

Continuing **STEDFASTLY** ACTS 2:42 **ACTS 31** 11.14.2021 • Vol. 32 • Is.46



I CORINTHIANS 15:50-16:1-4

Offering is a Bible word and teaching and is a Baptist distinctive. The word offering is used in 504 verses and is mentioned 724 times. The plural form of the same is employed in 210 verses and used 265 times. The word offer appears in 213 verses and is used 236 time, while the word offered is found in 135 verses and is used 143 times.

The noun form of the word offering refers to that which is presented in divine service, basically an animal or a portion of bread or corn, or of gold and silver, or other valuable articles. These are presented to God as an atonement for sin, or as a return of thanks for His favors. There are several kinds of offerings mentioned in the Holy Writ. These include burnt-offerings, sin-offerings, peace-offerings, trespass-offerings, thank-offerings, wave-offerings, and wood-offerings. Our Saviour Jesus Christ, by the offering of Himself, superseded the use of all other offerings, having made atonement for all men.

Bible offering always costs. Our memory verse clearly stipulates this truth.

“And the king said unto Araunah, Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: ...” Here is a statement of a privileged individual to get for free a resource for his offering to God but would refuse to do so. He insists on buying it. He will buy it not at a discounted price but at a full price, too, according to I Chron. 21:24, “And king David said to Ornan, Nay; but I will verily buy it for the full price..”

“...neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing...” Here is a statement showing that the “offerer’s” clear apprecia-

tion of an offering pleasing to God — sacrifice. There are those who like to serve the Lord in the cheapest manner, or with little cost to themselves, but the King wanted to do more for his God.

“...So David bought the threshingfloor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.” This is quite a sum of money. I Chron. 21:25 reveals that David is said to give six hundred shekels of gold by weight. This gives us an idea that David’s offering was not limited to this one time offering, that is, the threshingfloor, oxen, and instruments, which were bought for fifty shekels of silver. His offering extended by him purchasing the whole of Araunah’s farm, that large space of ground, on which afterwards the temple, and all the courts and buildings adjoining to it, were built.

Offering is a character of God. The Father gave His only Begotten Son. The Son gave Himself for us. The eternal Spirit made this offering without spot to God.

May each of us continue steadfastly in giving our offerings from this time and beyond.

Pastor  **ARNOLD N. VALLEJO**

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE Day 105-111

Mon	15-NOV	Acts 5:1-16; Deuteronomy 23-24; Job 15
Tue	16-NOV	Acts 5:17-42; Deuteronomy 25-27; Job 16
Wed	17-NOV	Acts 6; Deuteronomy 28; Job 17
Thu	18-NOV	Acts 7:1-22; Deuteronomy 29-30; Job 18
Fri	19-NOV	Acts 7:23-8:1a; Deuteronomy 31-32; Job 19
Sat	20-NOV	Acts 8:1b-25; Deuteronomy 33-34; Job 20
Sun	21-NOV	Acts 8:26-40; Joshua 1-2; Job 21

TITLE: THE BELIEVER'S OFFERINGS

TEXT: I CORINTHIANS 15:50-16:1-4

MEMORY VERSE: II SAMUEL 24:24

I. LET EACH OF US CONTINUE STEDFASTLY IN OUR FAITH THAT OFFERINGS ARE _____ THE TITHES.

- A. Our text tells us that offerings are indeed different from tithes. Tithes is the _____. It is continual. It is intended to be given in the Church for its operations. Offerings are the believers' designation to help build more the local Church as well as those outside of the local assembly. Verse 1 mentions of collection. The term means a contribution or a sum collected for a charitable purpose.
- B. Offerings rest on the individual's appropriation of what he owns and his gratitude to God and His provision. Verse 2 of our text reads, "...let every one of you lay by him in store..." The tithe is always ten percent of our income. God appointed this sum. Offerings are dependent on the believer's decisions. Nonetheless, the believer must bear in mind that offerings showcase God's abounding blessing. The same verse reads, "...as God hath prospered him..."
- C. It can be rightly construed then that we have not given yet an offering unless we have paid the Lord's tithes. The cost of the offering must then be taken from us, not from that which belongs to God, in this case, the tithes. We cannot offer something or give something which is not ours.

