

Sacrifice and offering you did not desire

Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father,

¹⁵ from whom his whole family^a in heaven and on earth derives its name.

¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,

¹⁸ may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,

¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,

²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

NIV

Paul the Apostle

John 5:32-39

³² There is another who testifies in my favor, and I know that his testimony about me is valid.

³³ "You have sent to John and he has testified to the truth.

³⁴ Not that I accept human testimony; but I mention it that you may be saved.

³⁵ John was a lamp that burned and gave light, and you chose for a time to enjoy his light.

³⁶ "I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the very work that the Father has given me to finish, and which I am doing, testifies that the Father has sent me.

³⁷ And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me. You have never heard his voice nor seen his form,

³⁸ nor does his word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one he sent.

³⁹ You diligently study^c the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life.

These are the Scriptures that testify about me,

NIV

Jesus of Nazareth

Psalms 40

¹ I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry.

² He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

³ He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. **Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD.**

⁴ Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.^a

King David

Jesus is the one and only true God.

Psalms 40

⁵ Many, O LORD my God, are the wonders you have done. The things you planned for us no one can recount to you; were I to speak and tell of them, they would be too many to declare.

King David

John 21:24-25

²⁴ This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true.

²⁵ Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

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John the Apostle

Psalm 40:

⁶ Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but my ears you have **pierced**^{b;c}; burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require.

Hebrews 10:4-9

⁴ because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

⁵ Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "**Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me;**

⁶ with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased.

⁷ Then I said, '**Here I am — it is written about me in the scroll — I have come to do your will, O God.**'"^a

⁸ First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them" (although the law required them to be made).

⁹ Then he said, "**Here I am, I have come to do your will.**" He sets aside the first to establish the second.

NIV

Psalm 40:

⁷ Then I said, "Here I am, I have come — it is written about me in the scroll."^d

Psalms 40:6-7

⁶ Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; My ears You have **opened**. Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require.

⁷ Then I said, "Behold, I come; In the scroll of the book *it is written of me.*

NKJV

Psalms 40

⁸ I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

⁹ I proclaim righteousness in the great assembly; I do not seal my lips, as you know, O LORD.

¹⁰ I do not hide your righteousness in my heart; I speak of your faithfulness and salvation. I do not conceal your love and your truth from the great assembly.

¹¹ Do not withhold your mercy from me, O LORD; may your love and your truth always protect me.

¹² For troubles without number surround me; my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see. They are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails within me.

¹³ Be pleased, O LORD, to save me; O LORD, come quickly to help me.

¹⁴ May all who seek to take my life be put to shame and confusion; may all who desire my ruin be turned back in disgrace.

¹⁵ May those who say to me, "Aha! Aha!" be appalled at their own shame.

¹⁶ But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation always say, "The LORD be exalted!"

¹⁷ Yet I am poor and needy; may the Lord think of me. You are my help and my deliverer; O my God, do not delay.

NIV

Mark 12:24-34

²⁹ Jesus answered, "*The foremost is, ^ahear, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD;*

³⁰ *^aand you shall love the lord your god with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'*

³¹ "*The second is this, ^ayou shall love your neighbor as yourself.'* There is no other commandment greater than these."

³² The scribe said to him, "right, teacher; you have truly stated that *^ahe is one, and **there is no one else besides him;***

³³ ***^aand to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as himself, ^bis much more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."***

³⁴ When Jesus saw that he had answered intelligently, He said to him, "*You are not far from the kingdom of God.*" ^aAfter that, no one would venture to ask Him any more questions.

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Mark the Apostle

We know Psalm 40 to be a Messianic Psalm written by King David around 1000 years before the birth of Christ.

The Lord Jesus Christ is speaking through the pen of King David as He states,

“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but my ears you have pierced^{b;c}; burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require.”

The NIV states “my ears you have pierced.” This is in reference to the law where a servant who enjoyed working for his master could stay on by having his ear pierced through with a pointed device. He would lean his head on the doorpost of the master’s house and have his ear pierced through into the wooden doorpost. It was a sign that this man wants to stay on here.

The sacrifice and offering in the Old Testament could not take away the sins of mankind. Christ speaks through the pen of King David of this truth and we see Him willingly obey the Father as a servant would obey his master. Jesus submits to His Father’s will.

“For God so loved the world” *John 3:16*

Looking at verse 7, we see Christ giving a testimony that “the scroll of the book” has been written to show us Himself and to show us today and throughout history that eternal life is found in Him. During His life on earth He told us in John 5:39 that we diligently search the scriptures seeking eternal life. And rightly so when we realize Jesus is the Christ and we must come to Him for salvation.

John 5:39

³⁹ ^{1a} You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is ^bthese that testify about Me;

Jesus of Nazareth

Psalms 40:7

⁷ Then I said, “Behold, I come; In the scroll of the book *it is* written of me.

NKJV

In Hebrews we read,

"Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me;"

This is the body with the pierced ear we just read about on the preceding page. The offering would be Christ Himself.

Genesis 22:6-8 1800 BC

⁶ Abraham **took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac**, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together,
⁷ Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," **Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"**

⁸ Abraham answered, "**God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.**" And the two of them went on together.

NIV

Moses

Jhn 1:29

The next day John (John the Baptist) seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, **Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.**

Jhn 1:32

And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.

Jhn 1:36

And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, **Behold the Lamb of God!**

KJV

John the Apostle

For our fasting and meditation on the scripture, let me say we must realize the cost of the cross on the savior. We are redeemed, purchased out of the slavery of sin, by the work of Christ on the cross. We also read in Hebrews that Christ had to learn obedience to the Father. If Jesus must learn of obedience after reading the past few pages here, how much more do you and me!

Speaking for myself, I must constantly look to the scriptures and seek Christ within them to keep this body in line with the words written for our admonition. We have bodies that fail and wither away. We put our hope in Heaven in the one sent to us where moth and rust does not ruin. Christ rose with His eternal body. We shall rise, those who believe and live their lives according to the words of Christ, with new bodies as well. And when we see Him, we shall be like Him. How wonderful and beautiful to experience Christ and His presence with bodies that will not fail Him!

For the time being, we must bear our cross and follow Him as we are.

God bless,

Scott Camilleri

John 5:32-44

³² "There is ^aanother who testifies of Me, and I know that the testimony which He gives about Me is true.

Witness of John

³³ "You have sent to John, and he ^ahas testified to the truth.

³⁴ "But ^athe testimony which I receive is not from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved.

³⁵ "He was ^athe lamp that was burning and was shining and you ^bwere willing to rejoice for ¹a while in his light.

Witness of Works

³⁶ "But the testimony which I have is greater than *the testimony of John*; for ^athe works which the Father has given Me ^bto accomplish — the very works that I do — testify about Me, that the Father ^chas sent Me.

Witness of the Father

³⁷ "And the Father who sent Me, ^aHe has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time nor seen His form.

³⁸ "You do not have ^aHis word abiding in you, for you do not believe Him whom He ^bsent.

Witness of the Scripture

39 "1aYou search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is bthese that testify about Me;

40 and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life.

41 "aI do not receive glory from men;

42 but I know you, that you do not have the love of God in yourselves.

43 "I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; aif another comes in his own name, you will receive him.

44 "How can you believe, when you areceive 1glory from one another and you do not seek bthe 1glory that is from cthe *one and only* God?

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