

6-10-18 Message
OFFERING A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE

Hebrews 13:12 Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

Hebrews 13:13 Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.

Hebrews 13:14 For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.

Hebrews 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Hebrews 13:16 But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Lamentations 3:39 Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?

Yesterday, I came over to the church to turn on the air conditioner. I spent a little time in prayer, and then thought about maybe sitting down to write a Scripture song. I hadn't written anything new for a while. As I thought about it, I really was not in the mood to play the piano. I was not in the mood to sing. Then I thought about that and this verse came to mind:

Hebrews 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

I thought, what does it matter what I feel like doing? Maybe God wants me to play something and praise Him. So I sat down at the piano, even though I didn't feel like it. I had been praying about some matters and as I prayed I did not see any real solutions to what I was praying about, humanly speaking.

Have you ever prayed about matters that in your mind you see no way that, humanly speaking, there can ever be a solution to the problems set before you? Well this took all desire out of me to sing and play the piano..

But when I thought on this command, OFFER TO HIM A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE, I just sat down and in a few minutes I started singing the chorus to the Scripture song we just sang.. "A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE"

A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE I OFFER JESUS.

A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE IS WHAT I OWE.

A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE WITH MUCH THANKS GIVING.

A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE I NOW BESTOW.

Now this Morning I am going to talk to you about this verse.

WHAT IS IT TO OFFER A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE?

HOW THEN DO WE OFFER UP A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE TO JESUS?

What does He want from us?

- I. WE OFFER A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE BY EXPRESSING OUR LOVE FOR HIM.
- II. WE OFFER A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE BY TRUSTING HIM AND NOT COMPLAINING.

III. WE OFFER A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE BY THANKING HIM BY FAITH.

**I. WE OFFER A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE BY EXPRESSING OUR LOVE FOR HIM.
HE WANTS US TO LOVE HIM BY GIVING TO HIM A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE.**

A Sacrifice of praise involves Loving God.

Luke 7:47 Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.

What can we give Jesus but our love and adoration?

God saved you by His grace. What that means is that because you humbled yourself and received Jesus as your substitute for your sin, you are **not** going to suffer the eternal death that you deserve.

If you were to be called into account for all the sins you committed in your life there is enough there to send you to hell forever.

Is there anyone that is squeaky clean of all sin?

You see the law condemns us.

Galatians 3:10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

Deuteronomy 27:26 Cursed be he that confirmeth not all the words of this law to do them. And all the people shall say, Amen.

Is there anyone who is not under the condemnation of violating some point of the Law? We have all missed the mark.

But Jesus, through His sacrifice for sins on the cross, is able to pardon anyone who calls on Him.

Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

II Corinthians 9:15 Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

Since He paid for our sin on the cross what more can we give Him but this Sacrifice of praise, this expression of our love and adoration?

It is the first and great commandment.

Mark 12:28 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?

Mark 12:29 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

Mark 12:30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

Hebrews 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

What more can we do but praise Him for what He has done for us..

THE REASON A LOT OF PEOPLE DO NOT LOVE GOD LIKE THEY SHOULD IS BECAUSE THEY THINK THEY ARE PRETTY GOOD PEOPLE.

I see people that get so annoyed at other people that they make it effect their service for the Lord. To the point some people stop coming to church.

When I see people doing things that annoy me, I think, I wonder, what I do that annoys God. When I have people do things against me, I have to think what things have I done against God.

Are any of us squeaky clean from sin?

HOW DO WE OFFER TO HIM A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE?

The Bible commands us to offer to God a sacrifice of Praise and thanksgiving. Now this is only reasonable that we do so. The reason why is that we, by his grace, are recipients of His mercy. You see, the Bible teaches:

THINK ON THIS: THE GREATEST REASON WE SHOULD LOVE HIM.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death;

Now there are three aspects to death because we are made in the image of God and are trichotomous beings just like God - it is part of the God image in man. We are made up of Body, Soul and Spirit.

I believe mankind experienced spiritual death, or separation from God in the Garden of Eden shortly after creation.

We experience Physical death when our bodies give out.

We experience Soul death when we are eternally separated from God in a place the Bible calls hell.

We are born physically into this world separated from God. This is why the Bible says we need to be born again to be saved.

Ephesians 2:1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Now for each of us the Bible says,

Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

According to the Scripture when we die physically it is not over as some people think.

On the front page the big story is that suicides are on the rise. The reason this is the case is because people think that they are better off dead. The problem with that kind of thinking is that for a good majority of people that is not true.

Tell the rich man in Luke Chapter 16 he was better off dead?

Now for Lazarus, who went to heaven, that was the case but not for the unsaved rich man. In fact, if the Bible is true, Broad is the way that leads to hell and narrow is the way that leads to life.

Matthew 7:14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

If this is true the majority of people are headed to a Christ-less eternity which is called hell. It is not going to be better for them when their life is over.

The Bible gives a severe warning about hell. It says:

Matthew 18:7 Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!

