

*To obey is better than sacrifice*

September 4

There is a principle we understand from God's Word which tells us that we can never fully regain by sacrifice what we loose from disobedience. This is not only true for man but also for God. Even though God sacrificed His Son to save the souls of all men ... not all men will be saved. God will lose some souls through man's disobedience that will not be recovered even through the sacrifice of the spotless lamb, Jesus the Messiah. Both the prophets Samuel and Isaiah spoke this truth clearly. Isaiah asked the question, "Why are you sacrificing? Is it not because you have sinned?" He went on to say that God hated sacrifices and counted them as a stench in his nostrils because they only remind Him of man's sin. The remedy, Isaiah said, was to stop doing evil and to learn to do the will of God.

*Prayer for Today*

Dear Father, thank You for making the sacrifice of Your Son for my sin and accepting His payment for my soul. Now help me to require no further sacrifice as I cease to do evil and learn to do well.

*Scriptures for Today*

Isaiah 1:11 "To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me?" says the LORD. "I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed cattle. I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs or goats." (NKJV)

Isaiah 1:19-20 "If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land; But if you refuse and rebel, You shall be devoured by the sword," For the mouth of the LORD has spoken. (NKJV)

1 Samuel 15:22-23 So Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king." (NKJV)