



Proceeding now on the study of the third day and its meanings, we come to Lev. 7:15-17, "And the flesh of the sacrifice of his PEACE-OFFERINGS for THANKSGIVING shall be eaten the same day that it is offered; he shall not leave any of it until the morning. But if the sacrifice of his offering be a VOW, or a VOLUNTARY offering, it

shall be eaten the same day that he offereth his sacrifice: and on the morrow also the remainder of it shall be eaten: But the remainder of the flesh of the sacrifice on the THIRD DAY shall be burnt with fire." Lev. 19:5-6 adds further, "And if ye offer a sacrifice of peace-offerings unto Yahweh, ye shall offer it at your own WILL. It shall be eaten the same day ye offer it, and on the morrow: and if ought remain until the THIRD DAY, it shall be burnt in the fire."

There is much that could be said regarding the endless river of blood and awful slaughter of the sacrifices, but time and space forbid. But be reminded that sacrifice and offering are not what the Most High desires but rather a broken spirit. In one place He even stated that He HATED their feasts which involved the sacrifices. So if the slaughter of animals was not his primary will, then how do we apply to our lives the portion of scriptures that deal with such sacrifices?

The answer is found in Rom. 12:1, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of Yahweh that ye present your BODIES a LIVING SACRIFICE, holy, acceptable unto Yahweh, which is your reasonable service." Our heavenly Father is not desiring dead sacrifices with rivers of blood, but He desires LIVING SACRIFICES to be presented unto HIM. The rivers of blood He chooses are the rivers of blood that flow in your veins. Therefore this study will deal, not with dead sacrifices of the peace offerings, but living sacrifices of the same.

The word BODY which is to be a living sacrifice is the Greek word SOMA which comes from the Greek SOS or SAOS which means to SAVE, DELIVER, PROTECT, HEAL, PRESERVE, MAKE WHOLE. It is most interesting that built into the meaning of BODY is its very salvation, healing, preservation and wholeness. This has anything but the meaning of a dead body or a dead sacrifice.

The peace offering was not an atonement offering nor an offering for sin. It was strictly what it says, and offering made in peace. The word PEACE means SAFETY, WHOLENESS, COMPLETION. In other words, the BODY which is offered up to HIM is a peace offering, one given completely and wholly and safely to HIM.

The peace offering was one given in THANKSGIVING, or as a VOW, or as a VOLUNTARY offering. There was nothing compulsory about it. Neither are we forced into presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice, but we do it voluntarily with thanksgiving. Paul calls it our REASONABLE service. The word REASONABLE comes from the Greek LOGOS which means WORD as involving the THOUGHT connected to what is spoken. Thus the presenting of these bodies is due to our thought processes or what is logical. No one ever presents his body unto Yahweh without first giving thought to the offering. This then becomes a SERVICE, or literally, WORSHIP or MINISTRY. We have such preconceived ideas of what worship or ministry really is, but in actuality worship or ministry is the presenting of the BODY to HIM as a living sacrifice. What greater ministry could there be?

The presentation of our bodies to HIM is for the purpose of thanksgiving, the surrender of the will in that it is voluntary, or it can be as a sacred vow unto HIM. In the first two days since the birth of Yehoshua, counting a day to a thousand years, people have indeed presented their bodies as a living sacrifice. and from this sacrifice has been

a feast. In other words, as the peace offering was eaten for sustenance, so the believers have eaten of their own flesh and the flesh of others. These living sacrifices have produced food to satisfy the inner longings. It is because of this sacrifice of many that spiritual food has been obtained. And, we are grateful for this and give thanks for His goodness in all of this.

Nevertheless, the third thousand year day presents another aspect that needs to be considered. It is specifically stated that if any of the FLESH of the PEACE OFFERING remains until the third day, it is to be burnt with fire. We are now entering that third thousand year day when the fire is to consume everything that is left from the prior two days. It must be admitted that much flesh has been manifested during the other two thousand years in spite of the fact that living sacrifices have been manifested. Now what is left over of the flesh must be taken care of in the only way that is proper and right--BY FIRE.

So many talk about the glory of this third day, and true it shall be glorious, but it is also the total end of the old, as good as the old was in its time. We are moving now into a different time and realm, and none of the old can remain. What does remain is subjected to fire for its consummation.

I am sure that you, as well as I, are aware of the remaining flesh in us. We do not want it there, but still it is present. So we realize that it is going to take something unusual to deliver us from the flesh that remains. Is it not written, "Our ELOHIM is a consuming fire?" Furthermore, it is also written, "But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap." He is not coming the second time to deal with the sin problem for He did that at His first coming, but He is coming again to finish up the process of ridding us of the flesh that yet remains.

It is written that His eyes are as a flame of fire, and His very eyes will finish up the process of cleansing in us. For two thousand years the saints have endeavored to rid themselves of the flesh and have groaned at the incomplete process. We long for that full deliverance for the body, for the eradication of the flesh life. And, if it could have been done before, it would have been done, but some of that flesh yet remains, with the works thereof. So it is going to take something other than we have known to complete the process and bring us into the fulness of redemption.

What is it that will finish up the cleansing and bring redemption of the body into reality? It will take His personal appearance to those who are looking for HIM. It will take the fire of His presence to finish up the removal of all that is unlike HIM. I cannot impress it on you too strongly that it will take nothing short of HIM HIMSELF to bring this to pass. So many think and believe that all they will ever see of Yehoshua is what they will see in others. That is fine, but it is not enough. Seeing HIM in others has never rid us of the flesh, nor will it. It will take seeing HIM personally as He appears to those who are looking for HIM to bring about the climax of our full redemption, even the redemption of the body. He shall appear as a refiner's fire, and this fire will bring the remaining dross to the top of the metal being processed. We will not like what we will see, but this third day is the time for the burning of the remaining flesh, and consumed it shall be.

Thus with all the glorious promises of the third day comes also the divine fire that will rid us of what yet remains of flesh whether we know it is yet remaining or not. He is going to bring us all forth as pure gold, and that can only be done by fire. True, we have been subjected to much fire, such as, fiery tests, and that fire has done its work well, and now we must have HIM and HIM alone at His blessed appearing to accomplish the finishing touches. Therefore, you can say with John, "EVEN SO COME, MASTER YAHOSHUA!!!" Come as a refining fire and total in me Your completion and perfection!!!

ncn--8/21/85

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