II. LET EACH OF US CONTINUE STEDFASTLY IN OUR FAITH THAT OFFERINGS SPELL OUR _____.

- A. Bible worship is never an empty _____. In Exo. 34:20 and Deut. 16:16 (PLEASE READ BOTH), God commanded worshippers thus: "...And none shall appear before me empty ... and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:"
- B. A case in point is the Magi's worship described in Matthew 2. The Magi's came to Jerusalem to worship and in Matt. 2:11 we are told, "And when ... they saw the young child... fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they pre-

sented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh." Whenever we come to worship, may we always _____ for our offerings.

- C. Moreover, our offerings must speak well of our _____ and God. The Magi's gave gold befitting His royalty and deity, frankincense in honor of His priesthood, and myrrh in expressing their belief of His sacrificial death at Calvary.
- D. May each one of us continue stedfastly in bringing our OFFERINGS to our Great God every time we come and worship Him. May our offerings be a _____ of how we value our God! May we, like the Magi, open up our TREASURES not our TRASHES! As in Phil. 4:18, may our offerings be "...an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God." This is the spirit of our TREASURE OFFERING, CHRISTMAS OFFERING, AND FIRSTFRUITS, AND ALL OUR REGULAR GIVING.
- E. Bible worship is _____. Gen. 3:21; 1:29; 9:3; 4:4; 4:5 (PLEASE READ) all attest to such truth. In Heb. 11:4, we read that "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain... God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh." Sacrifices ought to be offered to God alone. Exo. 22:20 warns us that "He that sacrificeth unto any god, save unto the LORD only, he shall be utterly destroyed."
- F. When offered to God, sacrifices are an _____ of His being the Supreme God. II Kings 5:15-17 records Naaman's acknowledgment of such truth when he said, "...now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel... thy servant will henceforth offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice unto other gods, but unto the LORD." Moreover, sacrifices are an acknowledgement of our sin, its effects, and its ultimate forgiveness as mentioned in Heb. 10:3. This is the spirit of our sacrificial giving such as our TREASURE OFFERINGS, CHRISTMAS OFFERING, FIRSTFRUITS, PLEDGES, AND OTHER COMMITMENTS as well as our FREE SERVICES like BEING PART OF THE MUSIC MINISTRY, SUNDAY SCHOOL, USHERING, TRANSPORT AND MORE.
- G. Sacrifices are always offered upon _____.

Exo. 20:24 reads, “An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon...” In our times, such altars are clearly understood to be the local Bible-believing Baptist Church as stated in Eph. 3:21 (PLEASE RECITE). Specifically, in the Municipality of Los Banos, God’s specified “altar” is the Christian Bible Baptist Church and Ministries of Los Banos, Inc. (CBBC-LB). It is here where we must bring our sacrifices — money, time, effort, and energy.

III. LET EACH OF US CONTINUE STEDFASTLY IN OUR FAITH THAT OFFERINGS

WHO WE ARE.

- A. Our text in verse 58 commands us to be “...always abounding in the work of the Lord...” Rom. 12:1 says, we present our bodies a living sacrifice. Our financial tithes and offerings must be coupled with our **bodily** presence. In fact, Mal. 3:10 records that we must BRING THE TITHES. This means we must be there! Our family — child or spouse — may not be used as our representative for the work. We must personally attend and present our body to the Lord. Our tight work or study schedules may not interfere in our presenting ourselves to the Lord. Our burdens, personal or filial, may not be the reason for not coming to the Lord. Our physical infirmities, emotional stresses, relational problems are not enough reasons for not attending to the Saviour’s plea. This is indeed sacrifice! Our bodies must be active in the work, i.e., in the Church and not in the world. Our new birth experience changed our state from sinners to saints. Our new citizenship brought us out from worldly pleasures and then ushered us to His service—soul winning, discipleship.
- B. Our offerings speak of our

_____ . Faith, according to Heb. 11:1-3 is indeed taking God at His word. When we take God at His word, when we believe and trust His word then we are given hope. Further, faith pleases God. Heb. 11:6 says that without faith we cannot please God. Giving that pleases God therefore is giving by faith. The amount in this sense therefore does not really matter if we want to please the God of Heavens with our giving. The Old Testament is teeming with people who pleased

God in their giving. It is a higher ground of giving. This is divine giving.

