

Put It All On The Altar

The Secrets of Sacrifice | Week 1 | Genesis 22

INTRODUCTION

Many define sacrifice as “giving something that I don’t need... something extra...something that’s easy to give that might be a blessing to someone else.” But what I want you to see is that sacrifice, according to the Bible, is giving what you naturally don’t want to give. In this message, we are going to look at one of the most well-known biblical stories of sacrifice so we can learn what it looks like to truly surrender everything to God and put it all on the altar.

KEY POINTS

1. Jesus doesn’t want some of you. He wants all of you.

Jesus doesn’t want PART of your life; He wants ALL of your life. In fact, I’ll take it one step further and say that Jesus wants to BE your life.

Colossians 3:4 says, *“When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.”* This verse makes it very clear that as Christians, Christ should be our life. Jesus doesn’t want some of you, He wants all of you. And because of that, when you live your life with non-negotiables with God, and when you live your life withholding things from God, you’re cutting yourself short on the blessings of God. Why? Because when you offer God SOME instead of ALL, your sacrifice falls short of God’s expectation.

2. Jesus offered one sacrifice for sins forever.

The blood of lambs covered sin in the Old Testament, but the blood of THE Lamb canceled sin in the New Testament. Old Testament sacrifices were one after another, but the sacrifice of Jesus was one and done!

Ephesians 1:7 says, *“In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.”*

The Old Testament lambs were a foreshadowing of the Lamb of God that would one day come to permanently do away with the penalty of sin—and when Jesus came, that’s exactly what He did for us. He came and offered himself as the Lamb of God. He was the perfect sacrifice, and His blood didn’t just cover your sin temporarily. It canceled your sin permanently.

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3. Sacrifice is required to please the Lord.

There are all sorts of things that we think will please the Lord, like going to church, reading our Bibles, and praying. But if we just do good things for God, but lack a full surrender to God, our works alone will not please God. What pleases the Lord is a life that’s fully surrendered to Him. God doesn’t want some. He wants all. That is why Paul said, “*I urge you... to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God*” (Romans 12:1).

God wants access to everything you are, everything you’ve worked hard for and acquired, and everything you love. He tells us that we should be willing to lay everything on the altar for His glory, and when we do, it pleases the Lord.

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All In with Jordan Easley

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Is there anything in your life that you have yet to surrender to God? If so, what?
2. What is keeping you from putting everything on the altar?
3. What is one practical step you can take this week to begin surrendering everything over to the Lord?
