

Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Genesis 6:9-11:32
- Romans 12:1-2
- 1 Peter 3:18-22
- Acts 15:1-21
- Galatians 2:11-16
- Romans 2:13; 3:20
- Acts 10:9-29; 21:18-26
- Acts 6:9-15; 7:57-58
- Luke 17:20-27

Title:

ALL BURNED UP!

- Two by Two, but 14?
- Clean and Unclean
- The burnt (elevation) offering
- A Living Sacrifice!
- Food: from Adam to Noah
- What about these Gentiles?
- Works vs. Obedience
- You reap what you sow
- Just like in the days of Noah

THEME: “Noah built an altar to the LORD. He took some of the **clean large animals and some of the clean birds**, and placed [sacrificed] **entirely burned** [burnt, elevation] offerings on the altar. The LORD smelled the **pleasing scent**, and the LORD thought to himself, I will not curse the fertile land anymore because of human beings since **the ideas of the human mind are evil** from their youth. I will never again destroy every living thing as I have done. As long as the earth exists, seedtime and harvest, cold and hot, summer and autumn, day and night will not cease.” Genesis 8:20-22 CEB

OUTCOME: “So, brothers and sisters, because of God’s mercies, I encourage you to **present your bodies as a living sacrifice that is holy and pleasing to God**. This is your **appropriate** priestly service [proper worship, reasonable or rational service]. Don’t be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your minds** so that you can figure out what God’s will is—**what is good and pleasing and mature.**” Romans 12:1-2 CEB

Let’s Set the Scene: Man is in trouble

1. A lot is happening in this section of scripture and Noah is the main character.
2. For our purposes today, we are interested in the preservation of human and animal life and tapping into what was on Yahweh’s heart.
3. Noah is instructed to preserve two of each unclean animal and bird and SEVEN PAIRS of each clean animal and bird, why?
4. The earth is cleansed by the flood and when Ark settles down, something happens for the first time. An animal is sacrificed to Yahweh (Yes, an animal was killed for its skin to cover Adam and Eve’s nakedness, but not a sacrifice, per se.)

5. This is a unique sacrifice as it remains the one type of sacrifice in which the flesh of the animal is burnt entirely with none left to eat—this will become significant in our understanding later!
6. The burnt or elevation sacrifice is a **pleasing** aroma to Yahweh. Might we even say, a “**reasonable** service or ministry to Yah?
7. Let’s explore what that means to believers today and as we consider some key questions.
 - A. How was Noah able to distinguish the clean from the unclean animals so far in advance of the Torah being given to Moses on Mount Sinai?
 - B. Is any of this significant in the New Testament and if so, how is it relevant today?

RESCUED

1. LIKE IN THE DAYS OF NOAH—WE ARE RESCUED

- A. “The Messiah himself suffered on account of sins, once for all, the righteous one on behalf of the unrighteous. He did this in order to bring you into the presence of God. The Messiah was put to death as a human, but made alive by the Spirit. And it was by the Spirit that he went to preach to the spirits in prison. In the past, these spirits were disobedient—**when God patiently waited during the time of Noah. Noah built an ark in which a few (that is, eight) lives were rescued**

through water. Baptism is like that. It saves you now—not because it removes dirt from your body but because **it is the mark of a good conscience toward God. Your salvation comes through the resurrection of Y’shua Messiah, who is at God’s right** side. Now that he has gone into heaven, he rules over all angels, authorities, and powers.” 1 Peter 3:18-22 CEB

2. **RESCUED**

- A. “But I will set up my covenant with you. **You will go into the ark together with your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives. From all living things—from all creatures—you are to bring a pair, male and female, into the ark with you to keep them alive.** From each kind of bird, from each kind of livestock, and from each kind of everything that crawls on the ground—a pair from each will go in with you to stay alive. Take some from every kind of food and stow it as food for you and for the animals.” **Noah did everything exactly as God commanded him.**” Genesis 6:18-22 CEB
- B. **[POINT OF INTEREST: IT SAYS SOMETHING LIKE THIS A FEW TIMES IN THE ACCOUNT OF NOAH AND LIKENED UNTO IT IN THE ACCOUNT OF MOSES ON MOUNT SINAI THE PHRASE—HE BUILT ALL THINGS ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN ON THE MOUNTAIN —APPEARS MANY TIMES. TWO DELIVERERS—TWO ARKS]**

