

## Sacrifice Pt 2 Sacrifices that God delights in are holy

This is our second teaching on the topic of sacrifice. In our first study we established four points– (i) Moses’ reason for leaving Egypt was to go three days and sacrifice to the Lord God, (ii) The sacrifices were part of the law given by Moses, (iii) An acceptable sacrifice is a sweet savour unto the Lord, but (iv) Israel sacrificed unto idols. In this teaching we established an additional four points–(i) Sacrifices of God are a broken spirit and a broken and contrite heart, (2) God is pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, (3) Sacrifice unto God with the voice with thanksgiving, and (4) Christians are to present themselves before God as a living sacrifice.

It is from our search of the scripture that we establish our three points–

**1. Sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart**

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise” (Ps.51: 17).

**2. God is pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness**

“Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.[19] Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering” (Ps.51: 18, 19).

**3. Let us sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving**

“I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord” (Ps.116: 17). See also Ps.107: 22.

**4. Christians are to present their bodies as a living sacrifice holy**

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, [which is] your reasonable service” (Rom 12:1).

**Illustration**

When I was at Corys Electrical in Henderson one of my customer’s was a Jehovah Witness who after five years of discussion with – accepted that his bible had errors within its pages. He and his wife had an electrical business, owned their home in Kumeu and on all accounts was your everyday guy. After I left Corys I found out that he sold his house and business to be a missionary in the Islands.

**Question of the scriptures**

What is the similarity with New Testament and Old Testament sacrifices?

**Answer from the scriptures**

Similarities– we have already established that both are to be holy, acceptable to God, righteousness was included in both the old and New Testament.

\* Associated with both sacrifices there is a cost– David accepted that there is a cost to offer a sacrifice to the Lord –2 Sam.24: 22 – 24)

\* When we exercise our faith (as a living sacrifice) there is a cost– Phil.2: 17.

\* Then there is the obvious example of giving a gift to our brethren which is an odour of sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God–Phil.4: 18.

Let us remember there is a cost to sacrifice to the Lord, whether of a broken heart– where it costs time to repair through prayer, or service where we give up our time, or an offering to our brethren where we sacrifice our needs to fulfil theirs.

Let us do so with all of our heart, with joyfulness and thanksgiving! Amen!