



This for That! – A Living Sacrifice

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Sermon Notes from January 25, 2009

A Living Sacrifice

Romans 12:1 (Amplified Bible)

1 I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as **a living sacrifice**, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship.

Old Testament Sacrifice

- **You must be obedient to instruction.**

2 Chronicles 7:12

- **You must be sincere in your actions.**

Psalms 51:17 (Amplified Bible)

17 My sacrifice [the sacrifice acceptable] to God is a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart [broken down with sorrow for sin and humbly and thoroughly penitent], such, O God, You will not despise.

- **You must sacrifice to God alone.**

Exodus 22:20

- **Whatever you sacrifice must die and stay dead.**

- **You must give your best!**

Genesis 4:3-5 (New Living Translation)

3 When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the Lord. 4 Abel also brought a gift—the best of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The Lord accepted Abel and his gift, 5 but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.

New Testament Sacrifice

- **Jesus Christ**

Matthew 26:28 (New Living Translation)

28 for this is my blood, which confirms the covenant between God and his people. It is poured out as a sacrifice to forgive the sins of many.



Sacrifice Defined

- the surrender or destruction of something prized or desirable for the sake of something considered as having a higher or more pressing claim.
- give up, let go
- Synonyms:
 - cede, drop, endure, eschew, forfeit, forgo, immolate, kiss goodbye, lose, offer, offer up, part with, renounce, resign oneself to, spare, suffer, surrender, waive, yield
- Antonyms:
 - hold, refuse

If you want something different out of your life then you will need to sow something different into your life.

Galatians 6:8 (King James Version)

8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Galatians 6:7-9 (New Living Translation)

7 Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. 8 Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. 9 So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

The goal is to be spirit led and not flesh led.

Romans 8:5-8 (Amplified Bible)

5 For those who are according to the flesh and are controlled by its unholy desires set their minds on and pursue those things which gratify the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit and are controlled by the desires of the Spirit set their minds on and seek those things which gratify the [Holy] Spirit. **6 Now the mind of the flesh [which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit] is death** [death that comprises all the miseries arising from sin, both here and hereafter]. But the mind of the [Holy] Spirit is life and [soul] peace [both now and forever]. 7 [That is] because the mind of the flesh [with its carnal thoughts and purposes] is hostile to God, for it does not submit itself to God's Law; indeed it cannot.

I would like to sacrifice my flesh desires.

Romans 8:5-8 (New King James Version)

5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.



There are psychological barriers called strongholds stopping us from our promise.

2 Corinthians 10:3-8 (Amplified Bible)

3 For though we walk (live) in the flesh, we are not carrying on our warfare according to the flesh and using mere human weapons. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds,

If you have lost your mind, get your mind back! How?

2 Corinthians 10:5 (Amplified Bible)

5 [Inasmuch as we] refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One),

This for That - A Living Sacrifice

- **The surrender or destruction of something prized or desirable for the sake of something considered as having a higher or more pressing claim.**
- **dedication**
- **determination**
- **discipline**
- **destiny**

Proverbs 23:7 (Amplified Bible)

7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.

Romans 12:1-2 (Contemporary English Version)

1 Dear friends, God is good. So I beg you to offer your bodies to him as a living sacrifice, pure and pleasing. That's the most sensible way to serve God. 2 Don't be like the people of this world, but let God change the way you think. Then you will know how to do everything that is good and pleasing to him.