

Smoke

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Living Sacrifices

- ❖ Smoke is the evidence of the fire of God.
 - ❖ God is the God who answers by fire.
 - ❖ Deut. 4:24 & Hebrews 12:29 – “Our God is a consuming fire”.
 - ❖ “We want the smoke”
 - ❖ This isn’t emotional hype “fire”. It’s about holy presence.
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- In the OT a key part of worship was the sacrificial system.
 - God established a sacrificial system to deal with sin, express worship, and maintain covenant relationship.
 - There was an altar -square box overlaid with brass.
 - Today worship is usually thought of as singing.
 - Praise – fast songs.
 - Worship – slow songs.

- Altar – a place for you to be prayed for and receive salvation.

So if worship is more than a song what is it?

- **It is an offering.**

Leviticus 1:9 (ESV) And the priest shall burn all of it on the altar, as a burnt offering, a food offering with a pleasing aroma to the Lord.

- We do not offer animals because Jesus is the spotless lamb who takes away the sin of the world.
- God is still looking for altars.

Psalms 141:2 (ESV) Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!

- Sacrifice often feels like loss.
- What you burn for God is never wasted—it becomes worship.

Romans 12:1-2 (ESV) 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 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by

testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

- Bodies – your whole being.
- Living sacrifice – you won't die, because Christ fulfilled the need for those sacrifices.

Romans 11:36 (ESV) For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

- Music is powerful.
- David played the harp and demons left Saul.
- What makes your singing powerful is a life surrendered to God, not simply skilled musicians.
- It is a life lived in obedience to God.

Romans 12:1 isn't a one-time offering—it's a daily invitation: "Today, Lord, I place my life back on the altar. Burn away what's not of You, and let my worship rise like smoke."