

# THE PERFECT SACRIFICE

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We can know the Truth of the Word by the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit within. Some may read through Scripture to find some way to justify the life they want to live—apart from the life God has written out in His Word for everyone to live. We know that the Bible is true, and that there is no other plan; no other God in whom everyone must place their trust in faith.

Isaiah 45:22 *“Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.”* God says that He is the only God out there—no one else can deliver; heal; provide; protect; convert; forgive; and save as He can—no one else! Do we want those things enough to trust Him in faith for them when there is no cost to us? It is all there waiting for us to claim and receive.

There is only one pathway to be right with God and that is the pathway of believing faith. Acts 4:12 *“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”* There are many who would like to doubt the truth of that statement, but it is the Word from God, and the Word of God is always accurate.

Obedience to the Word of God is evidence that we love the Son of God. John 14:15 *“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”* Keeping the Commandments is faithfully obeying the Word. Jesus said John 8:31 *“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed.”*

Good works will not pay the penalty of our sins; there is no merit nor payment because of good works—whatever those good deeds may be. Luke 17:10 *“So you also, when you have obeyed all the orders given you, must say, ‘There is no merit in our*

*service: what we have done is only what we were in duty bound to do.’”* Good works do not pay for our sins, but faith on the Blood of Christ pays our sin debt in full.

The one Person who can do the impossible—deliver, protect, provide, heal, convert, and save, is mentioned in 1 Timothy 2:5, *“For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”* 1 John 5:11-12, *“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.”*

Many verses inform us that Jesus is the only way to make peace with God, and the only way to be in close fellowship with Him. Since Jesus is this “One Mediator,” someone may wonder why He is the only answer to life’s problems and the only way to Heaven.

We have to know this answer and it must be the right answer before we leave this world and go into eternity. There has to be a right answer to counteract all the wrong answers in the world—and a way to protect us from landing in the flames. The answer is to somehow bring a good and a right sacrifice—it has to be a perfect offering—one that God will accept.

When reading from the Old Testament, we find that God always used animal sacrifices for the forgiveness of sins. Later, the Jewish people would bring animal offerings to the Temple in Jerusalem to atone for their sins. When the innocent animal’s blood was shed, it was understood to be a substitute for the individual’s own blood.

They knew that due to their own sins, they deserved to die; but because of the substitute animal’s blood being shed on their behalf, their sin was taken away. Leviticus 17:11 *“For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.”*

Each family of the Children of Israel, who were slaves in Egypt, took the blood of a lamb without blemish and put it on the doorposts of their dwellings, so the death angel would “pass over” them. Jewish people celebrate a Day of Atonement, or Yom Kippur in Hebrew, which is the day when all Israel would come to confess their sins, sacrifice their animals as substitutes, and receive forgiveness.

That is not done today, because the sacrifice had to be made at the Temple in Jerusalem, which was destroyed in 70 A.D. If God demands a blood sacrifice to atone for sins, that is what it must be—we cannot change what God has planned to purge sin. Some people ask what that blood sacrifice could be now, since the Temple was destroyed almost 2,000 years ago. There is a specific reason for a blood sacrifice—and why it is no longer necessary.

When the apostle saw Jesus, he said John 1:29 *“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”* God demands a perfect sacrifice, but no one can offer it, except the Lamb of God—it is He, and our faith in His shed Blood that atones for our sins. Animal sacrifices are no longer needed. The Lamb of God, Jesus Christ His Son gave His Blood as the perfect sacrifice.

We can be healed and delivered; we are saved and redeemed 1 Peter 1:19 *“With the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”* It is the only way and the only plan God has—Hebrews 9:22 *“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.”* 1 Peter 2:24 *“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.”*

No one can change God’s standard of righteousness. Jesus is the perfect sacrifice who paid the penalty for all the sins of the world. But not everyone takes advantage of this great sacrifice. God de-

mands a perfect sacrifice for atonement of sin. If Jesus were only a prophet, then payment would not have been made.

Many people have died on a cross, but Jesus died as a perfect offering—because He, as 1 Peter 2:22 tells us, “*Committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously.*”

That is the big difference—Jesus was tempted as we are, but He never sinned. He always chose to do the Father’s will—what He knew was right. It was only He that could be that perfect sacrifice for all sin and for all sinners. He was the Lamb without blemish and the perfect sacrifice for all our sins. Everyone needs Jesus to get out of this world spiritually alive—because Jesus was the only perfect sacrifice for sin that must be offered to a holy God.

Jesus’ original Hebrew name is Yeshua—which means salvation. We will mention five passages in the Old Testament referring to Jesus or Yeshua. First verse Isaiah 53:3 “*He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.*” This verse speaks of a suffering servant and can only be referring to Jesus.

Second verse tells about the crucifixion of the Messiah, which describes Jesus’ death on the Cross. Psalm 22:1 “*My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?*” (Verses 16-18) “*For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet. I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me. They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.*”

Third verse speaks about the old covenant, and that one day there will be a new one. Jeremiah 31:31 “*Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that*

*I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah.*”

Jesus speaks about this New Covenant or the New Testament in Luke 22:20 when He and His disciples drank from the cup after the last supper, saying, “*This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.*”

Fourth verse Daniel 9:24 “*Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.*” The holy city is Jerusalem, and since it was destroyed in 70 A.D., then the Messiah had to have come before that. Jesus alone fulfilled that prophecy.

Fifth reference Proverbs 30:4 “*Who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His Son’s name!*”

Scripture proclaims in these and many other passages that the Son of God would come in a particular time and manner. For almost 2,000 years, the Old Testament Jews have not been able to offer animal sacrifices, because the Temple where they must be offered was destroyed by the Romans.

Since Jesus is the perfect sacrifice for all sin for all time, the Temple sacrifices are not needed today. The Jewish law, that required an effective sin offering, is why Jesus came—to be the perfect one-time-for-all-time offering.

Our part in this divine plan, is our choice to trust on that perfect sacrifice of Atonement made on the cross for all who want salvation enough, to live by faith on the Son of God. That trust on God is for every aspect of daily living—God has promised to heal; deliver; provide; protect; and save all those who will believe Him and trust Him in faith to do

them. If we search for the Truth from God, we will always be directed to the Word of God.

Hebrews 1:3 “*Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.*”

Perfect sacrifice and full payment have been made. It is now up to us to take advantage of all that has been provided for us.

As we gather together for this Communion service and partake of these elements that represent Jesus’ broken body and shed Blood on the Cross, we see our Savior, who came to be the perfect sacrifice, hanging on that Cross for you and me to pay a debt He did not owe. That debt was our debt, but Jesus paid it all. We need to understand that our debt is paid in full. If we owed a large debt and someone came and told us that the debt had been paid in full and we don’t owe a cent, that would be the most pleasant and happiest news we could ever hear.

That is just what God’s Word is telling us about His Son’s great Work on Calvary’s Cross. He tells us that Jesus has paid all our debts and has given us everything that we could ever need or desire for time and eternity. That is the most important and most valuable news that any human being could ever hear.

As we truly and fully surrender our lives to God in everything and really believe and accept His Word and plan in everything. Then we will see ourselves where the Blood has made us, and it will not only make us happy throughout our life here, but it will make us happy forever, throughout the endless ages of Eternity.



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