



THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD
Living Faith Chapel, Calgary

Bible Study

19th, April, 2016

Theme: Sacrifice: A Universal Demand in the making of a Star

Topic: Attributes of Sacrifice

Text: 2 Samuel 23:14 - 17

Introduction

What is sacrifice? I believe it is something all of us can readily associate with. To give up something for something else considered more important. It can also be to offer the life of an animal or a person to a god or gods in the hope of pleasing them, usually as part of a ceremony. It can also be to give something that is valuable to you in order to help another person. What is the greatest sacrifice any one of us can make?

1. What are the attributes of sacrifice?

- The object or the substance of your sacrifice must be valuable to you. **John 3:16**
- It must cost you something. If it does not I doubt if it qualifies as a sacrifice in the true sense of the word.
 - It can cost you your life. Jesus Christ, David's soldiers who went to get him water from well at Jerusalem's gate.
 - Samuel said I will not give the Lord that which cost me nothing. **2 Samuel 24:24**
- It may inflict some pain in you. Abraham's offering of Isaac. **Gen.22:9-10.**
- It has an element of "giving it up". **John 3:16. 1 Sam.1:11.2 Samuel 23:16**
- In sacrifice, size does not really matter. Size is relative. The important thing is that it has to cost you something. It must inflict some pain on you. **Luke 21:1-4.**
- Can potentially deprive you of some comfort or takes you away from your comfort zone. **Gen 12:4**
- Obedience as an attribute itself is implicitly tied to sacrifice. **Gen 12:4. Exodus 12:1-12.**
 - Without obedience, it will be difficult to give sacrifice. Or the sacrifice may not be accepted.
- Willingness to offer the sacrifice. **2 Corinthians 9:7.**
- Love. To be able to give a sacrifice you must love the person you are sacrificing to or you are sacrificing yourself for. **John 3:16.** God loves you unconditionally. Selfish people find it difficult to give sacrifice or offer themselves as a sacrifice.

Can you add to this list?

2. Abraham as an example.

Abraham lived a life of sacrifice. Let us look at aspects of his life to encourage us as we run the race that has been set before us.

- Obedience is key when you give sacrifice. **Gen. 12:1.** He obeyed God as soon as he was told to leave his kindred.
- He left his comfort zone – living among his kindred. To give a sacrifice at times might entail that you leave your comfort zone. **Gen. 12:4. 2 Samuel 23:16.**
- Though we want to focus on the positive aspect of sacrifice, it can also be done negatively or selfishly. Abraham was willing to sacrifice his wife for his safety. **Gen. 20:2.** Our focus is on the positive aspect.
- To maintain the peace at times, you might have to make a sacrifice of your position. **Gen. 13:8-9.**
- He was willing to give sacrificially. **Gen. 22:9-10.**

Prayer

1. **Father please help me to give to you sacrificially.**