



SUMMER 2023  
**TIDINGS**  
CHRIST'S SANCTIFIED HOLY CHURCH

## Honoring God

In coming out of Campmeeting, my heart remains full, humbled, and hopeful in experiencing prayers fulfilled and understanding that *"we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip"* (Hebrews 2:1). And so, my prayers remain with the congregations tasked with the watering and exhortation of the new grafts. May the Lord bless your efforts and may *"the things of earth grow strangely dim"* as we run this race together.

*"Ye said also, Behold, what a weariness is it! and ye have snuffed at it, saith the LORD of hosts; and ye brought that which was torn, and the lame, and the sick; thus ye brought an offering: should I accept this of your hand? saith the LORD."* (Malachi 1:13)

Malachi, several hundred years before the dawning of Christ, brought an important message to the Israelites. The Israelites had long presented sacrifices before the Lord and, just as humans often do, they began to grow weary of giving up the best; so the creation began to offer their Creator the basest of their flock. As it seemed the Israelites tried to check the boxes in a way that they gave up nothing, Malachi brought a message to the Israelites asking, *"where is mine honour?"* (Mal. 1:6). It has been my experience that the longer we are sanctified, the more God asks, *"where is mine honour?"* and I believe that the Word begs that we be introspective as we strive to leave our all on the altar for every step. The way that we react to God's request for an aspect of our life to be sacrificed seems to follow the pattern of our relationship with Him. I believe that if we strive to love God in completeness then we can, as Paul, count all things *"but dung, that I may win Christ"* (Philippians 3:8).

Now the question is, biblically, what do we do after we lay something down? The answer is the same both when we sacrifice the "old man" to become sanctified and when we feel that there is something weighing us down that God has revealed is hindering our relationship with Him. The answer dates back to the common practice of the Old Testament- it gets burnt. The sacrifice is first killed then burnt (Leviticus 1), and when the sacrifice is properly treated it's gone with no chance of returning. This is the physical pattern to model our spiritual lives after. If God has worked with us to make a sacrifice and take something out of our life, there should be finality to the sacrifice, and we should understand that God has reason to ask such of you. *"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power..."* (Revelation 4:11). There are two common issues that people seem to run into with this. One being as Malachi stated, the people bring the *"torn, and the lame, and the sick."* When God asks for a sacrifice of us, do we bring Him that which He asked for- our best? A piece of our best?

*continued on p. 2...*

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it."

**1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**

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"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. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

**Romans 12:1-2**

# TIDINGS

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When we are God's, do we withhold the sacrifice He is so worthy of? Malachi actually addressed this sort of behavior as robbing God (Malachi 3:8). The other being that when we lay down our sacrifice, do we burn it as intended or do we leave ourselves an "out." Much like the worldly prenuptial agreement, when we make a commitment with thought of breaking it, this is no commitment at all but rather a lack of trust.

I believe that today and every day God is asking people *"where is mine honour?"* I pray that we always take the sacrifice of the Lord in a serious light. Let us *"remember Lot's wife"* (Luke 17:32) and as we turn towards the Lord may we remember: *"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."* (Malachi 3:10 ).

**Bro. Jake Rothfuss**



I once longed for sweet peace,  
And for faith to increase,  
And I earnestly, fervently prayed,  
But I never had rest  
Or was perfectly blest  
Until my all on the altar was laid.

Is your all on the altar a sacrifice laid?  
Your heart doth the spirit control.  
You can only be blest And have peace and sweet rest  
As you yield Him your body and soul.

I now walk with the Lord In the light of His word,  
And am perfectly happy each day.  
As I do His sweet will I am kept from all ill,  
For my all on the altar is laid.

We can talk of the love  
He hath sent from above,  
And how happy our hearts have been made,  
Of the fellowship sweet,  
We now share at His feet,  
Since our all on the altar is laid.

But we never can know  
What the Lord will bestow  
Of the blessings for which we have prayed,  
Till our body and soul  
He doth fully control  
And our all on the altar is laid.

**- "Is Your All on the Altar", by Elisha A. Hoffman,  
who also wrote "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"**

# Why Campmeeting Works

**I**t has been less than 48 hours since we returned from Campmeeting and I have been reminded again of the compelling power of the gospel. We experience more altar service in that one week than any other week of the year and maybe more than all the other weeks combined. Perhaps there are many reasons for this but it's obvious that having church 4 times a day is helpful, which isn't sustainable for our whole year. So are we to just wait 51 weeks until we can recreate this scenario? No! Let's learn from this. Campmeeting is effective because of the scriptural promise that when the Word is preached and Christ is lifted up then He draws people to Himself.

*"And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." (John 12:32)*

*"And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." (John 16:8)*

Campmeeting is also effective because of the work of the Holy Ghost. We are grateful for the time away from our engagements in this world yet it isn't the campground or the sense of community among the cabins and cafeteria that convicts of sin and brings people to a place of repentance. It isn't because of the fellowship, nostalgia, or time off of work. Of course, when we attend services daily, dramatically reduce our screen time, spend time with God's people, and consider theological concepts then we become aware of our own spiritual condition. Still, all of that combined is insufficient to bring about the healing work of repentance and transform a soul from darkness to light and the power of Satan to that of God. That is the work of the Holy Ghost, and it isn't merely sufficient, it is a strong compelling force and a manifestation of God himself. This is why it is so essential that our lives are led everyday by the Holy Ghost and our choices do not grieve His presence.

While the Campmeeting experience isn't a reality that we can sustain and live all of the time, we can live by the principles of it and resist distractions. We can be intentional about tuning out the world's noise and lifting up the name of Christ every single day. We can carry a song of praise in our heart as we go about our daily tasks. We can begin our mornings with prayer and reading of the Word and end them in the same manner. Campmeeting is over but the work of the Holy Ghost can fill us with the same spiritual vitality and cause our local congregations to be effective in his service. So until we meet again, may the power of the gospel continue to convince of sin, sanctify the people, build up the body of Christ, and may all glory be to God.

*"Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen." (2 Peter 3:17-18)*

**Bro. Jeff Price**

## PARTING THOUGHTS

**C**onsider these words of Jesus, *"He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground? And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it: And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down."* (Luke 13:6-9)

I am thankful that our Savior looks after us with patience, and is willing to give us another chance before cutting us off for unfruitfulness. *"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."* (Lamentations 3:22-23) God help us, teach us, to bear more fruit! As I heard at Campmeeting this year, I don't want to settle for thirty fold, or sixty fold, but I want to aim for a hundred fold, and more! (Mark 4:20).

**Bro. David Copeland**

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"The fig tree putteth  
forth her green figs, and  
the vines with the tender  
grape give a good smell.  
Arise, my love, my fair  
one, and come away.

**- Song of Solomon 2:13**