3. 2 BY 2 BUT—SEVEN PAIRS OF CLEAN (NOAH KNEW WHAT WAS CLEAN—PRE-SINAI)

- A. "The LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark with your whole household, because among this generation I've seen that you are a moral man. **From every clean animal, take seven pairs, a male and his mate; and from every unclean animal, take one pair, a male and his mate; and from the birds in the sky as well, take seven pairs, male and female, so that their offspring will survive throughout the earth. [WHY SEVEN? BECAUSE A SACRIFICE OF CLEAN ANIMALS IS COMING!]** In seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights. I will wipe off from the fertile land every living thing that I have made." Noah did everything the LORD commanded him. Noah was 600 years old when the floodwaters arrived on earth. Noah, his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives with him entered the ark to escape the floodwaters. From the clean and unclean animals, from the birds and everything crawling on the ground, two of each, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, just as God commanded Noah." Genesis 7:1-9 CEB

THE BURNT OFFERING AND SOWING AND REAPING

1. THE ONLY SACRIFICE COMPLETELY CONSUMED BY YAHWEH; ALL OTHER ARE EATEN IN PART BY MAN!!!

A. **THEME:** “Noah built an altar to the LORD. He took some of the **clean large animals and some of the clean birds**, and placed [sacrificed] **entirely burned** [burnt, elevation] offerings on the altar. The LORD smelled the **pleasing scent**, and the LORD thought to himself, I will not curse the fertile land anymore because of human beings since **the ideas of the human mind are evil** from their youth. I will never again destroy every living thing as I have done. **As long as the earth exists, seedtime and harvest**, cold and hot, summer and autumn, day and night will not cease.” Genesis 8:20-22 CEB

2. A LIVING SACRIFICE — ENTIRELY USED UP FOR YAHWEH

A. **OUTCOME:** “So, brothers and sisters, because of God’s mercies, I encourage you to **present your bodies as a living sacrifice that is holy and pleasing to God**. This is your **appropriate** priestly service. Don’t be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your minds** so that you can figure out what God’s will is— **what is good and pleasing and mature.**” Romans 12:1-2 CEB

FOOD! NOW REQUIRES SACRIFICE!

1. IN THE DAYS OF NOAH

- A. “God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, **“Be fertile, multiply, and fill the earth.** All of the animals on the earth will fear you and dread you—all the birds in the skies, everything crawling on the ground, and all of the sea’s fish. **They are in your power. Everything that lives and moves will be your food. Just as I gave you the green grasses, I now give you everything.** However, **you must not eat meat with its life, its blood** [lifeblood], in it.” Genesis 9:1-4 CEB

2. IN THE DAYS OF ADAM

- A. “God created humanity in God’s own image, in the divine image God created them, male and female God created them. God blessed them and said to them, **“Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it.** Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, and everything crawling on the ground.” **Then God said, “I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food.”**

Genesis 1:27-29 CEB

WHAT ABOUT THE BLOOD, CLEAN AND UNCLEAN ANIMALS— THEN AND NOW?

1. THEN

- A. **“From every clean animal**, take seven pairs, a male and his mate; and from every unclean animal, take one pair, a male and his mate;” Genesis 7:2 CEB **““But you must not eat meat that has its **lifeblood** still in it.”** Gen. 9:4 NIVUK

2. NOW

- A. (1) **“Some people came down from Judea teaching the family of believers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom we’ve received from Moses, you can’t be saved.”** Paul and Barnabas took sides against these Judeans and argued strongly against their position. **The church at Antioch [where Paul rebuked Peter; See Galatians 2:11-17 below]** appointed Paul, Barnabas, and several others from **Antioch** to go up to Jerusalem (2) **to set this question before the apostles and the elders.** The church sent this delegation on their way. They traveled through Phoenicia and Samaria, telling stories about the conversion of the Gentiles to everyone. Their reports thrilled the brothers and sisters. When they arrived in Jerusalem, the church, the apostles, and the elders all welcomed them. They gave a full report of what God had accomplished through their activity. (5) **Some**

believers from among the Pharisees stood up and claimed, "The Gentiles must be circumcised. They must be required to keep the Law from Moses." [Context: to be saved] The apostles and the elders gathered to consider this matter. (7)