1. Cain and Abel both offered God the fruits of their _____ (PLEASE READ Gen. 4:3-4). Cain brought the fruit of the ground, while Abel brought the firstlings of his flock and the fat thereof. Both offered the best of their crafts. The LORD however was pleased only to Abel’s offering. Our text explains that “Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain...” because Abel offered BY FAITH. Mal. 3:8-10 (PLEASE READ) declare what pleases God — tithes and offerings.
2. In Genesis 22, we read that God required Abraham to offer his only son, Isaac. By faith, Abraham _____ . He rose up early in the morning, he prepared everything needed for the offering — his son with him and wood for burning — and went to Mount Moriah. Rom. 4:20-21 explains Abraham’s faith: “...being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.”
3. Hannah, being barren, desired to experience God’s _____ . Thus, she made an earnest prayer manifesting her intense desire that God bless her with a child, whom she intended to give back to Him as a servant. Her prayer was answered so she gave him to the LORD. God was pleased with Hannah’s giving. I Sam. 2:21 declares that God blessed her divine giving with five children.
4. I Kings 17 records a widow woman who was gathering a stick to cook a cake for her and her son. Then came Elijah and commanded her to “make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.” The woman _____ by faith. In verse 16 of his account we are told: “And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Elijah.”

WHEN PRAISE DEMANDS A SACRIFICE

The call to go to mount Moriah came to Abraham, But the offering placed before the Lord was not a lamb. He bound His only son, And when the knife was raised, A sacrifice became the price of praise.

When praise demands a sacrifice, I'll worship even then surrendering the dearest things in life. And if devotion costs me all, He'll find me faithful to His call when praise demands a sacrifice.

The call to go to Calvary came to God's own Son, An altar waited for the lamb. He would become His hands reached up to heaven, As the cross was raised and with His life He paid the price of praise.

When praise demands a sacrifice, I'll worship even then surrendering the dearest things in life. And if devotion costs me all He'll find me faithful to His call.

When praise demands a sacrifice, God hears the words of praise we lift. Yet I have found He's honored more by what I'm willing to lay down.

When praise demands a sacrifice, I'll worship even then surrendering the dearest things in life. And if devotion costs me all, He'll find me faithful to His call. When praise demands a sacrifice.

When praise demands a sacrifice, I'll worship even then surrendering the dearest things in life. And if devotion costs me all He'll find me faithful to His call. When praise demands a sacrifice.

2021 CHURCH CALENDAR

November 2021

30	NBLC 9
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December 2021

5	Pastor's Wife Birthday
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15-17	Christmas Cantata 2021
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19	Christmas Gift to Jesus 2021
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24	Church Christmas Fellowship
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26	Year-End Song Festival
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30	SS Teachers' Training 2021
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31	Pastor's Wedding Anniversary
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REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY Sunday School · 8:30 AM Morning Service · 10 AM Discipleship · 2:30 PM Group Fellowship · 3 PM Afternoon Service · 5 PM	DOCTRINE CLASS · 5:45 PM PRAYER MEETING · 6:45 PM
MONDAY BYSC Soulwinning · 5:30 PM	THURSDAY Soulwinning · 6:30 PM
TUESDAY BYSC Bible Study · 5:30 PM	FRIDAY Orchestra Lesson · 5:00 PM Orchestra Practice · 7:30 PM
WEDNESDAY BYSC Dawn Prayer · 5:30 AM	SATURDAY Whole Day Area Visitation & Soulwinning · 8:30 AM Choir · 3:00 PM

ACTS 31 is the official Sunday publication of Christian Bible Baptist Church Los Baños, Nature's Ville, Anos, Los Baños, Laguna · Tel 49.5363039
Rev. Arnold N. Vallejo-Pastor · www.cbcblosbanos.org
Live streaming: Wed 645PM and Sunday Services (10AM/230PM)

Preaching records are available at Sceptre Publication & Bookstore

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM	474	FTV	43
Sunday PM	205	Baptism	12
Prayer Mtg	118		