

The Third Book Of Moses

LEVITICUS

THE BURNT OFFERING

Leviticus 1:1-17

Introduction To The Burnt Offering

Worship With A Knife

What does worship look like to you?

- Question:** Is it lifted hands and closed eyes?
Question: Is it an open Bible and bowed head?
Question: Or is it a blooded apron and a sharp knife?

They didn't have PowerPoint presentations back in Moses day

- But they still needed visual lessons to help them understand God
- Those lessons came in the form of sacrifice!

Overview Of Sacrifice

Purpose & Division Of Sacrifices

Leviticus opens with instructions concerning the five different sacrifices

1. Burnt Offering
2. Grain Offering
3. Peace Offering
4. The Sin Offering
5. The Trespass Offering

These sacrifices can be sub-divided into two groups

- First three (Burnt, Grain, Peace) - Voluntary / Freewill
- Last two (Sin, Trespass) - Obligatory / Required

The reason for the two subdivisions of sacrifice

- First three - Acts of devotion to God - Addressed commitment
- Last two - Acts of reparation to God - Addressed sin

The distinction can be seen in God's response to the two subdivisions

- First three - *"a sweet aroma to the Lord"*
- Last two - *"and it shall be forgiven him"*

Value Of Sacrifices

Each of the first three sacrifices are constructed the same

- In three paragraphs
- Each paragraph detailed the offering according to its descending order of value

Burnt Offering

Leviticus 1:1-17

- 3-9** Herd
10-13 Flock
14-17 Birds

Grain Offering

Leviticus 2:1-16

- 1-3** Uncooked
4-10 Cooked
11-16 Miscellaneous

Peace Offering

Leviticus 3:1-17

- 1-5** Herd
6-11 Flock
12-17 Birds

Overview Of Burnt Offering

The First Sacrifice

The reason the Burnt Offering is listed first is

- Oldest sacrifice
- Most frequent / common sacrifice

The Oldest

The first recorded Burnt Offering

- Was made by Noah
- His first act on exiting the Ark
- (although Abel's sacrifice may have been an earlier Burnt Offering)

Genesis 8:20

Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

Frequency

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| • Every morning and evening | Numbers 28:2 |
| • Each Sabbath | Numbers 28:9-10 |
| • The beginning of each month | Numbers 28:11 |
| • At Passover | Numbers 28:19 |
| • At the Feast of Weeks | Numbers 28:27 |
| • At the Feast of Trumpets | Numbers 29:1-2 |
| • At the new moon | Numbers 29:6 |
| • At the Feast of Tabernacles | Numbers 29:13 |

Sacrificial Meaning

Before we explore the sacrifice and what it entailed

- What was offered
- How it was offered

We need to ask ourselves some questions:

- Question:** What was the meaning behind the Burnt Offering?
Question: What message did it send?
Question: Why was it offered?
Question: What did it represent?

Without understanding the reason for making a Burnt offering

- It is an empty sacrifice
- Done out of empty ritual
- Without conviction or meaning

Being part of the first sub-division of sacrifices, we know

- It was voluntary
- It was devotional
- It showed commitment

So it was an act of worship

- Not a sacrifice for sin
- Not a sacrifice to establish or repair relationship

As you will see

- The entire sacrifice was burnt up (except the skin / hide)
- The entire offering is consumed by fire

What this communicates is complete consecration to God

- The entire sacrifice was dedicated to, given over to God
- Nothing was kept for the worshipper

In other sacrifices the worshipper

- Was able to keep part of the sacrifice
- Was able to eat part of the sacrifice
- Not so with the Burnt Offering
- Everything was given to God

The Hebrew word for a Burnt Offering is “*ōlāh*”

- It means “*ascending*”
- Quite literally “*to go up in smoke*”

The idea is the entire sacrifice

- Is given to God
- Ascends up to God

In Greek the word is "*holocaust*"

- "*holos*" = "*whole*"
- "*kaustos*" = "*burned*"
- The whole sacrifice is burned

Thus, when a person came to offer a Burnt Offering

- They were engaged in a very special act of worship
- They were giving themselves, or something
- Devoting themselves, or something, wholly to God

Instances Of Burnt Offerings

For example

Noah

When Noah offered a Burnt Offering following his exit from the Ark

- He had seen the entire planet and human race wiped away
- Yet God in His grace had preserved him and his family
- You can imagine his gratitude and the sense of devotion that invoked in him

Question: What did he do?

