



THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST BIBLE OUTREACH

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Topic: CHRISTIAN HOME AND SACRIFICE (HEBREWS 9:28)

What is Sacrifice?

Sacrifice is giving what gives you pain or discomfort. Sacrifice is doing what an ordinary man cannot do.

For example, when a minister of God came to my former church and taught the church about first fruit i.e. your first salary of the year, your first profit or gain of the year, you give everything to God. You can imagine how and uncomfortable that could be; that is sacrifice.

It was the extraordinary members who did it then. But for those whom God gave the grace to do it, they reaped the bountiful harvest.

Sacrifice in the Old Testament is offering to a deity something precious especially killing of an animal on an altar.

Sacrifice is to give up, permit injury to, or forgo something that is valued for the sake of something that has a more pressing claim (Example Isaac was given as a sacrifice by his father Abraham Genesis 22:1-17)

Biblical types of sacrifice

1. Burnt Sacrifice – Leviticus 1:3-17
2. Grain Sacrifice – Leviticus 2:1-16
3. Peace Sacrifice – Leviticus 3:1-17
4. Sin Offering – Leviticus 4 and 5
5. Trespass Offering – Leviticus 6:1-7

The importance of sacrifice

For sacrifice is missing something that will make you have pain for a little while but will benefit you at the long run, therefore it is important to make some sacrifices.

The truth is that no one can have any success in life without making any sacrifice. Somebody said “Success will require doing things which don’t give us momentary pleasure but benefit us in the long run, if we can all try to master that, we will experience success in abundance”

How can Christians make sacrifices?

1. **Through prayer and fasting:** The father in a Christian home should lead the family in prayers; morning, night or vigil. I have told you before that the sacrifice of prayer you make now is your savings.

If you cannot sacrifice the time you invest in prayers, you will lose the benefits in the future. A couple who cannot give three days or more in a month and make the sacrifice to fast without having sex to talk to God over their home and children are not making any sacrifice.

You cannot make sacrifices to wake up in the middle of the night throughout to talk to God over your family, work or business.

What you are today is the product of your yesterday's prayers and what you will become tomorrow will be determined on your today's sacrifice of prayers.

Listen, I was telling the youth in one of their meetings that the first three hours of the day matters in their life. What you do with your night will determine what you will experience in the day. For example, somebody who has used his/her night time to talk to God and during the day, things begin to work for them and you are wondering how it happens.

You don't need to wonder because that family has sacrifice their sleep in the midnight while you were enjoying your sleep, little comfort or pleasure for long run benefits during the day. Some will sleep and enjoy sex in their dream while sleeping and someone who didn't sleep and was busy praying. Both of you cannot have the same result in the day. (Matthew 13:24-30)

2. **Sacrifice your time (Exodus 20:8-11):** In Christian homes, it is God's order and command to separate Sabbath day i.e. Sunday to worship and serve Him.

Listen, as Christians, when it is time to be in your office or place of work and you are in the church, you cannot make it in life or have success.

Also, when you are to be in the church and you are at home or somewhere else you will miss or lose the benefits now and in the future. You must be able to sacrifice that time and day you need to worship and serve God to do exactly that. For example, someone or a family comes from *Ejigbo, Ijegan*, or *Idimu* to worship and serve God at *Ijesha* here and you still not come late compared to you living in *Ijesha* and you still come late. Compare the sacrifice both of you are making.

People leave *Suru-Lere, Ajah, Lekki* to worship God at *Winners Chapel* at *Otta, Ogun State* or at *Prayer city*. You can imagine the sacrifice they make at *Somawa, Redemption Camp* (Galatians 6:7-8)

What sacrifice are you and your family making today that will benefit you tomorrow?

3. **The sacrifice of obedience - *The widow of Zarephath (1Kings 17:7-16)*:** As a Christian, how obedient are you? As a wife to your husband? As a husband, how obedient are you to the good advice of your wife to move the family forward?

Children, are you obedient to your parents' instruction or do you think everything you parents tell you is "old fashioned"?

Finally, how obedient are you to the advice and the counselling of your pastor who labors spiritually over you?

As parents, you must make sacrifices for the future of your children.

I told you the story of Bill Gates, Billy Graham and the Billys. Her mother used to pray for 8 hours each per day for her children and all of them had good success in life. Why? Because their mother has made a lot of sacrifices of prayers and good deeds.

You cannot sow seed in the name of your children or do something for people or for God in the name of your children not for today but for their future. If you don't have money you can be praying for people or taking good care of children just because you don't want things to be tight for your children in life.

Some people will do little things and they will have good and more than enough success. And others will struggle to do the same thing severally without any success and you wonder why.

The parents of the first person must have made some sacrifice in the past. I have told you the sacrifice Olusegun Obasanjo's parents made because of him