Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Leviticus 1:1-6:7
- Luke 10:38-42
- Romans 12:1-21
- Luke 14:25-35

Title:

MARY HAS CHOSEN WHAT IS

BETTER!

- Wired Together
- The Living Sacrifice
- Choose Better

When your life is enmeshed with God, it is common to have encounters that make you think, "You can't make this stuff up!" He cares about everything, even the subtle things. In fact, you should make a habit of accentuating all those subtle experiences, as it is oftentimes in the "still small voice" from which the greatest revelations come.

When His Word is hidden in your heart, and animates your mind "without ceasing", unrelated ideas become wired together, seemingly out of nowhere. But we know better, or at least we should know that these impressions are not unrelated. Yahweh is not in the business of idle thoughts. Every inspiration from the Lord means something, if you are willing to receive it; His Word will never return void. I promise; if you would make the commitment to

pay attention, to block out the distractions, this testimony will be part of your everyday life in the faith. "You can't make this stuff up!"

For example, shortly before this introduction was written (and this very encounter is what inspired it), I was studying Leviticus, and making sermon notes in the early morning hours. I paused my studies to go wake my bride, as I do every morning. Then, in the silence between those two activities, and what seemed so random, I heard the still small voice. "Mary has chosen what is better." My initial thought was, "How could this possibly relate to Leviticus and this current collection of notes on various sacrifices?" My quiet laugh broke the silence, as I sat alone. I'd been here before countless times. Moments later I was sharing this encounter with my wife, adding this one assurance. "I don't know what it means, but I'm certain I will."

It only took a few hours of pressing into God before the "wires touched" and the connection was made that became this message, even the title; "Mary Has Chosen What is Better!" Isn't it worth it, the time you spend at the Lord's feet? When you choose to do so, He always has something to say; "You have chosen what is better!" It's the testimony every time you sit at His feet and listen to the still small voice, and it always ends the same way. In utter amazement I think, "You can't make this stuff up!"

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

as a burnt sacrifice, he shall bring a male without blemish. He shall kill it on the north side of the altar before the Lord; and the priests, Aaron's sons, shall sprinkle its blood all around on the altar. And he shall cut it into its pieces, with its head and its fat; and the priest shall lay them in order on the wood that is on the fire upon the altar; but he shall wash the entrails and the legs with water. Then the priest shall bring it all and burn it on the altar; it is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the Lord."

Leviticus 1:10-13 NKJV

OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE

"Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."" Luke 10:38-42 NKJV

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

- 1. Leviticus describes the sacrificial service and the duties of the priests. It also introduces ritual purity, the biblical diet, the calendar of appointed times, laws of holiness and laws relating to redemption, vows and tithes. In addition, Leviticus teaches on ethical instruction and holiness. This portion introduces the sacrificial service and describes five different types of sacrifices.
- 2. **Please note:** In Jewish Bibles the first seven verses of Chapter Six are included in Chapter Five, hence you might notice that in your Bible there are only 19 verses in Chapter Five, whereas in Jewish Old Testaments, or in the Complete Jewish Bible, there are 26 verses in Chapter Five. The verse content is exactly the same; the only difference is where those seven verses are located. For our purposes, we include those verses as part of Chapter Six.
- 3. You can see last year's teaching on this portion here: Without blemish... or Apostate Religion

WARNING! EVERY ANIMAL TO BE OFFERED MUST BE PERFECT, WITHOUT BLEMISH.

Leviticus 1

4. **The Burnt Offering:** bring your offering of the livestock—of the herd and of the flock, a male **without blemish**; of his own **free**

will; sprinkle the blood all around on the altar that *is by* the door of the tabernacle of meeting. And the priest **shall burn all** on the altar as a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the Lord.

