

“Deity's Delight!”

I. **INTRO:**

- A. Wow, great comments on the service Sunday: worship, communion, message. :)
- B. Baptism Class Tonight after service: upper room. **Baptism Sunday.**
- C. **Story: David Brainerd** was an *American colonial missionary* to the **Indians** who died at the age of 29. His diary reveals a young man intensely committed to God. Brainerd once said to **Jonathan Edwards**: *“I do not go to heaven to be advanced but to **give honor to God**. It is no matter where I shall be stationed in heaven, whether I have a high seat or a low seat there. My heaven is to please God and glorify Him, and give all to Him, and to be wholly devoted to His glory.”*
 - 1. Oh, to remember: why we exist, why we were saved, why we're going to heaven.
- D. *From last week* we now have **Joshua** as the **new commander**.
- E. The **new generation** had to be taught the **religious calendar**, which would govern their lives after they entered the land.
 - 1. **All time** is important to God, but it is good for us to set aside **special times** to remind us of what He has done for us. (i.e. Do you have a pray time?)
- F. This was set forth on **the eve** of their entering the Promise Land, in order that arrangements for worship might be *correctly made & properly carried out*.
- G. **Bird's eye view of 28,29**(much like Lev.23): **Daily Offerings** (daily sacrifices); **Weekly** (Sabbath rest); **Monthly** (new moon; lunar calendar); **Yearly**.
- H. Quick recap of what each of these feasts/holy days/offerings were:
 - 1. **Passover** - Angel of death flew over homes, left alone those covered by the blood on doorposts. **Appl:** blood covers.
 - 2. **Unleaven bread** - The whole week after Passover. Sweep house clean. **Appl:** no leaven/no sin.
 - 3. **Feast of Weeks** - 50 days(Pentecost) after 1st fruits; 1st fruits was a TY for entire Harvest. **Appl:** God meets our needs.
 - 4. **Feast of Trumpets** - Rosh Hashanah(head of the year). Beginning of Civil year. **Convocation**=Gathering. Blow shofar/trumpet.
 - 5. **Day of Atonement** - Yom Kippur(Day of Atonement). “Make amends; Set things right.” - **2 Key words: Substitution** (Jesus didn't die for Himself, but for us) **& Satisfaction** (Jesus satisfied God's holy justice. He received His wrath for us).
 - 6. **Feast of Tabernacles** - Sukkot (booths) Thanksgiving feast at end of Harvest.

II. **DEITY'S DELIGHT!**

- A. Vs2 gives a *condensed statement* that becomes the **key** that **unlocks** the contents of 28,29
1. **My offering** - (קָרְבָּן) **My gift** {qorban/corban} (Mark 7:11 Corban/"**it is a gift of God**" was spoken over money/offering so they wouldn't have to help mom or dad..."sorry it's God's!")
 2. **My food** - (לֶחֶם) **My bread**.
 3. **My offering** - (אֵשׁ) (esh-shah) **My fire offering**.
 4. **A sweet aroma to me** - **My sweet odor/fragrance**.
- B. 13x's **sin-offering** is mentioned (not starting till vs.15) yet this isn't the great prominent subject
1. There are **71** verses in these 2 chapters; **13** allude to the **sin-offering**.
The remaining **58** are occupied with a **sweet-savor offerings**. [30 to burnt offering]
 2. The special theme here is **God's delight in Christ! How?** Well Christ **became & fulfilled** each of these sacrifices/offerings.
 - a) **Morning & evening**, day by day, week by week, **from** one new moon to another, **from** the opening to the close of the year; it is **Christ in His fragrance & preciousness** towards God.
 - b) Yes, it is thanks be to **God**, & to **Jesus Christ** His Son, our sin is atoned for, judged, put away forever, our trespasses forgiven & guilt cancelled; **but above & beyond this**, the heart of God is **fed, refreshed, & delighted** by Christ.
- C. **My Food!!!**
1. God's food here referred to was **not** that which the priests received as their due, **but rather** the food that went up in smoke at the fire offerings.
The thought is that **God eats & drinks with his worshipers**, which, far from being a *primitive* notion, is carried over into the NT in the parallel ordinance of **the Lord's Table**, the Communion.¹
 2. **My food is to do the will of the Father** Jn.4:34 **But what about the Father's Food?**
 3. God the Father eats & drinks in your worship, your devotions, your songs, your service, your meditation, your ministry, your living sacrifices.
 - a) **How fat is your God? I mean, are you contributing to His table? Or are you just showing up to heaven's potluck & eating w/o bringing anything?**
- D. So the **burnt offering** is Christ towards God(30); the **sin offering** is Christ towards us(13)
1. Israel needed God's forgiveness. **Since** they **sinned regularly**, they needed regular sacrifices.
 - a) **If they left sin unchecked** then they couldn't expect a holy God to honor them.
 - b) **YES**, a 1000 times yes, what **Christ did for us**, **but also** what **He is to God!**