Answer: He showed utter dedication and consecration to God

Through the Burnt Offering he said

- I give myself and my family wholly and completely to you, God
- This is your new world, Lord
- You have saved us to occupy this new world
- We dedicate ourselves to serve you in this new world

Abraham

In **Genesis 22**, God bid Abraham to sacrifice his son, Isaac, to Him

Question: What type of sacrifice do you think God required?

Answer: The Burnt Offering

Genesis 22:2

Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

We know God was testing Abraham

Question: What was the test?

Answer: Whether he was wholly consecrated to the Lord

Question: Are you prepared to lay everything on the altar for me?

Question: Are you completely dedicated to Me, whatever the cost?

Answer: Abraham answered that call

Genesis 22:12b

"now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

Sacrifice & Dispensationalism

Changing Law Codes

However, the examples of Noah and Abraham, are before the giving of the Law at Mount Sinai

Question: How do those sacrifices compare or relate to the one God is instructing Moses over?

Answer: They are the same

God has divided the history of mankind into ages, or dispensations

- Each dispensation starts with a covenant being formed between God and man

- The Age of Human Government began when the Noahic Covenant was formed
- The Age of Promise began when the Abrahamic Covenant was formed

In every new dispensation or age

- There is a Law Code
- A way man is called by God to live and relate to Him

In every new dispensation or age

- Some laws are introduced (new)
- Some laws are repealed (old)
- Some laws continue

In the Noahic Covenant, and for the Age of Human Covenant

- A new law was introduced, man is to be a meat-eater

In the New Covenant, and for the Age of Grace

- An old law was repealed, Sabbath observance

In the Mosaic Covenant, and for the Age of Law

- An existing law continued, that of the Burnt Offering

Priestly Amendment

However, while under previous covenants

- The husband and father
- Was the priest of the house
- He would administer the sacrifice

Under the Mosaic Covenant

- God established a priesthood from the tribe of Levi
- The Levites were the ones who would administer all sacrifices
- It was a centralisation and reordering of worship
- But as we shall see, the worshipper still played a key part in the sacrifice

Priests Today

Incidentally, today the man is not the priest of the house

- He certainly is the shepherd of the house (the family shepherd)
- Under the New Covenant God instituted the priesthood of all believers
- If you are born again, you are a priest

Question: What does it mean to be a priest?

Answer: It is your responsibility to administer the sacrifice

Question: Where is our sacrifice?

Answer: Jesus is our sacrifice

It is the individual's responsibility to apply the sacrifice to their life

Question: How do you apply Jesus' sacrifice to your life?

Answer: Through confession and faith

This is one reason that the Roman Catholic idea of a priesthood

- Where you go to the priest to administer the sacraments
- Where you go the priest to confess your sin and seek absolution
- Is such an anathema to God
- Because it undermines and undoes the work of the cross and the law of the New Covenant

You don't go to a priest

- You **are** a priest
- You have direct access to God and His sacrifice, Jesus Christ

However, back in Leviticus

- It was the priest who administered the sacrifice

- However you would play a part

So as we unpack these verses

- Imagine you are a proselyte to Judaism
- You are there in the wilderness
- Wanting to show your devotion and dedication to God
- Wanting to consecrate yourself wholly to the one who saved you

This is what you would have to do...

The Rites Of The Burnt Offering

The Cost Of Sacrifice

Leviticus 1:1-2

Now the Lord called to Moses, and spoke to him from the tabernacle of meeting, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When any one of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock – of herd and of flock.

Costly Offering

The first thing you would do is choose the animal you were to sacrifice

- The animal you chose depended on your financial status
- You would bring the most valuable animal you could afford

Sacrifice had to cost you something

- If it didn't cost you something
- If it didn't hurt
- Then it lacked worth and meaning

Mary's Offering

Illustration

Matthew 26:6-13

The anointing of Jesus in Bethany

- Meal was being hosted at the house of Simon the Leper
- A woman poured oil from a flask of alabaster on Jesus' head
- This oil was a perfume and was very costly

The woman was criticised for

- Showing such extravagance
- To pour out something that cost so much on one man

This was an act of devotion and dedication to Jesus

- It cost the woman something
- Jesus commended this woman for it

Our Offering

When we give

- Though it may physically be to the church
- Spiritually it is an act of devotion to God
- It should cost us something – it should hurt

Sometimes it is at the expense of our time

- Instead of having time to yourself
- You give your time to working for the church (website)

Sometimes it is a financial donation

- If I put a five-pound note into the donation box
- That costs me nothing
- If my eldest son puts a five-pound note into the donation box
- That's half of his pocket money
- That costs him something, it hurts

The Best Bull

Leviticus 1:3

If his offering is a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish; he shall offer it of his own free will at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the Lord.