Leviticus 2

- 5. **The Grain Offering:** fine flour, pour oil on it, and put frankincense on it; take from it his handful and burn *it as* a memorial. The rest of *shall be* Aaron's and his sons'. *It is* most holy of the offerings to the Lord made by fire. It can also be backed as unleavened cakes in an oven or on a pan. No grain offering which you bring to the Lord shall be made with leaven, for **you shall burn no leaven nor any honey in any offering**.
- 6. The offering of the firstfruits shall not be burned on the altar for a sweet aroma; offer for the grain offering of your firstfruits green heads of grain roasted on the fire, grain beaten from full heads; burn the memorial portion: *part* of its beaten grain and *part* of its oil, with all the frankincense.
- 7. Every offering of your grain offering you shall season with salt. Leviticus 3
- 8. **The Peace Offering:** sprinkle the blood all around on the altar. Burn the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that *is* on the entrails, the two kidneys and the fat that *is* on them by the flanks.

- 9. The fatty lobe *attached* to the liver above the kidneys, he shall **remove**; and Aaron's sons shall **burn it on the altar upon the burnt sacrifice.**
- 10. This offering may be male or female. It decries all the fat that is to be burned on the altar *as* food.

Leviticus 4

- 11. **The Sin Offering:** If a priest sins unintentionally, offer to the Lord a young bull. Take some of the bull's blood the priest shall dip his finger in the blood and sprinkle some of the blood seven times before the Lord, in front of the veil of the sanctuary.
- 12. The priest shall put some of the blood on the horns of the altar of sweet incense; and he shall pour the remaining blood of the bull at the base of the altar of the burnt offering.
- 13. Remove all the fats as in the peace offering and burn them on the altar of the burnt offering.
- 14. But the bull's hide and all its flesh, with its head and legs, its entrails and offal—the whole bull he shall carry outside the camp to a clean place, where the ashes are poured out, and burn it on wood with fire; where the ashes are poured out it shall be burned.
- 15. If the whole congregation of Israel sins unintentionally, and the thing is hidden from the eyes of the assembly, and are guilty; when the sin which they have committed becomes known, then

- the assembly shall offer a young bull for the sin, and do the same as of a person or priest sinned unintentionally.
- 16. When a ruler has sinned, and done *something* unintentionally and is guilty, or if his sin which he has committed comes to his knowledge, he shall bring as his offering a kid of the goats, and do the same thing with the blood, but he shall burn all its fat on the altar, like the fat of the sacrifice of the peace offering. So the priest shall make atonement for him concerning his sin, and it shall be forgiven him.
- 17. If any of the common people sins unintentionally and is guilty, or if his sin which he has committed comes to his knowledge, do the same as for a ruler.
- 18. If he brings a lamb as his sin offering, he shall bring a female without blemish.
- 19. So the priest shall make atonement for his sin that he has committed, and it shall be forgiven him.

Leviticus 5

- 20. **The Trespass Offering:** If a person sins in hearing the utterance of an oath, and *is* a witness, whether he has seen or known *of the matter*—if he does not tell *it*, he bears guilt.
 - (a) If a person touches any unclean thing, whether *it is* the carcass of an unclean beast, or the carcass of unclean

- livestock, or the carcass of unclean creeping things, and he is unaware of it, he also shall be unclean and guilty.
- (b) If he touches human uncleanness—whatever uncleanness with which a man may be defiled, and he is unaware of it—when he realizes *it*, then he shall be guilty.
- (c) If a person swears, speaking thoughtlessly with *his* lips to do evil or to do good, whatever *it is* that a man may pronounce by an oath, and he is unaware of it—when he realizes *it*, then he shall be guilty in any of these *matters*.
- 21. When he is guilty in any of these *matters*, that he shall confess that he has sinned in that *thing*; and he shall bring his trespass offering to the Lord, a female from the flock, a lamb or a kid of the goats as a sin offering. So the priest shall make atonement for him concerning his sin.
 - (a) If he is not able to bring a lamb, bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons: one as a sin offering and the other as a burnt offering. The priest, who shall offer *that* which *is* for the sin offering first. And he shall offer the second *as* a burnt offering according to the prescribed manner, and it shall be forgiven him.
 - (b) If he is not able to bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons, then he who sinned shall bring for his offering one-tenth of an ephah of fine flour as a sin offering. He shall put

no oil on it, nor shall he put frankincense on it, for it *is* a sin offering. The priest shall take his handful of it as a memorial portion, and burn *it* on the altar and the priest shall make atonement for him and it shall be forgiven him. *The rest* shall be the priest's as a grain offering.

