

WHY  
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# **Spiritual Sacrifices**

## **John 21:15-17**

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?' Peter said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs'. 16 He said to him a second time, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me?' Peter said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' He said to him, 'Tend my sheep' 17 Jesus said to Peter the third time, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me?' Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep'”

## **Acts 26:12-15**

“In this connection I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. 13 At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me. 14 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ 15 And I said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And the Lord said, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.’

## **1 Peter 2:1-10**

So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. 2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. 4 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer **spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.** 6 For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”  
7 So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who  
do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,”

8 and

“A stone of stumbling,  
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word,  
as they were destined to do...

9 But you are a chosen race, **a royal priesthood**, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, **that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.**

10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

## Hebrews 13:15-16

Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. 16 Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for **such sacrifices** are pleasing to God.



# **Spiritual Sacrifices**

# I. Worship

## **Psalm 22:1-5**

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

3 **Yet you are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.**

4 In you our fathers trusted;  
they trusted, and you delivered them.

5 To you they cried and were rescued;  
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

## **Psalm 18:49**

“Therefore I will praise you, LORD, among the nations;  
I will sing the praises of your name.”

## **Psalm 57:9**

“I will praise you, Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you  
among the peoples.”

## **Psalm 105:1**

“Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known  
among the nations what he has done.”

## **Job 1:20-22**

Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped. 21 And he said,

“Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.”

22 In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong.

## **Jonah 2:7 - 10**

When my life was fainting away, I remembered the Lord,  
and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.

8 Those who pay regard to vain idols  
forsake their hope of steadfast love.

9 But I with the voice of thanksgiving  
will sacrifice to you;

what I have vowed I will pay.

Salvation belongs to the Lord!”

10 And the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah  
out upon the dry land

“They sang and they sang, song after song of praise—praise to a God who in Jesus had plunged into the very worst to give us a promise of an ending beyond all imagining. The singing gave the congregation a foretaste of the end. Christian hope isn't about looking around at the state of things now and trying to imagine where it's all going. It's not about trying to calculate the future from the present. It's about breathing now the fresh air of the ending, tasting the spices and sipping the wine of the feast to come.”

Dallas Willard

# 2. Money



## **Genesis 4:2-7**

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. 6 The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? 7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”

## **Philippians 4:15-20**

And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. 16 Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. 17 Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. 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.** 19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. 20 To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

## **Proverbs 3:9-10**

Honor the Lord with your wealth

and with the firstfruits of all your produce;

10 then your barns will be filled with plenty,

and your vats will be bursting with wine.

# 3. Service

## **Hebrews 13:20-21**

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, 21 equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen

## **Ephesians 5:1-2**

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.

## **Acts 20:28**

Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.

## **Deuteronomy 28:47 ESV**

Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joyfulness and gladness of heart, because of the abundance of all things.



## **Deuteronomy 28:47 ESV**

Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joyfulness and gladness of heart, because of the abundance of all things.

## **Deuteronomy 28:47 NLT**

If you do not serve the LORD your God with joy and enthusiasm for the abundant benefits you have received.

## **I John 3:16-19**

We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters. 17 If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person? 18 Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. 19 Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God.

# 4. Holy Living

## **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.

## **Ephesians 5:3-10**

3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. 4 Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. 5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God...

6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not become partners with them; 8 for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light  
**9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.**

WHY  
HURRY?

