

LIVING SACRIFICES

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1, 2

Introduction:

1. People want great results, but often are not willing to do what it takes to accomplish them.
2. We are to be living sacrifices before God.
3. To be a “living sacrifice” we must...

I. DIE UNTO SIN

A. WE CANNOT SERVE THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT -Ga 5:16-ff

1. The flesh is going towards destruction
2. The Spirit leads to life

B. THE OLD MAN IS PUT TO DEATH

1. We take up our cross and follow Jesus -Mk 8:34-38; Ga 2:20
2. The distinction of living -Co 3:5-17
3. True Repentance -Ro 6:1-ff (Death to sin)

II. GIVE GOD OUR BEST

A. PERFECT SACRIFICE

1. Under the Old Law -Mal 1:7, 8; Ex 12:1
2. Jesus was our perfect sacrifice -2Co 5:21, 1Pe 2:22, Jn 19:4

B. APPLICATION FOR TODAY

1. Give God our best worship -Jn 4:24; Ep 5:19; Co 3:16; He 13:15
2. Give God our best daily
 - a. Our example -1Ti 4:12
 - b. All glory to Him -1Co 10:31
 - c. All by His authority -Co 3:17

III. KEEP FOCUS ON THE EXPECTATION

A. SACRIFICE FOR SOMETHING GREATER

1. Under the Old Law one would stay in God’s favor -De 28:1-ff
2. Rich Young Ruler would not sacrifice temporal for the eternal -Mt 19:16-22
3. Paul sacrificed for what he had to gain in Christ -Ph 3:4-8

B. OUR EXPECTATION IS HEAVEN

1. Our body is but a tent -2Co 5:4; 2Pe 1:13
2. We are pilgrims passing through this life -1Pe 2:11
3. Our citizenship is in heaven -Ph 3:20

Conclusion:

1. Being a “living sacrifice” before our God is not always easy.
2. The benefits however, far out weigh all else -READ: Romans 8:18