

## Rendering Sacred Service(*The Great Importance of the Morning and Evening Sacrifices*)

The morning and evening sacrifices are such a marvelous thing that happened to us in order to demonstrate the spiritual nation that our Master died for.

When the Pilgrims crossed the ocean in the 16th century to the New World they thought they were Israel. They even wanted to speak Hebrew. They voted and only one vote kept them from doing it. They tried to escape from the system and they only brought the same evil system with them. It wasn't the time of the restoration of all things.

In 1978, Yoneq and ha-Emeq went to Plymouth Rock. They didn't know too much about the Pilgrims, only that they came over. Yoneq prayed that we could be the reality of what they came for. In the first winter more than half of them died — even their dearly-loved wives and children. Yet they continued. The United States was established and gave habitation to the Jews. That is where the tribe of Judah came from.

The Pilgrims didn't know anything of establishing the anti-type of the type of the sacrifices in the old covenant, bringing it into the spiritual realm of the morning and evening sacrifices as a people. They had the clergy-laity system. Only a few men stood out, like Roger Williams.

The morning and evening sacrifices make us keep our mind on the Spirit, putting to death everything that would hinder us from doing this, even like Phinehas of old from the high priestly line.

We can offer Him our love, thanksgiving, and appreciation for all that He has done for us, for His great love for us. Our sacrifice is nothing apart from thanksgiving. As long as there is thanksgiving, we are on the right track. We keep a good conscience. We lift up supplication, intercession, praying for governments with thanksgivings. We gather to hear Him speak to us. We offer up our incense, praise, thanksgiving to Him.

The other aspect of the sacrifices is to separate people. Those who keep their mind on the spirit, putting to death everything that would defile them, that would cause Israel to wane, to die — those people can recognize the joyful sound, the acclamation of our Master.

After a while the morning and evening sacrifices can become ritualistic. This is what happened with the sons of Eli. Eli tolerated things in his sons. The life waned, the light went out — *Ichabod*.

It is a test for us of our love for our Master. The test is to see if we eventually just could come here without any reality, only going through the motions. We are not really exercising our spirit. Physical exercise is good, Paul said, but spiritual exercise is better. It goes over into another realm, into eternity. You can tell who honors our Master, who fears Him and who does not. You can tell it by how they come here. You can tell who really prays before He comes here.

We came here for thanksgiving. If we come here just because it's the sacrifice — “Oh, no, it's the sacrifice...” — then it would be better that we stay in bed and repent; otherwise we are just storing up wrath.

Jn 9:41 — It has to be people in the edah, religious people that our Master was talking about, people who claim to see, but don't see. We know we are not really giving thanks from our heart. We know we are not really in love with Him. If we really recognize His great rescue and His awesome love for us we never will run out of thanksgiving.

The whole thing started out with Eve when she ate from the forbidden tree. Then it was a matter of living by our conscience. Most of us didn't do that, deserving the second death. We came here to seek first the kingdom and for His righteousness. If we don't do that then He cannot do what He promised for those who are seeking for the kingdom and His righteousness first.

For some of us it might be hard to understand the word *seek*. *Seek* is in the spiritual realm. *Seek* is to strive after, to desire, to make something the object of one's affection or the object of one's endeavor. To seek is like coveting. You have to covet His kingdom with all your heart, His kingship, His domain, the realm where He rules over. Seek first, foremost for His kingdom. Make His kingdom preeminent. That means that before anything else in the morning you have to seek for His kingdom. That is the first thing you do in the morning, before anything else enters your mind. If you wake up in the morning and anything else is in your mind you are not seeking for His kingdom first.

How can one seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness? We are supposed to know that. He told us

to. When we were Christians we kept on working just like the gentiles, kept our job, gave tithes and went to church. I guess we thought we had to be a good witness.

Is His kingdom tangible or not?

1 Chr 28:9 — *To seek* is to ask for, to ask and keep on asking, seek and keep on seeking, knock and keep on knocking. We search, inquire, knock — asking Him until we really find. We seek for, call upon, care for, inquire, question, investigate, look for carefully, study, want, need, demand, specify our need. It is the first need you have, the first resort, not the last resort to avail yourself, give yourself to.

To avail yourself, to make yourself available requires a perfect attitude.

Eph 5:10 is to study, to try constantly. To make a book report is to get everything out of a book and express it in its essence. This requires a painstaking effort.

This is what the Spirit and the word teaches us as disciples. This is what *worship* means — worth-ship. It is worth everything. Anything less than this is not true worship. This is what the morning and evening sacrifices center us on. We must really prepare for this like the priests of old. We are in the place of the high priest now. The high priests of old would not dare to come with their sins unconfessed. They tied a rope around themselves and had bells on them. They would die in the presence of God if there was sin on them. It's the same with us if we come to the sacrifice with sin on us. We might not necessarily die physically, but we would die spiritually.

We don't have to go to the second death for believers for any period of time if we have faith and hear these things in our heart.

Two reasons for the morning and evening sacrifices: we love Him and we offer Him what He deserves. If we don't love Him we won't do it. This shows whether we are in the light or just claim to be in the light (Jn 9:41).

We can talk to Christians and find out what commandments they don't keep, but if we say we have come to know Him and don't keep His commandments we are liars.

We know we have passed out of death into life because we pray for each other, for our new disciples, for our wives and children. If you don't pray like this you don't love enough to pray for another person. We encourage one another. We encourage not just our new believers but also our older brothers and sisters. We consider how we can help someone in need. We pray to our Father about this. If we don't do that our guilt is not expiated (because we only claim to be in the light).

1 Jn 3:14 — Love is encouraging one another, considering how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds. It is seeing to it that nobody falls short of grace. We are to love like our Master loved. He spent time with Peter, James, and John. He took them up on a mountain and encouraged them. They needed it more than others. He always corrected them. He told them that they didn't have the right spirit.

Our Father wants to establish our relationships with each other, talking and working together. It is not just work, work, work. It is good to work but we need to build each other up, encourage one another. Like when Obadiah came into the body Ayil just poured the word into him. He worked alongside Obadiah and poured the word into him. We would read, read, read, wear out Bibles, mark them all up. We needed that back then and we still need it. It was like a transition, a gestation period, coming out of the world, forming something new.

Was the morning and evening sacrifice revealed to anybody? Was it revealed to the Pilgrims when they came over? It was revealed to us that we are His holy nation, the ones that are proclaiming His excellencies. Our sacrifice means: Father, here I am with the new life You have given me. I just want to do Your will today.

That is rendering sacred service. We want to come back to the place where the first church fell. They rendered sacred service day and night.

Col 1,2, and 3 talk about making Him preeminent, first in us then in the universe.