

Worship Pt 3 worship is to present our bodies as a living sacrifice

This is our third study on the topic of worship. In our previous teaching we established - (1) The Father seeks those who worship Him in Spirit and truth, and (2) In Jesus' day the circumcision worshipped Jesus in truth as the Son of God, and (3) today we are the circumcision that worship God in spirit, rejoicing in Christ and have no confidence in the flesh. In this study we establish -(1) Israel's worship of the Father included burnt offerings and sacrifice, and (2) our worship is to present our bodies before the Lord as a living sacrifice - to prove His will and obey Him.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. Israel's worship included burnt offerings and sacrifices for their sin, "And he shall burn all his fat upon the altar, as the fat of the sacrifice of peace offerings: and the priest shall make an atonement for him as concerning his sin, and it shall be forgiven him" (Lev.4:26).

When Israel focused on the physical burnt offerings and turned their hearts away from God their worship was vain (Matt.15: 9). The Lord said of Israel - "this people draw near me with their mouth...but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men" (Is.29:13). God requires obedience more "than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams" (1 Sam.15: 22).

2. Our worship is to present our bodies as a Living sacrifice

"I beseech you therefore...that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom.12: 1 & 2).

Today, Christ was our one-off sacrifice for our sins. We honour God today, we worship Him when we present ourselves before Him as a living sacrifice!

Illustration to help apply our teaching to our life

I first went to church to sing in a choir, I raised my hands and sung as loud as I could, but outside of church my heart was far from God.

Question to think about

Why is our worship today about obedience to the Father?

Our answer from the scriptures

Take away the burnt offerings and sacrifices and Israel's worship was vain. Their hearts were far from God. Today in the church age - it is no different, if we go to worship for fellowship or the singing our worship is vain. True worship is of the heart, about obedience, where we present ourselves as a living sacrifice - not just at worship time, but in all of our living! Any other worship is vain. Do you worship the Father through His Son the Lord Jesus Christ with all your heart, presenting your body as a living sacrifice, seeking His will and surrendering your own? That is worship!