

Partaking at The Altar of Peace

Week 1 - The Altar (7-21-21)

John 14:27 & 16:33

I. Peace

- A. (Hebrew) Shalom - Peace, prosperity, success, welfare, state of health, friendliness, deliverance, salvation
- B. (Greek) Eirene - Peace, quietness, rest, undisturbedness, sense of health (welfare).
- C. Man's search for peace. (Wholeness, completeness, prosperity in every sense)
 - 1. As sinful human beings we have this desire to find peace, and the world teaches us to look to exterior things.
 - a) The only place that we can find true peace is in fellowship with God through Jesus (Internal). DL - "Peace is an inside job."

II. The Peace Offering

- A. Leviticus 7:11-21
 - 1. Voluntary, spontaneous, worship.
 - 2. Usually accompanied with musical instruments and song.
 - 3. A worshipful response to the character and goodness of God based on the peace that had been established between them and God through the law. A celebration.
 - a) How often to we spontaneously worship and praise God for the peace and right standing we have with God?
 - 4. This Peace Offering can also be called the "fellowship meal," and it was the only sacrifice that the worshiper was able to partake of.
 - a) God received Jesus as our peace offering, and we partake of Him, Who is our peace
 - (1) It's a fellowship meal of peace!

III. Peace with God

- A. The first step in living in peace is knowing the peace that you have with God through Jesus Christ.
 - 1. Our standing or position of peace is the root of our feeling/emotion of peace.
 - 2. Eph. 2:13-17
 - 3. Romans 5:1 - "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."
 - 4. Colossians 1:20 - "And having made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself..."
 - 5. Isaiah 32:17 - "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever."
 - a) The righteous work of Jesus was peace. Complete and perfect peace between God and man.
 - b) Since Jesus was the perfect, eternal sacrifice, "once for all time," our peace with God is eternal and established forever. Unmovable, and secure for eternity.

(1) This is what our internal peace is based on!

IV. Peace in Me

A. The best way for me to take advantage of a pact or peace treaty between me and someone else is to develop communications and relations with that person.

1. Come regularly to the altar of peace, and commune with the Father! partake of Jesus, our peace, with God the Father!
2. Our inner peace will be the natural result of communing with the Father.

B. Guard your heart and mind with peace.

1. Philip. 4:4-7

a) vs. 4-6 reminds me of the peace offering...

(1) Joy, thankfulness, public confession, requests

b) vs. 7 - "Keep" = guard, garrison

(1) Philippi was guarded by a Roman garrison, and the people there were used to seeing soldiers guarding and patrolling the city.

(a) We need a garrison of peace over both our hearts and minds

(b) A guard filters and tracks what comes in and what goes out of the city, and also patrols to maintain peace within the city.

C. Focusing on Peace breaks the "cycle." (Simple but not necessarily easy)

1. Romans 8:6 and 12:1-2

2. Colossians 3:1-2

a) Our spirits are at peace with God, but we still have to work to get the rest of our being in alignment with that peace.

b) When we keep our focus on the peace that we have with God, and mortify the parts that are not at peace with God, then we are changing what we see. That then changes what we do, and that changes the results that we are getting.

c) Our peace builds and works from the inside out!

d) When we are settled in the peace of God, external circumstances can't effect it because we aren't looking to external sources for our peace.

e) "...Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in world." 1John 4:4

D. Peace with God brings Hope

1. Romans 15:13 - "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