- 22. **Offerings with Restitution:** If a person commits a trespass, and sins unintentionally he shall bring to the Lord as his trespass offering a ram, with your valuation in shekels of silver according to the shekel of the sanctuary, as a trespass offering. And he shall make restitution for the harm that he has done, and shall add one-fifth to it and give it to the priest. So the priest shall make atonement for him with the ram of the trespass offering, and it shall be forgiven him.
- 23. If a person sins, and commits any of these things which are forbidden, though he does not know *it*, yet he is guilty and shall bear his iniquity. He shall bring to the priest a ram without blemish from the flock, with your valuation, as a trespass offering. The priest shall make atonement for him regarding his ignorance in which he erred and did not know *it*, and it shall be forgiven him.

Leviticus 6

24. Laws About the Burnt Offering, the Grain Offering, and the Sin Offering: If a person sins by lying to his neighbor about what

was delivered to him for safekeeping, or about a pledge, or about a robbery, or if he has extorted from his neighbor, or if he has found what was lost and lies concerning it, and swears falsely—in any one of these things that a man may do in which he sins:

- (a) He shall restore what he has stolen, or the thing which he has extorted, or what was delivered to him for safekeeping, or the lost thing which he found, or all that about which he has sworn falsely. He shall restore its full value, add one-fifth more to it, and give it to whomever it belongs, on the day of his trespass offering.
- (b) Do all that and then bring his trespass offering to the Lord, and the priest shall make atonement for him before the Lord, and he shall be forgiven for any one of these things that he may have done in which he trespasses.

WIRED TOGETHER

1. His Word will accomplish that for which it was sent

A. Program your spiritual DNA

- (1) Sit at Y'shua's feet!
 - (a) Hide the Word in your heart...
 - 1. "Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You." Psalms 119:11 NKJV

- (b) The Word seeps down into your DNA and defines who you are...
 - "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Hebrews 4:12 NKJV
- (c) Meditate on the Word all day long!
 - 1. "But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper." Psalms 1:2-3 NKJV
- (d) Mediate on all things Godly!
 - 1. "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report [admirable], if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these

- do, and the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4:8-9 NKJV
- (e) Be in constant communion with God.
 - 1. "Rejoice always, **pray without ceasing**, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. **Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good.**Abstain from every form of evil." I Thessalonians 5:16-22 NKJV
- (2) Hearing His Voice
 - (a) Build the foundation of your life by hearing and obeying His voice.
 - 1. ""Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

 And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings,

that the people were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes." Matthew 7:24-29 NKJV

- (b) His voice is often subtle...
 - 1. "Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice." I Kings 19:11-12 NKJV

(3) Sitting at the Lord's Feet!

- (a) You can sit at the Lord's feet and hear His Words or you can be distracted with the things all around you that vie for your attention. Y'shua teaches us that what Mary chose was the better way, what was intrinsically good, what originates from God and is empowered by Him.
 - 1. "Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His

word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part [what is better], which will not be taken away from her.""

- (4) What had Mary chosen that was good (better)?
 - (a) "Mary chose the good thing." This is the same description that Paul uses when he describe the choice to live a life of sacrifice as a disciple. It also happens to be the exact option presented by Y'shua in the Sermon on the Mount. In that message He tells us that it is the Pagan who chases what the world can offer; the disciple seeks the things of the kingdom.
 - "be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:2
 - 2. ""Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For

your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But **seek first the kingdom of God** and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. **Therefore do not worry about tomorrow**, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." Matthew 6:31-34 NKJV

