the Father.

Study Questions: Spiritual Sacrifices to God

1. Does God still require sacrifices? What are the sacrifices that believers offer to Him under the New Covenant? How are Christians called to obey and submit to their leaders?
2. What sacrifice did the author call his audience to present to God? (**Heb 13:15**) How is worship a sacrificial act? (**Hosea 14:2**) What is God looking for in public worship? (**John 4:22-23**)
3. How are our lives an act of worship? (**Rom 12:1-2**) In what way are we to worship continually? (**1 Thess 5:18**) What does scripture teach us about thankfulness? (**Job 1:21**)
4. What other acts of sacrifice did the writer call his readers to perform? (**Heb 13:16**) What does it mean to “do good”? (**v. 16**) What sacrifices are pleasing to the Lord? (**v. 16**)
5. What command did the author give concerning leaders in the church? (**Heb 13:17**) What kind of leadership is taught in the New Testament? (**Titus 1:5**) What does it mean to submit?
6. Why did the writer say they needed to obey and submit to their leaders? (**Heb 13:7**) What spiritual accountability do leaders have to God? How can you help leaders to rule with joy?
7. What is the last command he gave to the church? (**Heb 13:18**) Why do leaders need prayer from God’s people? (**Eph 6:19**) What does it mean to live honorably as a leader?
8. Why did the author urge these Christians to pray for him? (**Heb 13:19**) What circumstances warranted him being restored to them? (**v. 19**) How can you pray for the leaders of your church?

Prayer

1. Pray God will help you to worship Him in Spirit and truth, offering up a sacrifice of your lips.
2. Seek the Lord to know how you can better support and pray for the leaders of your church.