

The Old Hickory

Bulletin

Old Hickory Church of Christ

841 Old Hickory Blvd.

Jackson, TN 38305

September 04, 2011

Volume 31, # 36

ARE YOU OFFERING YOUR SACRIFICES?

Animal sacrifices are no longer required of the true worshippers of Jehovah. They were replaced and rendered unnecessary when Christ “offered one sacrifice for sins forever” (Heb. 10:12). He, one time for all time, “put away sin by the sacrifice of himself” (Heb. 9:26; cf. Heb. 7:27). The sacrificial death of Christ on the cross took away the need for any additional atoning sacrifice forevermore (Heb. 10:14). This is not to say that EVERY type of sacrifice has been rendered obsolete and void of effect. It is to say, however, that there will never again be a need for a propitiatory sacrifice for the sins of mankind. Christ has provided this (1 John 2:2). Could there be blessings in other types of sacrifices? YES, INDEED!

The New Testament Scriptures call for the Christian to render certain sacrifices. Paul commands Christians “to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service.” (Rom. 12:1). This differs from the animal sacrifices of the Old Testament in that those bodies were slain. The offering meant the taking of a life. But the Christian’s sacrifice of his body is

offered while he continues to live, although he has “died to sin,” he walks in “newness of life.” (Rom. 6:2,4). In offering a living body, one brings the thought and action into subjection to the will of God. Such a life is then suitable for kingdom-service, as the body belongs to Christ (1 Cor. 6:15; Phil. 1:20).

The Christian is commanded “to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” (1 Peter 2:5). Some specific sacrifices are mentioned in Hebrews 13:15-16 – “Through him then let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of lips which make confession to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.” Christians are to offer praise to God in singing (Eph. 5:19) and in talking, and that CONTINUALLY – that is, we may praise God at all times without waiting for someone to tell us to (1 Thess. 5:16-18). Our sacrifices are not only offered by lips, but also include various forms of well-doing (Rom. 12:13; 15:26-27; Phil. 4:10-18). Forget not that the good we are to do is that which is authorized by God’s word (2 Tim. 3:16-17), and we must not go beyond what is written (1 Cor. 4:6; 2 John 9-11; Rev. 22:18-19).

Christianity demands sacrifices that encompass thought, speech and action. Have you offered yours?

- GFS

JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS

An elderly lady, the self-appointed supervisor of a little rural village’s morals, accused a workman of having turned to drink because “with her own eyes” she had seen his wheelbarrow standing outside a tavern. The accused made no defense, but that evening he parked his wheelbarrow outside her house and left it there all night.

The Bible also has somewhat to say regarding this unholy exercise of “jumping to conclusions.” Only the Bible calls it “bearing false witness.” 2 Timothy 3:3 refers to

such people as false accusers. 1 Timothy 6:4 calls the practice evil surmisings. Romans 1:30 says they are inventors of evil things, and 1 Pet. 4:15 refers to them as busybodies.

–Guthrie Dean

DANGEROUS SYMPTOMS: When the way to the meeting house seems too far; when the sermons seem too long; when you dislike to speak to the brethren; when the sermon makes you mad instead of penitent; when reading the Bible puts you to sleep; when you fret if called on to assist in the service or perhaps give a little more; then BEWARE! You are showing all the symptoms of becoming a BACKSLIDER!

– unknown

SUNDAY'S LESSONS: Sunday morning: *“The Prayer Power of Moses!”* (text: Exodus 32:11-13, 31-32); Sunday evening: Jesus Christ: A Closer Look – *A Night That Will Live In Infamy!* (Mark 14:41-52).

SCHEDULE: Our Fall Gospel Meeting is scheduled for Sept. 18-23, with Eric Reynolds.