After much debate, Peter stood and addressed them, "Fellow believers, you know that, early on, God chose me from among you as the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the word of the gospel and come to believe. God, who knows people's deepest thoughts and desires, confirmed this by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us. He made no distinction between us and them, but purified their deepest thoughts and desires through faith. Why then are you now challenging God by placing a burden on the shoulders of these disciples that neither we nor our ancestors could bear? On the contrary, we believe that we and they are saved in the same way, by the grace of the Lord Jesus." [*SEE GALATIANS 2:11-16 below] The entire assembly fell quiet as they listened to Barnabas and Paul describe all the signs and wonders God did among the Gentiles through their activity. When Barnabas and Paul also fell silent, **James responded,** "Fellow believers, listen to me. Simon reported how, in his kindness, God came to the Gentiles in the first place, to raise up from them a people of God. The prophets'

words agree with this; as it is written, After this I will return, and I will rebuild David's fallen tent; I will rebuild what has been torn down. I will restore it so that the rest of humanity will seek the Lord, **even all the Gentiles who belong to me.** The Lord says this, the one who does these things known from earliest times. (20) **"Therefore, I conclude that we shouldn't create problems for Gentiles who turn to God. Instead, we should write a letter, telling them to avoid the pollution associated with idols, sexual immorality, eating meat from strangled animals, and consuming blood. (21) After all, Moses has been proclaimed in every city for a long time, and is read aloud every Sabbath in every synagogue."**
Acts of the Apostles 15:1-21 CEB

3. *PETER REBUKED BY PAUL ANTIOCH IN GALATIANS

- A. "When Cephas came to **Antioch, I opposed him to his face,** because he stood condemned. For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray. **When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel,** I said to Cephas in front of them all, "You

are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. **How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?** **[REFERRING TO WORKS OF LAW NOT OBEYING THE LAW]** “We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles know that **a person is not justified by the works [SEE Romans *2:13 and **3:20 below] of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ.** So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and **not by the works of the law**, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.” Galatians 2:11-16 NIV

- (I) ***“For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.”** Romans 2:13 NIV
- (II) ****“Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.”** Romans 3:20 NIV

A CHANGE IN LAW?

1. PETER’S DREAM: DID IT CHANGE THE LAW?

- A. “At noon on the following day, as their journey brought them close to the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted to eat. While others were preparing the meal, he had a visionary experience. He saw

heaven opened up and something like a large linen sheet being lowered to the earth by its four corners. Inside the sheet were all kinds of four-legged animals, reptiles, and wild birds. A voice told him, "Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!" Peter exclaimed, "Absolutely not, Lord! I have never eaten anything impure or unclean." The voice spoke a second time, "Never consider unclean what God has made pure." This happened three times, then the object was suddenly pulled back into heaven. (17) **Peter was bewildered about the meaning of the vision. Just then, the messengers sent by Cornelius discovered the whereabouts of Simon's house and arrived at the gate.** Calling out, they inquired whether the Simon known as Peter was a guest there. (19) **While Peter was brooding over the vision, the Spirit interrupted him, "Look! Three people are looking for you. Go downstairs. Don't ask questions; just go with them because I have sent them."** So Peter went downstairs and told them, "I'm the one you are looking for. Why have you come?" They replied, "We've come on behalf of Cornelius, a centurion and righteous man, a God-worshipper who is well-respected by all Jewish people. A holy angel directed him to summon you to his house and to hear what you have to say." Peter invited them into the house as his guests. The next day he got up and

went with them, together with some of the believers from Joppa. They arrived in Caesarea the following day.

