

SATURDAY/SUNDAY JULY 31 AND AUGUST 1

PRESENTING OUR BODIES TO GOD

Sacrifices on an altar were a part of the worship to God in the Old Testament. As the priests prepared them, they needed to be sure they were sacrifices which met God's standards and were presented in such a way they would be pleasing and acceptable.

Since Christ's death, there is no longer a need for these types of sacrifices. However, because of God's undeserving kindness and compassion for us, as our spiritual act of worship we are to present ourselves to God as living sacrifices...our entire person to Him for service. When a sacrifice is offered to God, all claim to it is released. Therefore, when we present our bodies to Him (as a living sacrifice), we see in His Word exhortations regarding our bodies in order to be pleasing and acceptable.

1. We are to yield it to God: Romans 12:1 and Romans 6:13-20.
2. We are to make it a living sacrifice: Romans 12:1.
3. The Holy Spirit lives in us. Therefore, we are to make it a holy place: Romans 12:1; 1 Corinthians 3:17
4. We are not to defile what is holy to God but rather make it accepted of God: Romans 12:1
5. Be careful what our eyes focus on. It is a place to be filled with God's light: Mathew 6:22.
6. We should consider ourselves dead to sin. Don't resurrect the deeds of darkness.
Romans 6:11
7. We are to be alive to God: Romans 6:11.
8. If we are dead to sin, when anything of sin comes in, don't allow it to come and take up residence. Don't become sin's slave: Romans 6:12.
9. We are to put to death those deeds of the flesh in order to have eternal life: Romans 8:13.
10. We are to refuse anything that defiles our body/His sanctuary: 1 Corinthians 3:17.
11. The whole emphasis is that as a living/pleasing sacrifice to God, we are His temple and should be fit for the Holy Spirit: 1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 1 Corinthians 6:13-20.
12. In every way, we are to glorify God: 1 Corinthians 6:20.
13. We are to discipline ourselves and keep it in control: 1 Corinthians 9:27

As you can see, we are to totally devote ourselves to God. It encompasses loving the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. When we present ourselves voluntarily in such a way from day to day, we are an offering that is pleasing and acceptable unto God. That is spiritual worship.