

Are You Pleasing to God?

The Meal Offering

Leviticus 2:1-9; 6:14-23

John 6:43-58

Colossians 1:1-14



22 October 2023

Pressing Forward into 2023

God's Eternal Purpose

“Be Holy Because I Am Holy”

- God **commands** His people to be holy. (1 Peter 1:13-16; Leviticus 19:2; 20:7)
 - ★ There is no fellowship with God without holiness. (Amos 3:3)
 - ★ Without the pursuit of personal holiness no one will see God. (Heb12:14)
 - ★ What is the evidence that I am pursuing holiness? OBEEDIENCE.
(1 John 3:24; 2:17; 5:3; Ezekiel 36:26)
- Salvation without SANCTIFICATION is impossible.
- Biblical Salvation: **REGENERATION****SANCTIFICATION****GLORIFICATION**
 - ✓ ALL three are required in order for anyone to be saved.

God Speaks (Leviticus 1:1-2)

- When God speaks He commands.
- Leviticus is the Word of God written down and preserved for learning and our good. (Romans 15:4; 2 Timothy 3:16-17) **To ignore God's Word or to take it lightly is GREAT SIN.**
- Christ: “Moses wrote of Me.” (Luke 24:26-27, 44-47; John 5:39, 46)
- Lesson from the rich ruler and Lazarus: (Luke 16:19-31)
 - ★ “They have Moses and the prophets, let them hear them.”!

The Five Offerings

- Sweet Smelling Offerings to GOD:
 - **Whole Burnt Offering** (Leviticus 1:1-17; 6:8-13)
 - ✠ Christ voluntarily giving His all to God.
 - **Meal Offering** (Leviticus 2:1-16; 6:14-23)
 - ✠ Christ's perfect obedience to God.
 - **Peace Offering** (Leviticus 3:1-17; 7:11-36)
 - ✠ Christ becoming believer's peace with God.
- NOT Sweet Smelling Offering for MAN:

- **Sin Offering** (Leviticus 4:1-13; 6:24-30)
 - ✠ Christ becoming sinful man's Substitute.
- **Trespass Offering** (Leviticus 5:14-6:7; 7:1-10)
 - ✠ Christ dying for the transgressions of God's special people.

Why So Many Offerings?

- Why so many names for God? • Why so many offices of Christ Jesus?
- Why so many parts of the Tabernacle that point to Christ?
- Answer: "Oh, the **depth** of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How **unsearchable** are His judgments and His ways **past finding out!**" God is INFINITE! We are FINITE!

The WHOLE BURNT Offering (Leviticus 1:2-9)

The Meal Offering (Leviticus 2:1-9)

• DETAILS - DETAILS - DETAILS

- **Fine flour** - How does flour become fine? What's the significance of "fine" flour? (Isaiah 28:28)
 - "FINE" no unevenness.
- **Oil** - picture of the Holy Spirit; anointing oil symbolizing appointment by God.
- **Frankincense** - being a pleasing aroma offered to God.
- **Salt** - promise/friendship/protection/legal binding contract
- **Fire** - not only beaten but burned with fire.
- NOT INCLUDED:
 - **Leaven** - a picture of sin.
 - **Honey** - sweetness that cannot stand the test of fire.
 - (Proverbs 25:27) "It is not good to eat much honey; so to seek one's own glory is not glory." (John 5:44; Philippians 2:3)
 - Both leaven and honey could induce fermentation, which symbolized sin.

Food for the Priests (Leviticus 6:14-23)

Christ in the Meal Offering

- "**FINE FLOUR**" (see Isaiah 28:28 – "the bread grain must be grounded (bruised)" – Christ is our "bruised" One. (Isaiah 53:5, 10; **50:6**)
 - Christ was NOT only "tested" by fire, but He was daily "bruised" with trials, persecutions, and troubles.
 - There was NO UNEVENNESS in Him. (Philippians 2:5-8)
 - ALL of Christ's characteristics were pure ALL the time in ALL circumstances. (John 8:29)
 - He was HOLY and PERFECT in ALL that He did ALL the time.