A Pure The Sacrifice

Let's say you were rich

- You brought a bull (a male cow)
- To the doorway of the Tabernacle Compound

The entrance curtain would be pulled back

- You would be met by a priest
- He would examine the bull to make sure it was suitable for sacrifice

Question: Is it standing strong, or is there weakness or lameness in the legs?

Question: Is it healthy, or does it have a fever?

Question: Is it clear-eyed, or has it got bovine conjunctivitis

God deserves the best, when it comes to sacrifice

- Not the unwanted runt of the litter
- But a fit, healthy, strong bull

Question: How many churches have you been to where

- People have donated sofas and chairs?
- People have donated a television?
- People have donated sound equipment?

But it's not the best they own

- It's the unwanted cast offs
- It's either the church or the skip

That mindset was not the Jewish mindset

- The best was used in the construction of the Tabernacle
- The best was used in service of the Tabernacle

A Freewill Sacrifice

Once the bull was deemed fit for sacrifice

- I imagine the priest would ask the reason for the sacrifice

Question: Was it an act of personal devotion?

Question: Was it in response to childbirth or healing?

It's possible the priest would check that the worshipper was offering the sacrifice

- From their own herd
- Out of freewill

If you the worshipper

- Had been given the bull by your neighbour (i.e. had cost you nothing)
- Had been brought as result of compulsion or coercion
- Then despite it being blemish free, the sacrifice would not be acceptable to the Lord

The same is true for the believer today

- It's all well and fine for me to say your financial donation must be sacrificial and hurt
- But if you are giving as a result of being coerced and compelled by me
- Then it is unacceptable to the Lord
- It must come from your pocket and your freewill

A Male Sacrifice

Finally it had to be a bull, not a heifer – a male

Question: Why a male and not a female?

Answer: Some sacrifices were female (Trespass Offering)

A male was the most valuable

- If you want to increase the size of your herd
- You hire a bull to inseminate your heifers
- It costs you – they are valuable

If you want to work the field – pull a plough

- You use a male cow, a bull
- They were valuable for tilling the ground

A bull was a substantial source of income

- To sacrifice a bull
- Is to show genuine devotion to God
- An acknowledgement of His provision

Hand On The Bull

Leviticus 1:4

Then he shall put his hand on the head of the burnt offering and it will be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him.

Next you would place your hand on the head of the bull

Question: Why put your hand on its head?

Answer: It is an act of identification with the animal

It acknowledged the animal to be a substitution for you

Yes, you were consecrating yourself to God

- But it would be the animal, on your behalf
- That would be burnt and ascend to God

What's more the animal is making atonement for you

- Atonement means “covering”
- Noah's Ark had an atonement, a covering, to protect it from water leaks
- The animal in a burnt offering is an atonement
- In it protects you from God's wrath
- In it keeps you from being physically sacrificed

Death Of The Sacrifice

Leviticus 1:5

He shall kill the bull before the Lord; and the priests, Aaron's sons, shall bring the blood and sprinkle the blood all around on altar that is by the door of the tabernacle of meeting.

Note it is the worshipper who kills the bull, not the priest

- You take the sacrificial knife
- Perhaps with one hand still on the bull's head
- You take the other hand and cut the animal's throat

The young bull would start at the sudden stab of pain

- But would be held firmly in place by a number of Levites
- A specific priest would have a bowl to collect the blood
- As it poured from the jugular vein

Then in what would have been a very quiet but sobering process

- The bull would gradually grow weaker
- Its legs would give way and it would fall to its knees
- Finally, as the life left its eyes, it would collapse and die

As the blood poured out from the animal

- Its life was literally poured out for you
- Dying on your behalf
- Giving itself completely for you

The priest would then take the bowl containing the blood

- Perhaps lift it up and say a short prayer of dedication
- Then splash the blood against the sides of the bronze altar

Preparation Of The Sacrifice

Leviticus 1:6

And he shall skin the burnt offering and cut it into pieces.