- (5) God's Word will accomplish what it promises every time!
 - (a) When you sit at Y'shua's feet! And hide His Word in your heart, the Word will seep down into your DNA and define who you are. You must meditate on the Word and godly things all day long and be in constant communion with God. Do so and you will hear His voice. And don't just hear His voice, but obey what He tells you. This is the best foundation on which to build your life. But be warned, oftentimes, His voice is subtle. When you choose to sit at His feet and listen, instead of letting the world get in and command your attention, you have chosen the better way. Paul says that a life like that is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Oh, and what God tells you will never disappoint you!
 - 1. "So shall **My word** be that goes forth from My mouth; It **shall not return to Me void**, But it shall accomplish

what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." Isaiah 55:11 NKJV

Summary: WIRED TOGETHER

1. His Word will accomplish that for which it was sent

A. Program your spiritual DNA

- (1) Sit at Y'shua's feet!
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 - (b) The Word seeps down into your DNA and defines who you are...
 - (c) Meditate on the Word all day long!
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- (2) Hearing His Voice
 - (a) Build the foundation of your life by hearing and obeying His voice.
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- (3) Sitting at the Lord's Feet!
 - (a) You can sit at the Lord's feet and hear His Words or you can be distracted with the things all around you that vie for your attention. Y'shua teaches us that what Mary chose was the better way, what was intrinsically good, what originates from God and is empowered by Him.

- (4) What had Mary chosen that was good (better)?
 - (a) "Mary chose the good thing." This is the same description that Paul uses when he describe the choice to live a life of sacrifice as a disciple. It also happens to be the exact option presented by Y'shua in the Sermon on the Mount. In that message He tells us that it is the Pagan who chases what the world can offer; the disciple seeks the things of the kingdom.
- (5) God's Word will accomplish what it promises every time!
 - (a) When you sit at Y'shua's feet! And hide His Word in your heart, the Word will seep down into your DNA and define who you are. You must meditate on the Word and godly things all day long and be in constant communion with God. Do so and you will hear His voice. And don't just hear His voice, but obey what He tells you. This is the best foundation on which to build your life. But be warned, oftentimes, His voice is subtle. When you choose to sit at His feet and listen, instead of letting the world get in and command your attention, you have chosen the better way. Paul says that a life like that is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Oh, and what God tells you will never disappoint you!

THE LIVING SACRIFICE

2. Sitting at the Lord's Feet

A. A Life of Sacrifice

- (1) Mary has chosen that good part...
 - (a) Again, we must recognize that sitting at the Lord's feet is the better choice. Sure it is easier to go about your busy day and do your own thing, and that is why patiently waiting at the feet of Y'shua is a sacrifice.
 - "And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."" Luke 10:39, 42 NKJV
- (2) Thoughts on Sacrifices
 - (a) As we learn about the burnt offering, we will recognize a few key details. We can quickly see that we must choose a sheep without blemish, a good Sheep!
 - 1. "If his offering is of the flocks—of the sheep or of the goats—as a burnt sacrifice, he shall bring a male without blemish. He shall kill it on the north side of the altar before the Lord; and the priests, Aaron's sons, shall sprinkle its blood all around on the altar.
 And he shall cut it into its pieces, with its head and

- its fat; and the priest shall lay them in order on the wood that is on the fire upon the altar; but he shall wash the entrails and the legs with water. Then the priest shall bring it all and burn it on the altar; it is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the Lord." Leviticus 1:10-13 NKJV
- Prophetic Connection: "...present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, ...that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:1-2
- (b) Later on we notice a key feature of the burnt offering, one that has relevance to us as the Body of Christ. The offering must stay on the fire day and night, and fire must burn continually, so that the sacrifice is completely consumed.
 - 1. "Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Command Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the law of the burnt offering: The burnt offering shall be on the hearth upon the altar all night until morning, and the fire of the altar shall be kept burning on it."