¹ The Wycliffe Bible Commentary; pg.147,148

2. But **the leading idea** is Christ as a **sweet savor**. The *sin offering* is never lacking; **but** the *sweet-savor offerings* get the **prominent place**!
 3. God **delights in Christ**, & it should be *our constant aim* to present to God that in which **He delights**.
- E. **Public reunions & private devotions**; assemblies & individualities; crowds & closets.
1. **Both** are **important**, **both** are **necessary**, **for** the equipping of the saints.
- F. **What do we as Christians celebrate: daily, weekly, monthly, yearly? (ask?)**
1. **Daily?** - Celebrate our personal relationship with Jesus **via** our **devotions**.
 2. **Weekly?** - Celebrate the Lords Day by gathering/worshiping together. (or Wed)
 3. **Monthly?** - Celebration of Communion together 1st Sun; Potluck Fellowship. (in our Calv Mur culture)
 4. **Yearly?** - Celebration of Jesus birth, death, & res.
- G. We don't bring **animal sacrifices** anymore, **instead** we **present our bodies** to the Lord as **living sacrifices**. **Rom.12:1,2**
1. NKJV - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.
 2. NLT - And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice - the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.
 3. Message - So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life - your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life - and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.
- H. It was easy for these sacrifices to become mere **ritual**. **See Amos 5:21-24** (Is. 1:11-18)
1. **The prophets condemned their misuse.**
 2. They give us a clue to there **purpose &** God's **real requirements**.
 3. **They were playing Church!** [Hypocrites in their finest hour!]
 - a) **Religious activities + generous gifts to God = A happy God?** (Nope!)
 - b) Don't seek religious **services**...seek the Lord!
 4. (24) **Justice** – God wants Justice to flow like a mighty river that cleanses **society of evil & refreshes everything it touches!** (Like a good rain!)
 - a) African Proverb, **Corn** can't expect justice from a court composed of **chickens**.

- I. The special **annual feasts** could not take the place of the **regular offerings**.
1. And neither can *ours*!!!
 2. *Example*: one whom I'll call, "Easter man" - only comes on Easter.
 3. The way to become more spiritual is to strengthen the **regular worship** day after day, & then the **special times of worship**, will do us more good.
 4. Never neglect the **regular burnt offering**.
 - a) The word **regular** is use 17 x's in Numb 28,29. A reminder that the **daily routine** is important to God & to us. [Are you regular?] :)
 - b) **It's His Food!**
- J. "Will you please tell me in a word," said *a Christian woman* to a **minister**, "what your idea of consecration is?" Holding out a blank sheet of paper the pastor replied, "It is to sign your name at the bottom of this blank sheet, and to let God fill it in as He will."
1. Consecrate = To make sacred; dedicate.
- K. The **Scriptures** were not given for our *information*, but for our *transformation*.²
- L. If Thou canst make so wonderful
This thrilling thing—a tree,
I wonder, Lord, what Thou couldst make
If man should yield to Thee;
- If every time earth-born root
Drank from the wells of God,
If all day long his every breath
Answered Thy slighted not?
- Bent, twisted, gnarled, time-eaten,
But a glorious thing this tree,
With hands and heart uplifted
Seeking the face of Thee!
- O Thou who made s wondrous fair
This trilling thing, my tree,
Because its every hour is lived
an offering unto Thee,
- Oh, take me, root and branch and all - The years go on apace!
Grow up in me that radiant life - That shines, Lord, from Thy face!

² D. L. Moody, Source unknown