After the animal had been exsanguinated

- It was the job of the worshipper to skin the animal
- Then to butcher the animal and cut it into pieces

There were tables in the Tabernacle Compound

- I imagine the animal would have been lifted on to the table
- It would not have been a full-grown male, but a young bull
- Heavy nonetheless

Skinning

Typically, you behead the animal first

- Then you skin a bull by laying it on its back
- You score each leg from the hoof to the hilt
- Then peel back the skin from each leg, easing it with a knife

Next, you'd cut from the neck, own the belly, to the crotch

- Then ease off the skin, both sides, with the assistance of a knife
- You would then need to roll the animal over
- So you can continue and complete the flaying process over the back

Butchering

Next would come the butchering

- In the modern butchering you raise the animal up
- So its neck is high and the backside is low
- Whether the sacrifices were raised up or not, I don't know

You would slice the belly, exposing the innards

- If the animal was raised up
- The innards would largely fall out of their own accord
- Maybe a little cut necessary
- Otherwise, you would manually need to take them out

Water is on hand from the bronze laver

- To keep yourself and the knives clean
- The process would not be as messy as one might suppose
- As the blood, the messy part, would have already been drained

While we might wince at the thought of skinning and butchering

- It only serves to highlight how removed we are from the reality of meat and sacrifice
- No doubt father's would have taught sons, under the supervision of the priests

The Burning Of The Sacrifice

Leviticus 1:7-9

The sons of Aaron the priest shall put fire on the altar, and lay the wood in order on the fire. Then the priests, Aaron's sons, shall lay the parts, the head, and the fat in order on the wood that is on the fire upon the altar; but he shall wash the entrails and it legs with water. And the priest shall burn all on the altar as a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the Lord.

Now we switch

- From the duties of the worshipper
- To the duties of the priest

It was responsibility of the priests to keep the bronze altar burning constantly; day and night

- The duties of the priests regarding the Burnt Offering are expanded on in **Leviticus 6**
- Here we read, they would take the butchered parts of the bull
- Lay them in order on the altar
- We don't know what this order is, but clearly there was pattern to be observed
- Passed down from generation to generation

Then we switch again

- From the duties of the priest
- To the duties of the worshipper

You would be called on to wash the entrails (the internal organs)

- Freeing them of any blood or faeces
- Before the priest would place them on the altar to be burnt

In short ,the entire animal would be consumed by the fire, except the skin

- As the offering was burnt
- The aroma would ascend to God

It has oft been said in jest, "God loves the smell of BBQ"

- That's not true
- It is the aroma of sacrifice
- It is the dedication and consecration that is a sweet aroma to God

Offering From The Flock

The bull was the most valuable offering made

- However, if you did not possess the wealth to sacrifice a bull
- The next valuable sacrifice was from the flock
- Either a sheep or a goat

The procedure followed is almost identical:

The Death & The Blood

Leviticus 1:10-11

If his offering is of the flocks – of the sheep or of the goats – as a burnt sacrifice, he shall bring a male without blemish. He shall kill it on the north side of the altar before the Lord; and the priests, Aaron's sons, shall sprinkle the blood all around on the altar.

You would bring your sheep or goat to the door of the Tabernacle Compound, as before

- The animal would be examined, as before
- Then you would lay you hand on the animal and cut its jugular, as before
- The priest would collect the blood and sprinkle it around the altar

I imagine there would have been a trench round the altar

- So the blood didn't flow away, but was contained
- Until it had time to soak into the soil

The only additional piece of information

- Is that it is killed at the north side of the altar
- Interestingly, only a sacrifice from the flock was said to be sacrificed on the north side
- Nothing is said about the place for the animal from the herd or from birds

The Cutting & The Burning

Leviticus 1:12-13

And he shall cut it into pieces, with its head and its fat; and the priest shall lay them in order on the wood that is on the fire upon the altar; but he shall wash the entrails and the legs with water. Then the priest shall bring it all and burn it on the altar; it is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the Lord.

Again, the procedure followed with the flock is almost identical to that of the herd:

- No mention is made of the skin, but we assume the animal is likewise flayed

- Then it is butchered, the internal organs and legs washed by the worshipper
- Before the animal is laid on the altar, in a specifically order by the priest

The entire sacrifice is consumed by fire

- Providing a sweet aroma to the Lord
- The sacrifice wholly given over to God

Offering From The Birds

The Value Of The Bird

Leviticus 1:14

And if the burnt sacrifice of his offering to the Lord is of birds, then he shall bring his offering of turtledoves or young pigeons.