Matthew 18:8 Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire.

Matthew 18:9 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.

In fact the Bible says,

Mark 8:36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

Mark 8:37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

Matthew 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

The Bible says, don't fear what men can do to you, fear what God can do to you.

Now if this book is true, then there are more people going to hell than heaven.

Hell is far worse than anything you can suffer in this life.

Why is hell far worse than anything you can suffer in this world or in this life?

The reason hell is far worse is because it is eternal.

Mark 9:43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

Mark 9:44 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

Mark 9:45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

Mark 9:46 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

Mark 9:47 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:

Mark 9:48 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

This is why there is absolutely nothing you can go through in this life or this world that could compare to hell.

Now this is what Jesus said, and if He didn't know what He was talking about then who does?

In light of what I am saying, if you are not saved I would plead with you to come to Christ before it is too late.

I hear people say what kind of God would ever send people to such a place. He is the same God who provides forgiveness and salvation so no one has to go there. Yet men make light of His love and forgiveness and mock His name and hell is enlarged because of their blasphemies.

Again our text says,

Hebrews 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

I John 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.

The best thing we can do for the Lord is to love Him with all our heart soul mind and strength!

This is the best Sacrifice of Praise we can give Him.

To tell Him you love Him. In your prayers, in your life, in your walk, and in your talk. Can people see that you love the Lord?

The second way we can offer A Sacrifice Of Praise.

II. HE WANTS US TO TRUST HIM BY THE GOOD FRUIT OF OUR LIPS (NO COMPLAINTS).

Hebrews 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

The fruit of our Lips should be absent from complaints.

Why do we complain?

Lamentations 3:39 Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?

How do we complain? We do so when we grumble with our lips.

What do we have to complain about? we are headed to heaven.

We are forgiven our sins.

Look how happy that 63 year old woman, Alice Johnson, was when she was pardoned by Donald Trump. How much more should we be overjoyed?

1. IS THERE ANYTHING THAT CAN HAPPEN TO US IN THIS LIFE TO BE COMPARED TO HELL? IN LIGHT OF THIS WHAT DO WE HAVE TO COMPLAIN ABOUT?

Wherefore doeth a living man complain.

In this life we will experience some chastening and hardships.

Hebrews 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Hebrews 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

Hebrews 12:8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

We are children of God.. God will Chasten us! Correct us..

Look at Job. He despaired for life, but it was temporary.
Hell is eternal.

When you think about the hard times you are going through, think about the fact you are saved and not going to spend eternity in hell.

2. WHEN WE THINK ABOUT OUR END WE SHOULD FIND HOPE AND REJOICING.

Is there anything we can suffer in this life that could compare to the glory of eternity?

What negative thing could be worse than spending eternity in hell?

In Psalm 73 Asaph confesses he lost his praise and thanksgiving, he says,

Psalms 73:2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped.

Psalms 73:3 For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

Psalms 73:16 When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me;

Psalms 73:17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.

III. HE WANTS US TO HAVE HOPE BY THANKING HIM FOR WHAT HE WILL DO.

Hebrews 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Giving thanks:

I Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing.

I Thessalonians 5:18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

It takes faith in God to give thanks when circumstances around you don't seem to merit thanks in your mind.

Can we believe God is in control?

Think on this:

Lamentations 3:39 Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?

We deserve death but He gave us life.

What worse thing could happen to us than death?

When you die you lose everything in this world.

When you die you lose your health.

When you die you are separated from all friends and family.

When you die all that is in this world dies with you.

If you put it in this perspective is there anything we really can complain about?

Hebrews 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

In the prison at Philippi Paul and Silas gave thanks.

Acts 16:25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

When Peter and the apostles were whipped they gave thanks.

Acts 5:41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

Job 1:20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped,

Job 1:21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.

Job 2:8 And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal; and he sat down among the ashes.

Job 2:9 Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.

Job 2:10 But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.

In all these examples we see the people of God offering a Sacrifice of praise to God, believing that God is going to work out all the details.

Conclusion:

Why do we **not** offer a sacrifice of praise? The same reason I did not feel like singing to the Lord. We look at the problems set before us, we lose all hope, we don't feel like praising and

thanking God. But when we do our spirits are uplifted, light comes, hope reigns, and things look better.

It is all a matter of perspective. As the Psalmist said:

Psalms 73:16 When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me;

Psalms 73:17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.

Psalms 73:22 So foolish was I, and ignorant: I was as a beast before thee.

Psalms 73:23 Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand.

Psalms 73:24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

Psalms 73:25 Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.

Why will we let anything separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus?

Consider Christ who endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself.

Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Why do so many people fail to offer God a sacrifice of praise? Maybe it is because they just don't feel like it. But when they realize that it is commanded, it is their duty, and God is pleased with us when we offer these praises. Maybe a new song will come, a spark, a light, a ray of hope.

A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE IS BORN AND IT COMES OUT OF OUR LIPS.