Sacrifice Pt 3 Christ our perfect sacrifice

This is our third teaching on the topic of sacrifice. In our second study we established 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. In this teaching we established three points— i) For a sacrifice to be accepted by the Lord it had to be perfect, ii) The Old Testament sacrifices were shadow of things to come, and iii) Christ our passover was sacrificed for us to put away our sins.

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

1. For a sacrifice to be accepted it has to be perfect

"And whosoever offereth a sacrifice of peace offerings unto the Lord to accomplish his vow, or a freewill offering in beeves or sheep, it shall be perfect to be accepted; there shall be no blemish therein" (Lev.22: 21)

2. Sacrifices in the Old Testament were a shadow of things to come "For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect" (Heb.10: 1).

3. Christ our passover was sacrificed for us

"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us" (1 Cor.5: 7).

Illustration

According to scripture- Christ's sacrifice on the cross occurred once!- "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all" (Heb.10: 10). For us to be forgiven, cleansed, redeemed, our sins do not need a sacrifice each Sunday we worship. To treat the Lord's supper as a repeated sacrifice is heresy and denies the efficacy of Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

Question of the scriptures

- i) What is the significance of Christ's sacrifice today?
- ii) What is an example we can take from Jesus' sacrifice?

Answer from the scriptures

- i) The significance of Christ's sacrifice-
- * It occurred ONCE (Heb.9: 26), it is effective for all who believe the gospel of Christ, there is no other sacrifice needed. Our sins are forgiven and taken away.
- * "And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him" (Col 1:20), and
- * Gentiles are made nigh by His blood, by sacrifice (Eph.2: 13).
- ii) An example that we can take from Jesus' sacrifice-
- a) Walk in love AS Christ loved us and given himself for us a sacrifice to God "And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour" (Eph 5:2). Any religion that makes His sacrifice less effective will suffer the wrath of God- who "made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2Cor.5: 21)! Praise God!