Anticipating their arrival, Cornelius had gathered his relatives and close friends. As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him and fell at his feet in order to honor him. But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Get up! Like you, I'm just a human." As they continued to talk, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people. (28) **He said to them, "You all realize that it is forbidden for a Jew to associate or visit with outsiders. However, God has shown me that I should never call a person impure or unclean.** For this reason, when you sent for me, I came without objection. I want to know, then, why you sent for me.'" Acts of the Apostles 10:9-29 CEB

2. PAUL: DID HE TEACH THAT THE LAW WAS NO MORE?

- A. "On the next day Paul and the rest of us went to see James. All of the elders were present. After greeting them, he gave them a detailed report of what God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. Those who heard this praised God. Then they said to him, (20-22) **"Brother, you see how many thousands of Jews have become believers, and all of them keep the Law passionately. They have been informed that you teach all the Jews who live among the Gentiles to reject Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children**

nor to live according to our customs. What about this?
Without a doubt, they will hear that you have arrived. **[THIS IS PAUL'S OPPORTUNITY TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT. IS IS TEACHING AGAINST THE LAW OR NOT?]** (23) You must therefore do what we tell you. **[IF THE CLAIM IS FALSE]** (24) Four men among us have made a solemn promise. Take them with you, go through the purification ritual with them, and pay the cost of having their heads shaved. **Everyone will know there is nothing to those reports about you but that you too live a life in keeping with the Law. [PAUL, IF YOU TAKE THE VOW ABOVE EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT THE ACCUSATIONS THAT YOU ARE TEACHING AGAINST THE LAW IS FALSE]** (25) As for the Gentile believers, we wrote a letter about what we decided **[IN ACTS 15], that they avoid food offered to idols, blood, the meat from strangled animals, and sexual immorality.** (26) The following day Paul took the men with him and went through the purification ritual with them. **[CONCLUSION: THE ACCUSATION IS FALSE. HE IS NOT TEACHING AGAINST THE LAW!]** He entered the temple and publicly announced the completion of the days of purification, when the offering would be presented for each one of them." Acts of the Apostles 21:18-26 CEB

3. **SPECIAL NOTE:** In Acts 6, the stoning of Stephen, false witnesses are used to make a case against him, just like Paul faces false witness in Acts 20. **“They have been informed that you teach all the Jews who live among the Gentiles to reject Moses...” (Acts 20:20).**
- A. “Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen. **But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke.** (11) **Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, “We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God.”** So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. (13) **They produced false witnesses, who testified, “This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law.** For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us.” All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.” Acts 6:9-15 NIV

B. LOOK WHO PRESIDED OVER THE STONING BASED ON A FALSE WITNESS!

(I) "At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. **Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.**"

Acts 7:57-58 NIV

(II) NO DOUBT PAUL KNEW WHY HE FACED SUCH FALSE ACCUSATIONS AS EVIDENCED FROM HIS OWN WORDS!

(III) "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. **A man reaps what he sows.** Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."

Galatians 6:7-8 NIV

THE KINGDOM AND NOAH

1. JUST LIKE THE DAYS OF NOAH!

A. "Pharisees asked Jesus when God's kingdom was coming. He replied, **"God's kingdom isn't coming with signs that are easily noticed. Nor will people say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There it is!' Don't you see? God's kingdom is already among you."** Then Jesus said to the disciples, "The time will come

when you will long to see one of the days of the Human One [Son of man], and you won't see it. People will say to you, 'Look there!' or 'Look here!' Don't leave or go chasing after them. The Human One [Son of man] will appear on his day in the same way that a flash of lightning lights up the sky from one end to the other. However, first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. **"As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be during the days of the Human One [Son for man].** People were eating, drinking, marrying, and being given in marriage until the day Noah entered the ark and the flood came and destroyed them all." Luke 17:20-27 CEB

2. IT'S TIME TO BECOME THE ELEVATION BURNT OFFERING TO YAHWEH:

- A. **THEME:** "Clean, sacrificed, entirely burned [burnt, elevation], pleasing , human minds are evil, seedtime and harvest... Genesis 8:20-22 CEB
- B. **OUTCOME:** "Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, pleasing to God, appropriate priestly service, proper worship, reasonable or rational, Don't be conformed, be transformed, renewing of your minds, **God's will is—what is good and pleasing and mature.**" Romans 12:1-2 CEB