

The Blessing of Sacrifice

Matthew 17:14-21



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Context: Matthew 17:4

1. Mountaintops are where we desire to stay

- The enemy knows that we limit God in the _____ – 1 Kings 20:23-25; Job 1:6-12; Matthew 4:1
- The valleys have the potential to be sweeter than the mountaintops – 1 Kings 20:26-30; Matthew 14:28-30; Hebrews 11:32-40

2. A sacrifice is required for blessing in the valleys

- Don't be fooled by the devil's " _____ " – Matthew 4:3-9; 1 Corinthians 7:5; 2 Corinthians 11:3, 13-15
- God is faithful to bless the sacrifice – Genesis 4:4-5; Exodus 20:22-24; 1 Samuel 9:13; 1 Peter 2:5
- True faith is a sacrifice of our _____ (mind) and _____ (body) in order to let God's Spirit work – Matthew 6:5-6, 16-17, 17:20-21; Psalm 42:8; Joel 2:12
 - Spirit – Ephesians 4:23; 2 Corinthians 10:5-6
 - Heart – Jeremiah 22:17; Matthew 6:21
 - _____ – Psalm 51:17
 - ✓ **Broken:** Made bankrupt, empty
 - ✓ **Contrite:** Humble, resolving an amendment (change) of life
- Some victories only come through prayer and fasting – Matthew 17:15, 21; Acts 13:3; Nehemiah 1

Closing: How clean are the _____ of your heart and mind? It took a bloody, perfect, sacrifice to redeem your soul from an eternity in Hell. It's time we give Him the same.