

Sacrifice
Isaiah 53:1-5
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what the Bible says about sacrifice.

Intro: 1.
2.

I. What is a sacrifice?

A. Definition

1. **Merriam Webster: to suffer loss of, give up, renounce, injure, or destroy especially for an ideal, belief, or end**
2. **A sacrifice is something of value, it's never a sacrifice to give up something of no value.**

B. Old Testament & New Testament Examples

1. In the O.T. sacrifices were offered for sins, thanks, etc
 - a. Each sacrifice had requirements based upon their purpose
 - i. Exodus 29-30, Leviticus chapter 1 & following, Numbers 6 & following, and others
2. In the N.T. one sacrifice was offered (Christ for the sins of all mankind, **Heb 9:28**).
 - a. In return man offers his life as a living sacrifice to God (**Rom 12:1**)

II. What was sacrificed for us?

A. Ephesians 5:2

1. **Christ offered Himself on our behalf (Eph 5:2a)**
 - a. To be an offering is to do so freely.
 - i. It was God's will but it was not forced upon Christ.
 - ii. Christ could have disobeyed, if He couldn't disobey then the temptations by Satan in Matthew 4 would be pointless. Christ could disobey, but He chose not to.
2. **He sacrificed Himself (Eph 5:2b)**
 - a. A sacrifice is offered as payment for the breaking of God's law
 - i. Christ was the one-time payment for all mankind (**Rom 6:8-10**)

B. **2 Corinthians 8:9**

1. **Christ came from heaven to save mankind (1 Tim 1:15)**

III. Lessons for Us Today

A. What are you sacrificing?

1. Compare Christ's sacrifices to Yours.
 - a. **He gave up the comforts of home (to say the least) to fulfill God's ultimate mission.**
 - i. Would have you done?
 - b. **Christ had to deal with hatred and mockings.**
 - i. Have you endured such or compromised to avoid them?
 - c. **Christ had to watch people walk away from Him because of His obedience to God.**
 - i. Have you done this? (**John 6:65-67**)

2. Is Christ asking too much?
 - a. If Heaven really worth it?
 - b. Is giving things up really necessary?

i. 1 John 5:3

B. Sacrificial living as explained by an Apostle (Gal 2:20)

1. Sacrifice means saying bye to your old life (**Gal 2:20a**)
2. Christ lives through Him by his obedience to God's will (**Gal 2:20b**)
3. The life he lives He lives for Christ. He lives to do God's will and teach bring others to Christ (**Gal 2:20c**)

Application & Conclusion:

1. Man can never sacrifice enough.
2. When is the last time you truly sacrificed for Christ?
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9