

SACRIFICE.

I entreat you, therefore, brethren, by the tender compassions of God, to present your bodies a living *sacrifice*, holy, well-pleasing, to God-- your *rational* religious service--[Rom. 12:1](#). --Diaglott.

There is very much involved in the above quotation. In fact all that precedes it, to which the word *therefore* refers, as a *reason* why a certain thing should be done; but we will call especial attention to the term *sacrifice*.

It is translated from the Greek word, *thusia*, and means a slaughter, or an animal slaughtered.

We have natural--animal--bodies now--[1 Cor. 15:44-46](#); and if we have accepted of Jesus as our *ransom*, they are not our own, but have been bought with a *price*; and we are exhorted to present them a living sacrifice, to be slaughtered--killed. But *why* give them?

There must certainly be a *reason* for so doing. The term bodies seems to include all there is of our earthly existence. Jesus gave his *life* a ransom for many--[Matt. 20:28](#)--and he gave his *body*--[Heb. 10:10](#). All there was of the *man* Jesus, was given as ransom--[1 Tim. 2:5,6](#).-- and we are exhorted to have the same mind that was in him. [Phil. 2:5](#).

As he became obedient unto *death*, so ought *we*. Hereby have we known love, that as he laid down his life for *us*, we ought to lay down *our* life for the *brethren*. [1 John 3:16](#).

For the *bodies* of those beasts whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the *High Priest*, for sin, are BURNED without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let *us* go forth therefore unto him without the *camp*, bearing the reproach-- [Heb. 13:11-13](#).

To present our bodies a living sacrifice, then, means to be *crucified* with Christ; baptized into his death; *dead* with him as *men*; but alive unto God as new creatures.

The proclamations of [Rev. 14:6-11](#) having been given; Paul's mystery, "we shall not *all sleep*," is now due. And from *this time*, "Blessed are the *dead* who *die* in the Lord," they shall not *sleep*--become inactive--but be changed in the twinkling of an eye, and while they will have ended the toil and weariness of this present condition of corruption, of dishonor and weakness, they will be changed to a condition of *incorruption*; glory and *power*; and "their works follow *with* them."

"Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant by sacrifice." [Ps. 50:2-5](#).

Many seem to get the idea that all that is required, is to give a certain portion of our time and *substance*. Cain came with *such* a sacrifice, and it was not *received*. Abel offered an *animal* to be *killed*, typifying the *better* sacrifice, and it was accepted. If we present *ourselves* we will surely present all we have also.

B. W. KEITH.

=====