



Messianic Christian Fellowships



Disciple Making Pastor

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## **“Sacrifices Not Done Away With”**

I want to talk about animal sacrifices, **most people think that these are done away with**; because of the sacrifice of Yeshua HaMashiac. **However, if we take a close look at scripture we will see that these sacrifices are not done away with, and they will even be done in the future during the reign of Messiah on earth.** We will discover that **they are commandments forever, and that the Father commands us to keep them.** **And we will see that you need a Levitical priesthood in place with a temple or altar of sacrifice in order to offer these sacrifices.**

**Acts 21:24-26** first of all you see the 4 rules: **these 4 rules are not table of fellowship rules- they are red flags, boundaries, salvation issues that were designed to filter out gross idolatry- these 4 rules deal with idolatry.**

**Rule 1** abstain from things contaminated by idols- this has to do with eating the eat of a pagan sacrifice.

**Rule 2-** blood= we are forbidden to drink the raw blood from any animal, better yet the blood from pagan animal sacrifices.

**Rule 3-** what is strangled = this is pagan sacrifice of neck being broken or strangled

**Rule 4- fornication-4202 = idolatry + harlotry= this is talking about cult prostitution= or even spiritual adultery like religious prostitution or adulterated religion.**

**Most Christian teachers today teach a watered down, lawless message, and are completely unaware of it.**

So you can see that these rules are actually prohibiting the association with idolatry and pagan animal sacrifices. So I can surmise from this that animal sacrifices are important- just don't mix animal sacrifice to Yahweh with animal sacrifice to Idols. We are not supposed to mix paganism with the worship of Yahweh. I don't think you can partake in idolatry and maintain your salvation- that is why these rules are given. Today the idolatry is less obvious, and very well camouflaged- however it does exist- in the pagan origins of Christmas and Easter- So I wonder what James rules would say today!

Hebrews 10:3,4 But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. I want to make clear to you that the blood of animals never took away sin in the old covenant; therefore even if the animal sacrifices were being done today in the temple – they still wouldn't take away sin. They would only serve as a reminder- that's the purpose of animal sacrifice- it's to impose on you the understanding that someone innocent is paying your fine for your sin, and to give you a visual that you won't soon forget to keep you from sinning. I know this is foreign to most people, but bear with me and I'll give you Scriptures for evidence!

1 Peter 1:18,19 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Messiah, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

1 Peter 2:21-25 For even hereunto were ye called: because Messiah also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: 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. For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and

**Bishop of your souls. Only the blood of Yeshua is able to take away your sins.**

**John 1:29 The next day John seeth Yeshua coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.**

**I do not think that the sacrifices are done away with- not from what I see in Scripture.** It is possible that the sin offering for the atonement of sins is done away with, since Yeshua fulfilled this once and for all. **Hebrews 10:12,14 "But Yeshua, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of Yah...For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified."** So maybe one of the changes in the Law, that we see the author of Hebrews speak of, is that this sin offering for atonement is no longer offered. Yeshua was crucified on Aviv 15<sup>th</sup>, amongst the offerings and sacrifices for that day is this- **Numbers 28:22 And one goat for a sin offering, to make an atonement for you. I think this is the Sacrifice that Yeshua was offered as.** But what about the rest of the offerings or sacrifices? Do we still need reminders? I think we do need reminders! And there is plenty of scriptural support for sacrifices still being done today and in the future!

### **One Verse Supporting Sacrifice Today:**

**Act 21:26 Then Paul took the men, and the next day purifying himself with them entered into the temple, to signify the accomplishment of the days of purification, until that the sacrifice should be offered for every one of them.** This is an example of an animal sacrifice in the Renewed Covenant (New Testament) after Messiah's resurrection done by Paul. The word sacrifice is strong's G4376 it means presentation; an oblation (bloodless) or sacrifice. Strong's put bloodless in parenthesis because he obviously thought animal sacrifices are done away with, but Scripture disagrees. It is the same word used for Messiah's sacrifice in **Heb 10:10 By the which will we are sanctified through the sacrifice of the body of Yeshua HaMassiach once for all.** In Acts 21:24 it talks of them purifying themselves and shaving their heads, the only vow I'm aware of would've required this is the Nazarite Vow in Numbers 6, and this definitely involved animal sacrifice. The Nazarite Vow is also referred to as the days of

separation; in acts we see it being called the days of purification which means to sanctify or set apart. **Numbers 6:14** the animal sacrifice offered was a male lamb and a ewe lamb and a ram and a basket of unleavened cakes with oil and unleavened wafers with oil along with their grain offering. **Numbers 6:18**- The Nazarite shall then shave his dedicated head and put the hair in the fire under the animal sacrifice. So here we have Paul partaking in animal sacrifice unto Yahweh, to show that he is indeed walking orderly and keeping Torah. We again see the same event being describe by Paul in Acts 24:17 and he uses the word offerings- which is an animal sacrifice. **So we have an example here of animal sacrifice being done by Paul at the discretion of James and all the elders.**

### **Many Verses Supporting Sacrifices in the Future:**

**Jeremiah 33:14-22** This is my favorite one because it is in the context of the Renewed Covenant (New Covenant) which is spoken of in Jeremiah 31:31. **This is future context!**

**Vs.14-16** this is obviously future context because we have not seen this come to pass yet. **"He shall execute judgment and righteousness on the earth".**

**Vs.18-** **"The Levitical priests shall never lack a man to offer sacrifices continually all the days (continually)."** Obviously He will restore the Levitical priesthood!

So we can see the Levitical priesthood being restored as well as the sacrifices of animals being restored during the reign of the Messiah- during the Renewed Covenant (New Covenant). And it is the Levitical priesthood who does the sacrifices.

