

## THE ALTAR, THE SACRIFICE, & THE FIRE

Dr. Jay Zinn • River's Edge Church • 5/3/09

### 1. THE ALTAR — (THE PLACE) Gen 12:6-8; 13:3-4; Mt. 6:6 Father The Track

- 12 Stones (for each tribe) - *Community*
- In the name of the Lord – *Authority / Place of God's Presence*
- Dug a trench – *to receive the water (of the Holy Spirit)*
  - hold 2 Seahs = 13 quarts (13 # of rebellion, Israel's rebellion)
- We need a *place* where we go to meet with God—ALONE

### 2. THE SACRIFICE — (THE PREPARATION) Lev 1:1-9; Ro 12:1-2; Eph 5:26 Son The Training

- Arranged the wood – *Cross, death to self, conveniences, flesh*
- Bull sacrifice (Burnt Offering) – *voluntary offering; present ourselves* (Ro. 12:1-2)
- Wash the inner parts w/ water – *Delicacies / inner cleansing / Word* (Eph. 5:26)
- Four jars / 3x's – *Four = gospel / Jars = vessels / Three x's for Trinity witness*

### 3. THE FIRE — (THE POWER) Holy Spirit The Test

David's Track: *The pastures/fields*  
David's Training: *The lion & bear*  
David's Test: *The giant, Goliath*

- Fire fell, licked up water, burned everything – *Signs & Wonders (burns all of it)*
- The people saw, fell down, cried, turned – *repentance, acknowledge true God*
- 450 prophets of Baal slain – *The enemy is defeated!*

**Abraham, Isaac, Jacob** all had their altars where they called on the name of the Lord.  
**Jospeh, Moses, Joshua, Elijah** all had their place & time of preparation in obscurity.  
**John the Baptist** was prepared by God in the wilderness, came from obscurity.  
**Jesus** was hidden in obscurity until baptized by John, anointed, and tested 40 days.  
**Paul** was saved, hidden for years until God brought him to Antioch.

### 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 – Amplified Bible

**24** Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but [only] one receives the prize? So run [your race] that you may lay hold [of the prize] and make it yours.

**25** Now every athlete who goes into training conducts himself temperately and restricts himself in all things. They do it to win a wreath that will soon wither, but we [do it to receive a crown of eternal blessedness] that cannot wither.

**26** Therefore I do not run uncertainly (without definite aim). I do not box like one beating the air and striking without an adversary.

**27** But [like a boxer] I buffet my body [handle it roughly, discipline it by hardships] and subdue it, for fear that after proclaiming to others the Gospel and things pertaining to it, I myself should become unfit [not stand the test, be unapproved and rejected as a counterfeit].

### Gen 12:6-8

Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he **built an altar** there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

From there he went on toward the hills east of **Bethel** and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he **built an altar** to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD. **NIV**

### Gen 13:3-4

From the Negev he went from place to place until he came to **Bethel**, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had been earlier and where he had first **built an altar**. There Abram called on the name of the LORD. **NIV**

### Matt 6:6-7

But when you pray, go into **your room**, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then *your Father*, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. **NIV**

### Lev 1:3-9

"If the offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he is to offer a **male without defect**. He must present it at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting so that it will be acceptable to the LORD. He is to lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him. He is to slaughter the young bull before the LORD, and then Aaron's sons the priests shall bring the blood and sprinkle it against the altar on all sides at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. He is to skin the burnt offering and cut it into pieces. The sons of Aaron the priest are to put fire on the altar and arrange wood on the fire. Then Aaron's sons the priests shall arrange the pieces, including the head and the fat, on the burning wood that is on the altar. He is to wash the inner parts and the legs with water, and the priest is to burn all of it on the altar. It is a burnt offering, an offering made by fire, an aroma pleasing to the LORD. **NIV**

### Rom 12:1-2

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as **living sacrifices**, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will. **NIV**

### Eph 5:25-27

Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the **washing with water through the word**, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. **NIV**