



**Today's Sermons**  
 Morning: The One Fold & One Shepherd  
 Afternoon: Song Service

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FOR THE RECORD	
Sunday Bible Study	20
Sunday AM Worship	32
Sunday PM Worship	15
Wed. Bible Study	17
Offering	\$2062

Matthew 28.18-19		Examples of Conversion		Mark 16.15-16	
Preaching	Believed	Repented	Confessed	Baptized	Saved
Pentecost Acts 2.14-41	Believed Acts 2.36	Repented Acts 2.37-38	Confessed Acts 2.47	Baptized Acts 2.38-41	Remission of Sins Acts 2.38-47
Samaritans Acts 8.5-13	Believed Acts 8.12	Repented Acts 8.9-10	Confessed Acts 8.10, 12	Baptized Acts 8.12-13	Remission of Sins Acts 8.16 (2.38)
Eunuch Acts 8.35-39	Believed Acts 8.36-37	Repented Acts 8.36	Confessed Acts 8.37	Baptized Acts 8.38	Rejoiced Acts 8.39
Saul Acts 9.17-18	Believed Acts 22.10	Repented Acts 9.9	Confessed Rom 10.9-10	Baptized Acts 9.18	Sins Washed Away Acts 22.16
Cornelius Acts 10.34-48	Believed Acts 10.43	Repented Acts 11.18	Confessed Acts 10.46	Baptized Acts 10.48	Remission of Sins Acts 10.43, 48
Lydia Acts 16.13-15	Believed Acts 16.14			Baptized Acts 16.15	Faithful Acts 16.15
The Jailer Acts 16.30-34	Believed Acts 16.31, 34	Repented Acts 16.33		Baptized Acts 16.33	Rejoiced Acts 16.34
Corinthians Acts 18.1-8	Believed Acts 18.8	Repented 1 Cor. 6.9-11		Baptized Acts 18.8	Sanctified 1 Cor. 6.11
Ephesians Acts 19.1-7ff	Believed Ep. 1.13; Ac. 19.5,18	Repented Acts 19.18; 20.21		Baptized Acts 19.5 (2.38)	Saved Eph. 2.8-9
Preaching Romans 10.14	+ Faith John 8.24	+ Repentance Luke 13.3	+ Confession Romans 10.9-10	+ Baptism Galatians 3.26-27	= Salvation 2 Timothy 2.10



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**Times of Services:**  
Sunday  
 Bible Study:... 10:00am  
 AM Worship:...11:00am  
 PM Worship:...6:00pm  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:.....1:30pm

Wednesday  
 Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program  
 Sunday:.....7:30am  
 "Back to the Bible"  
 AM 580 WSKK  
 93.5 FM

**We Extend A  
 Warm & Cordial  
 Welcome  
 To All Our  
 Visitors!**

**"A Living Sacrifice"**  
 Tim Canup

Most all students of the Bible are familiar with Paul's words in Romans 12:1, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Many good thoughts and comments have been made about "a living sacrifice" over the years, but what does it really mean to us? How does it really apply to you and me?

Almost all, if not all, religions involve sacrifice of some kind. Of course the sacrifices of all the false religions, which include anything from animals, to their own children, to their own lives, are all patterned after the religion given by the one, true God. Under the Patriarchal system, beginning with Adam and Eve after their sin, to the Mosaical, where rivers of the blood of bulls and goats were offered, God has asked man to make an offering for sin. However, we all know well that "...it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins" (Hebrews 10:4). We also know that those sacrifices were typical of the True, once-for-all sacrifice of the perfect Son of God. As John rightly identified

*Continued Inside*

Jesus: “Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

Under the Patriarchal and Mosaical system of sacrifice, it was the giving of the life of an animal. Not just any animal, but one that was to be the best of the flock, “without spot” (Exodus 12:5). Although they were to take that animal from their own flock, and were to “keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month” (Exodus 12:6), it was still more impersonal than the blood sacrifice of a child or one’s own life. God did ask Abraham, as a faith test, to sacrifice his own son; however, He did not allow him to go through with it. God has never asked any man to offer his own blood in sacrifice to Him: man’s blood is tainted with sin (Romans 3:23). To atone for sin, man needed the sacrifice of sinless man, which is why God became flesh, to die for our sins (Hebrews 2:9).

So, is the contrast being made by Paul in Romans 12:1 about “a living sacrifice” against that of all those dead animals? Personally, I do not believe it is. By “living,” Paul was referring to a continual, on-going sacrifice. Could it not possibly be the case that under the Law of Moses, that from one year to another, one could easily forget the sacrifice of the Lamb from the previous year? Sure it could and probably was the case. The writer of Hebrews said “those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually” could not fix man’s sin problem; but they were never intended to do so. It would take the perfect blood of Jesus.

So then, could it possibly be the case that mankind, some two thousand years removed from Jesus’ crucifixion, of which none today witnessed, forgets what God has done for us? Absolutely! That is why Peter said in II Peter 1:9, “But he that lacketh these things {the 8 things mentioned in vss. 5-8} is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.” Jesus’ death was the greatest of all sacrifices; God (“the just”) for sinful mankind (“the unjust” – I Peter 3:18; Romans 5:6-8). Perhaps, in His infinite wisdom, God has commanded us to partake of two emblems which are to remind us of what He has done for us. Even though Jesus’ death was the greatest sacrifice, it is rather easy for one to allow oneself to be far removed from it. Is this why some find it so easy to engage in sin and to forsake their responsibility to serve God?

You see, Christianity is not merely about what I can get out of it. Perhaps we have focused so sharply on the second half of the question, “What must I do to be saved?” that we have forgotten the first part of the question involves action on our part

(not just in obtaining salvation, but also in maintaining it). Perhaps we have preached the need to be saved from sin to our friends and family to the point that we forget to mention the responsibility we have after we have been saved. God has made the great sacrifice of His “only begotten son,” but what does He expect of us? He demands “a living sacrifice”! He demands my life in faithful service. Paul also was able to say, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me” (Galatians 2:20).

In the second stanza of Johnson Oatman, Jr.’s 1916 Hymn, “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross,” wrote, “Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ, my Lord; All the vain things that charm me most I sacrifice them to His blood.” And in the last stanza, “Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.” God’s love to us is reciprocated by our loyal service to Him and by our “living sacrifice.”

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*“Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist” (Colossian 1:13-17).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- July 12 – Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Service (Song Service)
- July 29-Aug 2 – Spring/Lansing Barn Meeting with Daniel Koen
- Aug 2 – Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Service
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Jim Winters