

THE SACRIFICE OF PRAISE

Hebrews 13:14-16 says, “For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”

One of the most beautiful things that any believer is privileged with is the fact that we have the opportunity to offer to God a sacrifice of praise. The scripture teaches us that praise is comely for the upright (Psalm 33:1). When God sees our appreciation for the things that He has already done, it moves Him to bless us with even more.

Hebrews 13:14-16 tells us that this world in which we live and dwell is not our final resting place—we are just sojourners passing through and we are looking for that glorious city that is not made by the hands of man. However, as we are passing through this land, we must offer to God the sacrifice of praise continually for the things that He has done. I am also of the mindset that we must learn how to give God advance praise for the things that are yet to come.

Most times we can slow down our own blessings because our level of appreciation for the last blessing is not where it should be. God is pleased when we can give him what He deserves even when circumstances are not what we think they should be. For example, Job continued to praise God even though his world was falling apart.

In Job 1:21 he says, “And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.” In other words, our circumstances should not dictate our praise because even if God chooses not to answer our prayers in the manner we think He should, He is still worthy of our praise. The question then becomes: are you a conditional praiser?

PRAYER: *Lord, teach me how not to allow my circumstances and present condition dictate my praise. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

AFFIRMATION: Because God has been good, I shall praise Him even when things are going bad.

—Pastor Rodney C. Griffin, Jr.

REFLECT & RESPOND

Your circumstances should not dictate your praise. Are you a conditional praiser?