

Sermon Notes with Pastor's Teaching Tool

A SPIRITUAL SACRIFICE / PRAYER

April 24, 2022

Psalm 141:1-2 (v. 2)

“Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.”

Teaching Purpose

Answers the question, “How should I understand this verse?” Is the passage dealing with a:

S	P	E	C	S
<u>Sin</u> to confess and forsake?	<u>Promise</u> to claim?	<u>Example</u> to follow?	<u>Command</u> to obey?	<u>Situation</u> or <u>State of mind</u> to avoid before it develops into a sin?

Sermonic Principle(s)

Answers the question, “What’s in it, or what’s the take away for me?”

- 1) **Language.....Matters!!**
Context.....Matters!!
Words.....Matter!!
- 2) As GOD’s people today, we are a **HOLY PRIESTHOOD** offering **SPIRITUAL SACRIFICES** acceptable to GOD **through** THE LORD JESUS CHRIST (**1 Peter 2:5**)...
- 3) So...what **SPIRITUAL SACRIFICES**?
 - a) they are NOT NECESSARILY NONMATERIAL
(although some of them are)
 - b) The **SPIRITUAL** in **SPIRITUAL SACRIFICE** means “of a **SPIRITUAL QUALITY**, or RELATED to THE **SPIRIT!**”

c)

WTPT? HTPP!

If...what we offer is offered **SINCERELY TO GOD** in **THE SPIRIT** through **THE LORD JESUS CHRIST**, then our offerings / our gifts are acceptable to GOD...as **SPIRITUAL SACRIFICES!**

d)

R / R / NF

It is the **character and attitude** of the giver that gives **value** to the offering **(Mark 12:41-44)**...

4) The first **SPIRITUAL SACRIFICE** that we offer to GOD is **US**
(Romans 12:1-2)

5) The second **SPIRITUAL SACRIFICE** that we offer to GOD is **Prayer**
(Psalm 141:2)...

“Let My **PRAYER** be setforth before thee as **incense**; and the lifting up of my **HANDS** as the **Evening Sacrifice.**”

- 6) **Prayer is the substance in this Psalm**
Incense is the symbol of Prayer in this Psalm (Revelation 8:3-4)
- 7) What is **PRAYER**... anyway?
- a) **Prayer is Conversation with the Creator**
And **Cause** of the **Cosmos**
A Dialogue Not A Monologue
Listening and Speaking
Hearing and Obeying
 - b) **Prayer is the Key that unlocks Every New Day and the **Lock** that**
Closes the Door Every Night
 - c) **Prayer is the Privilege of Every Child of GOD**
 - d) **Prayer is Practical B/C Prayer Appropriates the Resources of GOD**
which are **Always Available** for **USE** by **US**
 - e) **Prayer turns Difficulties into Opportunities**

- f) Prayer turns Tragedy into Triumph
- g) Prayer yields Tangible Results

Prayer is A Spiritual Sacrifice made through THE LORD JESUS CHRIST to GOD

8) In the Old Testament, the Priest made sacrifices at two (2) altars before Prayer could be made BEFORE GOD

- a) The Brazen Altar at the entrance to the Tabernacle where Animal / Blood sacrifices were burned / made to atone for sin
- b) The Golden Altar at the entrance to the HOLY of Holies where Prayers were made and incense were burned before approaching the Presence of GOD

c) R / R / NF

PRAYER is the Substance
Incense.....the Symbol

d) **R / R / NF**

You could NOT get to the **Golden Altar** without first going to the **Brazen Altar** meaning A Blood Sacrifice had to be offered before The Expression and Experience of PRAYER before the PRESENCE of GOD could be Encountered and Heard by GOD!

e) THE LORD JESUS CHRIST is the ONLY SACRIFICE
the PERFECT SACRIFICE

for ALL Men

for ALL Sin

for ALL Time and we enter the Presence of GOD **Through HIM**
(Our Blood Offering on HIS BRAZEN ALTAR)

9) **So WHAT?...HERE'S WHAT!**

PRAYER is Important to GOD and

PRAYER OUGHT to be Important to US

10) We MUST approach GOD with our Prayers (our SPIRITUAL SACRIFICE)
with a Sincere Heart
with Up Lifted / Clean Hands
in THE HOLY SPIRIT
Through THE LORD JESUS CHRIST
which makes our PRAYERS
Accepted By GOD and
Acceptable To GOD!

ACTION POINT!!

Having heard and understood this teaching, answers the question, **What should I do?**

LIVE LIKE IT!

There is **Only One** Right Response to the Truth that has been taught... in your hearing TODAY

WORSHIP HIM (Definition)

- Respond to Him **with** ALL that you are

Mind/**Emotions**/Will/Body **to** ALL that GOD is/**says**/does!

Which Looks Like... Submit to HIM!

Yield to HIM!

Align yourself with HIM!

Line Up under HIM!

Build your LIFE UPON HIM!

Build your LIFE AROUND HIM!

Center your LIFE IN HIM!

R / R / NF

*The **GREATEST** Expression of **WORSHIP** is*

*The **SMALLEST** act of **OBEDIENCE!***

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John 4:23

But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

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