Now we move to the least valuable burnt offering

- Not in value to God
- But in financial value
- This is the type of sacrifice made if you were poor

There is no shame in poor

- Jesus declared in **Matthew 26:11**
- *"For you have the poor with you always, but Me you do not have always."*

It is not how much you have, that concerns the Lord

- But a question of what you do with it

Question: Do you use it to honour and serve the Lord?

Question: Or do you use it to please and satisfy yourself?

Question: Is your house your castle, and the drawbridge always drawn up?

Question: Or is your house a place of fellowship, open to the saints to meet in?

Question: Is your car your pride and joy, something for you to guard jealously?

Question: Or is it available to give people lifts to church, homegroup and conferences?

So, we're financially in a place where all that we can afford to sacrifice is turtledoves and pigeons

Question: Does that mean I can go to the woods behind my house and catch me a wood pigeon?

Question: Better that I sacrifice it to God than it waddles round and poos over my van, right?

Answer: No. It had to be domesticated, bred and reared for the purpose

We don't often think about this:

- We know about the flocks kept outside Jerusalem near Bethlehem for Temple sacrifice
- We don't think about aviaries kept for rearing birds for sacrifice
- But it must have been so

Killing The Bird

Leviticus 1:15

The priest shall bring it to the altar, wring off its head, and burn it on the altar; its blood shall be drained out at the side of the altar.

With the offering of a bird, we see some divergence from that of the herd and flock

First of all, it is not specified it needs to be male

- While it is easy to distinguish the gender of some birds, by plumage, song or behaviour
- With doves and pigeons there is such close similarities that it makes the distinction harder to identify

Second of all, there is no identification via the laying on of a hand

- This is because the worshipper would embrace the entire animal in his hands
- Stopping the wings from flapping
- A greater identification than with a larger animal

To start with we are given an overview of the bird sacrifice

- It will have its head wrung
- It will be burnt on the altar

We then go into more detail

- To wring its head is to suggest you twist and break the birds neck
- However, the Hebrew word suggests a nip or pinch
- There is a process whereby you can hold the bird
- And dig your nail into its neck and detach its head completely
- This is what appears to have happened

John Trapp

Or, Pinch it with his nail, that the blood might go out, without separating it from the rest of the body.

Once you do this the blood flows out very quickly

- So the priest needs to be on hand to catch the blood
- To ensure nothing is lost in the process

Due to the amount of blood being so much less than that of a bull or goat

- The blood need only be poured out on the east side of the altar
- Again, this something the priest would do

The Ash Pit

Leviticus 1:16

And he shall remove its crop with its feathers and cast it beside the altar on the east side, into the place for ashes.

Next the worshipper removes the crop with its feather

- No doubt the feathers are removed by a process of vigorous plucking

Question: What is the crop?

Answer: Part of the esophagus – the tract that goes from the mouth to the stomach

In birds they have a pouch where they can store food

- Where they can either digest it later
- Or regurgitate it to feed their young

As you remove the head, you remove the crop

- Along with the feathers
- They are cast to the same place as the ashes

This is new information – there is a place for ashes

- In the Tabernacle Compound, there is an ash pit
- Where the ashes from the bronze altar are desposited
- Later to be taken outside the camp to a clean place
- This is where the feathers and crop of the bird were disposed of

Divide & Burn

Leviticus 1:17

Then he shall split it at its wings, but shall not divide it completely; and the priest shall burn it on the altar, on the wood that is on the fire. It is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the Lord.

The final act of the Burnt Offering made with a bird

- Is the innards would be exposed by slicing open the breast
- Then the priest would lay the bird on the altar, face down
- The entire sacrifice would be consumed by fire

Lessons From The Burnt Offering

Twofold Application

This was the Burnt Offering

- We see that worship and devotion to God in their day
- Was far more involved and hands on than often appears to be the case in our day

- We bring a Bible to church
- They brought knives and aprons!
- Modern church services are somewhat tame by comparison

Question: What can we take away from this?

Question: What lessons or application does it have for us today?

There are two chief takeaways:

- What it tells us about Jesus
- What it tells us about us

Typology Of Jesus

Jesus Our Burnt Offering

Jesus' sacrifice is the ultimate fulfilment of the Burnt Offering

- His physical life was completely consumed
- He ascended to God
- His covering (His garment) was stripped and distributed to those who officiated over His sacrifice

The Burnt Offering was

- A voluntary sacrifice
- An act of full consecration to God and His purposes

Jesus gave Himself

- Voluntarily
- Consecrating Himself fully to God and His purposes

Remember what He said in the Garden:

Luke 22:42

"Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."

