

All Things New

A New Way to Worship

The Sacrifice of Praise

There are times when praise is not easy for us. Sometimes it's the last thing we want to do. Those are the times that require us to give God the "sacrifice of praise."

Hebrews tell us "through Jesus" to continually offer up a sacrifice of praise

Peter says we are a "spiritual priesthood"

We offer sacrifices of thanksgiving

Even in O.T. God spoke of sacrifices of the heart (Ps 51:16-17)

We can offer up the fulfillment of O.T. type - praise

A sacrifice indicates something that is costly

See David 1 Chronicles 21

It is not a sacrifice until it costs us something

The Cost of Praise

Praise is not free, it costs to those who are involved

The cost of energy.

The cost of preparation (Ps 24:3-4).

The cost of time.

The "sacrifice of praise" is easier to sing about than to do

We are warned against complacency (Amos 6:1)

Reflection

1. How does being a spiritual priesthood compare to the priests who served the temple in the O.T.?
2. Why do you think God prefers the sacrifice of a broken and contrite heart?
3. Why do you think David was so insistent that he pay for Araunah's threshing floor in order to offer a sacrifice to God?
4. What are some things that help you to offer up the sacrifice of praise when you really don't feel like it?

Scriptures

Hebrews 13:15 (NIV)

¹⁵ Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

1 Peter 2:5 (NIV)

⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Psalms 27:6 (NIV)

⁶ Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Psalms 54:6 (NIV)

⁶ I will sacrifice a freewill offering to you; I will praise your name, Lord, for it is good.

Psalms 116:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the Lord.

Psalms 51:16–17 (NIV)

¹⁶ You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. ¹⁷ My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

1 Chronicles 21:24 (NIV)

²⁴ But King David replied to Araunah, "No, I insist on paying the full price. I will not take for the Lord what is yours, or sacrifice a burnt offering that costs me nothing."

Psalms 24:3–4 (NIV)

³ Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? ⁴ The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.

1 Chronicles 21

O J L O O K I N G L I I G
C R T A K E S A I D B N F
D E S T R O Y O V C M C L
A P E H U N D R E D W L O
V O A R A U N A H W N U O
I R N E G J I S W O R D R
D T S S A C R I F I C E W
D T W H I O F F E R E D C
J Y E I S M A O J L Y M H
O C R N R M K O O G B L A
A O H G A A L T A R U O L
C U T H E N U M B E R R N
A N G E L D U N H A N D U
G T H E R E D S O T T C N

ALTAR	ANGEL	ANSWER
ARAUNAH	BURNT	COMMAND
COUNT	DAVID	DESTROY
FLOOR	GIVE	GREAT
HAND	HUNDRED	INCLUDE
ISRAEL	JOAB	KING
LOOK	LORD	NUMBER
OFFERED	REPORT	SACRIFICE
SAID	SWORD	TAKE
THEN	THERE	THRESHING