

## Two Sacrifices

*Have you ever bought someone a gift that you just knew they'd treasure only to find out they packed it away or put it in a garage sale? Maybe you've passed an heirloom on to your children and they didn't quite see the preciousness of it. Or parents, do you remember buying your toddler a big, fun toy for Christmas and they were so consumed with the boxes and ribbons that they barely noticed the gift? These things happen and when it's a toddler thing, it is harmless and even cute. Other times, when we miss out on the true value of a gift, it is very costly.*

*I had an interesting dream not long ago that the Father used to teach me an important truth. In this dream I was in a conversation with someone. I don't know who I was talking to but I do know that this person was a believer. They loved the Lord and had a heart to serve Him. However, I could tell that they felt like I was too far out there with what I believe regarding healing, deliverance, and miracles. In this conversation of discussing Jesus and Who He is, this person mentioned that He was the sacrificial Lamb of God and that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. I told them that I couldn't agree more and at that point something really began to stir in me. Holy Spirit spoke through me and out of my mouth came something so amazing; something that I really believe but had never seen in quite this way before.*

*I said, "You're right! Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. In the Old Testament an innocent lamb or other animal had to be slaughtered as a sacrifice for sin and the sacrifice had to take place over and over and over. At an appointed time, Jesus came and became the sacrificial Lamb once and for all. It's a new and better covenant."*

*The other person replied, "It is a new and better covenant because now we live forever with Him and we don't have to slaughter animals every year."*

*I said, "Yes, but that's not all. There's more." I felt a push back from the other person when I said that there was more and that seemed to fan the flame in my spirit. That's when Holy Spirit released these words through me.*

*"That Old Testament animal was sacrificed quickly. His throat was probably cut and he bled out. That's not what happened to my Jesus. I*

read nothing about that lamb being beaten for days and bruised inside and out to the point of being unrecognizable. I read nothing about him being spit upon. I read nothing about him having his wool plucked out by the handfuls. That lamb was not blindfolded and tortured. I read nothing about his flesh being torn and shredded into strips before he died. I read nothing about him carrying a heavy cross on his raw flesh up a steep hill. I see nowhere in the Word where thorns were pressed into his skull. I read nothing about him thirsting and being given vinegar to drink. I read nothing about spikes being driven through his extremities. Nowhere in scripture do I read about him hanging on a cross for hours until his legs could no longer carry the weight of his body and he suffocates. The Old Testament sacrifice was for the remission of sins. The beautiful Lamb of God laid down His life for everything. That's the difference between the old covenant and the new covenant. Those bruises, shreds and thorns were for our peace, healing, deliverance, and to destroy the curse."

The Word of God will always confirm to us that we are hearing His truth. All that the Spirit spoke through me in the dream can be found in Isaiah 53. I'm going to do something different here with a quick word study. Written in red are the words from the original language according to the Strong's Bible Concordance.

He is despised (*regarded with contempt, despicable, worthless*) and rejected (*left, alone, forsaken*) by men,

A Man of sorrows (*pain, mentally and physically*) and acquainted with grief (*sickness*).

And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him;  
He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

Surely He has borne (*taken, carried, endured*) our griefs (*sickness*)  
And carried (*bore, dragged*) our sorrows (*pain, mentally and physically*);  
Yet we esteemed (*thought, made a judgment*) Him stricken,  
Smitten (*hit, beaten, slain, killed*) by God, and afflicted (*put down, low, downcast*).

5 But He was wounded (*profaned, defiled, polluted*) for our transgressions (*rebellion*),

He was bruised (*crushed, shattered, broken*) for our iniquities (*perversity, depravity, guilt*);

The chastisement (*discipline, correction*) for our peace (*completeness, soundness-including physical, welfare, safety, health, prosperity, contentment, quiet, tranquility*) was upon Him,  
And by His stripes (*bruises, wounds, blows*) we are healed (*means HEALED!!*).

6 All we like sheep have gone astray;  
We have turned, every one, to his own way;  
And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

In the dream, I continued on speaking to the other person, "Nowhere is scripture is it recorded that that innocent lamb did all that. Jesus took more than our sins. The Bible is very specific about what he did. Yes, the blood was shed for the remission of sins but He suffered pain so we wouldn't have to. That lamb didn't. He was punished for our peace. That lamb wasn't. He was rejected and despised so we could be accepted and adored. That lamb wasn't. He was crushed for our iniquity. The lamb was slaughtered, not crushed. He was ripped to shreds for our healing. That lamb wasn't. So you see, you can't tell me there isn't more. If the Father had chosen for Jesus to die for the sole purpose of us being forgiven and getting to go to Heaven, that would have been enough. But He chose to give us so much more. To believe that Jesus just died for our sins just so that we could go to heaven totally disregards the rest of what He endured. It is almost like saying that He had to do more than the animal did to get the same results. That's just not true. If the Father intended the sacrifices to both be just for the remission of sins, Jesus could have just been beheaded like John the Baptist and the shedding of blood would have done it."

Consider for a moment the Lord's Supper / Communion. What are the two things mentioned? We are instructed to remember both the body and the blood. Jesus was very specific in His teaching and said 'as often as you do this, do it in remembrance of Me'. In the very beginning I spoke of a gift that wasn't valued or put to use. That usually happens when 1) we don't realize the value of the gift; 2) we don't understand its purpose or know how to use it or 3) we just don't think we need it or like it. We must realize the value of the full sacrifice the Lord Jesus made on our behalf. Yes, it was for the forgiveness of sin and eternal life with Him. We, as believers have treasured that, but there's more that hasn't been valued nearly enough. It is the part that, by many, has been put on the shelf. Beloved, the scripture reference from Isaiah was prophesied of the

coming One that was fulfilled completely in Jesus. As He walked on the earth He lived out this way of life in the flesh...healing all who were oppressed by the devil whether that be the sick, the demon possessed, the poor, the hurting, the lonely, the rejected. He came to seek and to save (sozo) that which was lost. Not only that, but some of His final Words to us, His disciples, was for us to do the work that He did. We are commissioned to heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons...just like He did. The words 'saved', 'save', 'salvation' are used many times in the Word of God. In fact, it is the summation of the whole Bible...the Father providing a way to bring His family home. Allow me one more quick word study.

*Save (sozo) - to save, keep safe and sound, to rescue from danger or destruction to save a suffering one; one suffering from disease, to make well, heal, restore to health*

*to save from the evils which obstruct the reception of the Messianic deliverance*

*Soteria (salvation) deliverance, preservation, safety  
deliverance from the molestation of the enemy  
future salvation*

When you compare the life of Jesus to this word 'save', it is a true picture, isn't it? The full gift of salvation was prophesied of Jesus. He lived it out while He walked the earth. It was demonstrated in His crucifixion. Some of His last words to the disciples (known as the Great Commission) were to continue all of it. It has not ended. It is the Kingdom of Heaven...the Gospel of the Kingdom...The Good News. Receive the full gift. Don't put it on a shelf because you don't understand it. Learn about it. Accept it. Recognize the value of it. Treat it as a treasured possession. It is your inheritance. It is what He suffered and died to give you.