- **“OIL”**

- Oil is a “picture” of the Holy Spirit.
- Christ was ALWAYS FULL of the Holy Spirit.
 - He did NOTHING in His own strength. (John 5:19. 30; 8:28)
 - See Luke 3:22; 4:1-2, 14, 16-19; Acts 10:38
- “Nothing is of any value save that which is wrought by the power of the Holy Spirit.”
- “It is impossible that a man full of himself can be a vessel of the Holy Spirit.”
- One becomes SPIRIT-FILLED when he DENIES SELF and completely give themselves to GOD and OTHERS. (**Philip 2:5-8**)

- **“FRANKINCENSE”**

- The OIL teaches us that Christ did everything in the power of the Lord – 100% dependence on God, the Father.
- The FRANKINCENSE teaches us that He did everything to please God. FRANKINCENSE gives off its sweetness when BURNED – under trial. (Ephesians 5:1-2; John 8:29; Matthew 3:17; 17:5)

- **“SALT”**

- Salt speaks of preservative from corruption. (John 17:12)
- Salt will prevent leaven from working.
- The Bible speaks of the “covenant of salt” – the enduring nature of the “eternal covenant”. Agreement in a business contract. (Heb 10:7)

- **“NO LEAVEN”**

- Leaven is always used as a picture of sin.
- Leaven works SECRETLY and is DESTRUCTIVE.
- Christ knew NO SIN. (2 Cor. 5:21; 1 John 3:5; 1 Peter 2:22-23)

- **“NO HONEY”**

- Honey is a picture of “natural sweetness.” Christ was not moved by “natural affections” but solely by the will of God.
- **SEE PROVERBS 25:27**; John 7:18; 8:50
- Unlike FRANKINCENSE honey sours when it is burned.
- Honey activates (excites) leaven – contrast with salt.

- **FOOD for the PRIEST -**

- **“MADE BY FIRE”** - Christ, though PERFECT, suffered the WRATH of God (His judgment) *for* God’s special people. (Isaiah 53:10; John 10:17-18; 12:24)
- **SWEET-smelling** offering to the LORD! (Leviticus 2:2-3; Matthew 17:5)
 - FIRST, an offering to God and then the priest could partake.
- (Matthew 20:28) Christ came to serve. The more He served the more they hated him. But He came to PLEASE GOD not man!

Learning from the Meal Offering - Imitate Christ

- We are to offer ourselves up to the Lord as a sweet-smelling offering.

- **Fine flour** - suffering/tribulations is how God equips us for our work.
(John 15:18-20; Philip 1:29; Acts 14:22; 2 Tim 3:12; 1 John 3:13)
- **Oil** - We are commanded to be “filled with the Holy Spirit” (Ephesians 5:18)
 - Verb: “*pleroo*” - filled to overflowing. Nautical term.
 - PRESENT TENSE: Something that we need ALL the time.
 - IMPERATIVE MOOD: Something we are commanded to do.
 - PASSIVE VOICE: Something that happens to us!!!!
 - Illustrations: Raising the sails; glove
 - Using ALL the means of grace: His Word, Prayer, Church.
 - ★ One can only be FILLED if they are EMPTIED of SELF. (Luke 9:23)
- **Frankincense** - our lives are to be *fully pleasing unto the LORD.*”
 - ★ See 2 Cor 2:15-16; 5:9 **Eph 5:1-2; Col 1:9-11**; 1 Thess 4:1; John 8:29
with 1 John 2:6; 2 Timothy 2:4; Hebrews 11:5; **1 John 3:22.**
- **Salt** - our lives and tongues must be seasoned with salt.
 - ★ Our YES must be YES and our NO be NO. (Matthew 5:13, 37)
 - ★ “You are the salt of the earth.” Matthew 5:13
 - ★ Our speech must be always with grace, seasoned with salt - our tongues are to be used as a blessing but also a purifying influence in an evil, decaying, corrupt world. (Colossians 4:6)
- **No leaven** - 1 John 3:4-10 - Disciples do not sin. LISTEN!!!! (1 John 3:3; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Hebrews 12:14; 1 Peter 1:13-16)
 - We are commanded to get rid of leaven in our lives. (1 Cor. 5:7)
- **No honey** - we serve the Lord in all that we do. We do not work “with eye service” of men or for the applause of men. (Col 3:22-23; 1 Thess 2:4)
 - Our service is motivated by pure love for God and His people.
 - ALL we do is to be done for the glory of God. (1 Cor. 10:31)
 - Our boasting must be in the LORD. (Jeremiah 9:23-24)
- As priests: **We need to feed on Christ DAILY.** (John 6:53-58)

Are You Pleasing to God?

- Just like the whole burnt offering was a picture of Christ offering Himself up wholly to the will of God and we are to imitate Christ by offering ourselves wholly to the God, so too, we are to offer ourselves to God by obeying God’s commandments - only in our obedience can we be fully pleasing to God. (Colossians 1:9-11)

Do we make it our AIM daily to be “**well pleasing to GOD**”?

(2 Corinthians 5:9)