Now this makes me wonder if the Levitical priesthood is restored, won't they need a temple to operate out of? I think so- at least some form of altar from which to present the offerings, or animal sacrifices.

**Zechariah 14:9-21** This context is during the reign of Messiah on the earth; so this is in the future when Yeshua returns to rule with a rod of iron and His Law will go forth from Zion.

**Vs.16-** we see **Sukkot being kept** and there are animal sacrifices during Sukkot!!

**Vs.21-** Zec 14:21 Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the LORD of hosts: and all they that sacrifice shall come and take of them, and see the therein: and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts. We see sacrifice being done- this is strong H2076 and it means animal sacrifice or to slaughter an animal

**Vs.18-** the Lord will smite those who don't go up to celebrate Sukkot!

### **Malachi 3:1-7**

**Vs.1** - I think this verse is dealing with Messiah's first coming

**Vs.2-** I think this verse is dealing with Messiah's second coming and therefore puts this in future context!

**Vs.3** – Mal 3:3 And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

**Mal 3:4** Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

He talks about purifying the sons of Levi so they may present offerings or sacrifice- strong H4503 this is a meat offering or an animal sacrifice.

**Vs.7-** He says we have turned aside from Torah, however if we will return to His ways- he will return to us!

**Isaiah 56:1-12** I have a hard time discerning the context of time in this. I know it was future context when it was written, but this time may have already come as far as we are concerned. In Vs.1 He says My salvation is about to come- and we know that He did come. It also says MY

righteousness to be revealed- I don't know that His righteousness has been revealed- His righteousness revealed may be when His Law goes forth from Zion and He rules with a rod of iron, so maybe it's talking about the first and second coming of Messiah. However, it does say something interesting about the sojourner or the foreigner or the one grafted into Israel.

**Vs.6- foreigners= 5236** = strangers, foreigners, heathendom

**Vs.7 Isa 56:7** Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people. We see sacrifices being done- we also see that He makes us joyful!

### Proper Torah Protocol for Sacrifices:

**Deuteronomy 12:1,5,6,8,11,13,14**

**Vs.1- How long does this law apply?** As long as you live on the earth

**Vs.5,6- Where are you to bring your burnt offerings?** At the place which the Lord shall choose from the tribes to establish His name there for His dwelling, and there you shall come.

**Vs.8- "You shall not do at all what we are doing here today, every man doing whatever is right in his own eyes."**

**Vs.13,14a- "Be careful that you do not offer your burnt offerings in every place you see, but in the place which the Lord chooses.."**

**Vs.11- where is the place that the Father has chosen for His name to dwell? For it is there that we are to bring the offerings, sacrifices, and tithes which we vow unto the Lord.**

### The Place Yahweh Has Chosen:

**1 Kings 8:1** I'm not sure if they are referring to the City of David as being in Jerusalem, but they are definitely referring to the temple being in Jerusalem. I always thought of Jerusalem as the city of David, but maybe

the city of David is Bethlehem; and the City of David is Zion which would make Bethlehem Zion! Bethlehem is only 5 miles from Jerusalem. **Luke 2:4 the City of David is Bethlehem!** Zion is Bethlehem!

**I Kings 9:3** His name dwells there forever- the temple which Solomon built.

**So from Deuteronomy 12 we understand that the sacrifices have a dedicated place, where the Father has caused His name to dwell, the temple that Solomon built. We also see that you are not to offer your burnt offerings in every place you see. I think it's ok to slaughter an animal to eat it, but it's not ok to slaughter an animal for sacrifice without following the proper protocol of taking it to the altar where the Father has caused His name to dwell and letting the priest sacrifice the animal. There is proper protocol for sacrifices. We cannot have every man doing what is right in his own eyes! Sacrifices must be done in the temple by the Levitical priesthood. They cannot be offered with strange fire either, as the sons of Aaron learned.**

### **Difference between an Animal Slaughtered for Sacrifice to Yahweh, and an Animal Slaughtered to Eat:**

#### **Deuteronomy 12:15-27**

**Deuteronomy 12:15 Slaughter- Strongs H2076** this word has double meaning- it can mean to slaughter an animal to eat, or it can mean to slaughter an animal for sacrifice.

**I think the meaning in vs.15 is to slaughter an animal to eat; not as a sacrifice unto Yah.**

**Vs.21-** not a sacrifice, but slaughter an animal to eat.

**Vs.27-** notice the blood of the sacrifice is not poured on the ground and covered with the dirt; the blood is poured upon the altar.

This probably explains the **commentary by Rashi-"The Torah commands that when a Jew slaughters any species of kosher birds or non-domesticated kosher animals, he must cover part of the blood. This**

**commandment does not apply to cattle, sheep, or goats. The species used for offerings are exempted from this commandment because sacrificial blood is never covered”.**

So I wonder if the meat with the kosher label today is actually having the blood covered with the dirt or not? If I had to guess, I would say no. The rumor I hear is that they sell the blood to the gentiles; but I couldn't say for sure. And I imagine not all facilities are ran the same way.

### **Leviticus 17:1-16**

**Vs.3- slaughter=7819** this word has double meaning; it can either be slaughter an animal to eat, or it can be slaughter an animal for sacrifice. **I think it's talking about a sacrifice here.**

**Vs.5-** bring your sacrifice to the doorway of the tent of meeting to the priest.

**Vs.7-** this is a permanent statute.

**Vs.8,9-** if you don't bring your sacrifice to the doorway of the tent of meeting, you will be cut off for the people.

**Vs.13-** if you are hunting or slaughtering an animal to eat, you are to pour out the blood and cover it with the earth.

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