Jesus gave Himself fully over to God

- His blood was not collected in a bowl
- But symbolically seen in a cup

Sin

The fact the animal, that foreshadowed Christ, had to die

- Shows us the serious consequence of sin
- That death is the only satisfactory penalty for sinning against a Holy God

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

No man can meet God's demands for satisfaction

- In sin
- In righteousness
- In sacrifice
- Only Christ is a total satisfaction for God

Substitution & Examination

The Burnt offering animal

- Was a substitution for the worshipper
- Was required to be full examined
- Was to be free of all blemish to qualify for sacrifice

Jesus Christ is our substitutionary sacrifice

- He was full examined by the priests during His earthly ministry and trials
- He was found to be without fault or blemish
- Not one single accusation by the Pharisees stood in the courts of the Temple
- Not one single account by the witnesses stood in His trial

Leviticus 1:11 tells us the sacrifice from the flock

- Had to be killed on the north side of the altar
- This was not a stated requirement for the bull or the bird
- Only the lamb

Question: Who is Jesus to us?

Answer: The Lamb of God

Question: Where was He sacrificed?

Answer: At Golgotha / Calvary – located just outside of Old Jerusalem's northern wall

Jesus perfectly fulfils all that the Burnt Offering typified and foreshadowed

Meaning To The Believer

A Way Of Salvation

The first and greatest meaning is that we can only approach God through sacrifice

- Our sin a perpetual barrier between us and the Lord
- It can only be removed through the substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus Christ

We lay hold of the sacrifice and apply it to our lives, through faith

- As the worshipper in the Tabernacle Compound laid their hand on the animal
- So we reach out by faith and touch Jesus our sacrifice

Question: Have you put your faith in Jesus as your Burnt Offering?

Answer: If not, your life will be cast on to the Ash Pit like the crop and feathers

A Way Of Consecration

The Burnt Offering was an act of consecration and full devotion to the Lord

- While as a believer you may have reached out by faith to Jesus for salvation
- Have you given your life in full consecration and devotion to Him?

Question: Are you willing to surrender your time for Jesus?

Question: Are you willing to surrender your money for Jesus?

Question: Are you willing to surrender your friends for Jesus?

Question: Are you willing to surrender your freedom for Jesus?

If you say, "Yes"

- Be prepared to be tested on that act of devotion
- Let me put you to the test

If you say you are willing to surrender your time for Jesus

- Get to church on time to worship Him
- Not because I want to see you here
- As an indicator of devotion to God

If you say you are willing to surrender your money for Jesus

- Give financially - so that it hurts
- Not for my sake, or the church's sake, for Jesus' sake
- I'm not asking you give your money to Calvary Chapel Maidstone

If you say you are willing to surrender your friends for Jesus

- Speak of your faith in the company of those who do not know or love Jesus
- Don't be embarrassed about the gospel
- Be prepared to lose those friends if they disagree (it's not easy)

If you say you are willing to surrender your freedom for Jesus

- Think of Watchman Nee, who lived the last twenty years of his life in prison
- He was a Christian who served God in China in the mid-twentieth century
- The rise in Communism gave rise to Christian persecution
- He was arrested and imprisoned on false charges, due to his faith and influence

God is looking for people who are wholly surrendered and sold out to Him

- Persecution is rising in this country
- Christian's are being arrested for sharing the gospel
- Christian's are being sacked and marginalised for standing on the truth
- In the light of LGBTQ and transgender ideology

Question: Where will you stand?

Question: Or will you sit and be quiet, hoping it will pass you by?

A Way Of Death

The act of sacrificing the bull

- Saw a slow draining of its life
- Saw a removal of its strength
- Until it collapsed under the weight of sacrifice
- Its inside were completely exposed
- It was whole placed on the fire to consumed
- A sweet aroma to God

Romans 12:1

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

If we answer that call, and offer ourselves a Burnt Offering

- God will slow drain us of our natural life
- That He can replace it with His life
- God will remove our strength, making us weak
- That He can replace it with His strength
- His knife will cause us to collapse before Him
- His knife will expose us completely
- Until all that we are is consumed
- All that remains is consecrated to His service and His glory

The Burnt Offering is not something we can dismiss to a bygone age

- It is an ever-present reality in Jesus Christ
- It can be an ever-present reality in you