 Leviticus 6:8-9 NKJV
 - 2. "And the fire on the altar shall be kept burning on it; it shall not be put out. And the priest shall burn

- wood on it every morning, and lay the burnt offering in order on it; and he shall burn on it the fat of the peace offerings. A fire shall always be burning on the altar; it shall never go out." Leviticus 6:12-13 NKJV
- 3. **Prophetic Connection:** "Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and **take up his cross daily**, and follow Me." Luke 9:23 NKJV

B. You also must bring your best to the altar—and hold nothing back!

- (1) The Burnt Offering of Christians
 - (a) We are to offer our lives as if we are the burnt offering on the altar. We are to become completely consumed. Only this level of living for God is good, just as Mary chose what was good as she sat at Y'shua's feet, instead of being distracted by the world. Notice, this level of sacrifice is considered reasonable, not extraordinary. Paul calls it a living sacrifice. Think of your life like the sheep of the burnt offering: neck slit, blood drained, chopped to pieces, and burned until only ash remains. Paul says that is the reasonable choice for Christians!
 - 1. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present **your bodies a living sacrifice**,

holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:1-2 NKJV

- (2) A Life of Sacrifice
 - (a) Your life no longer belongs to you. It was paid for by Christ and the life you now live is for Him!
 - 1. "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Galatians 2:20 NKJV
 - 2. "Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." I Corinthians 6:19-20 NKJV

C. Anything less than all-in for God is unacceptable!

(1) SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH GIVING YAHWEH YOUR CHEAP LEFTOVERS! (See Malachi 1:1-14)

- (a) You will build something and He will tear it down...
- (b) If you dishonor Him by offering defiled food on His altar...
 - By offering blind sacrifices...
 - 2. By offering lame and sick sacrifices...
 - 3. By offering what you would no even offer your own human leaders...
 - 4. By offering stolen animals as sacrifices...
- (c) Yahweh has no pleasure in you and will not accept an offering from your hands.
- (d) ""But cursed be the deceiver Who has in his flock a male, And takes a vow, But sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished— For I am a great King," Says the Lord of hosts, "And My name is to be feared among the nations." Malachi 1:14 NKJV

D. Proof you've given your life as a living sacrifice

- (1) A Measure of Faith
 - (a) The words that follow Paul's admonition to give your life as a living sacrifice, are an excellent example of how to do just that. It's starts off with the exhortation to be sober-minded and to not be so self-absorbed. The faith you have was given as a gift and it was meant to make

- you part of a team of God's faithful who all have different assigned roles.
- 1. "For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another." Romans 12:3-5 NKJV
- (2) Gifts According to Grace
 - (a) Consider the specific role or roles you were assigned as gifts from God, each gift being the result of God's supernatural empowerment. Your job is to share your gifts faithfully. It's really easy to not become full of yourself when you recognize that what you have is from God, and why you have it is to serve God!
 - 1. "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who

- shows mercy, with cheerfulness." Romans 12:6-8 NKJV
- 2. Note: See <u>Insane Christianity</u> on what it means to be faithful with the "Talents" you've been given.
- (3) Character Traits of Christians who have presented their lives as "Living Sacrifices" to Yahweh.
 - (a) And what character traits will you see in this disciple? They live without hypocrisy, hate evil, chase good, are affectionate, and care more about others and their needs than for themselves. They are diligent and fervent in their service to God. They are patient and hopeful when times are tough and they persist in prayer. They are hospitable to both friends and enemies and they are sensitive to both the joy and the pain of others. They are humble and satisfied with the simple things in life as they truly appreciate what God calls good. They don't think they are so smart that they cannot learn something new, and they let God fight their battles, instead of fighting evil with evil. This allows them to live at peace with almost anyone. They would feed their enemies before watching them starve, as a perfect example of overcoming evil with good.

1. "Let **love** be **without hypocrisy**. **Abhor** what is **evil**. **Cling** to what is **good**. Be **kindly affectionate to one** another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, **fervent** in spirit, **serving the Lord**; rejoicing in **hope**, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. **Rejoice** with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. Repay no one evil for evil. Have **regard for good things** in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge **yourselves**, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but **overcome evil with good**." Romans 12:9-21 NKIV

E. <u>Disciples in Action</u>

- (1) A Diversity of Gifts
 - (a) Elsewhere in I Corinthians, Paul goes into more details about the Diversity of Spiritual Gifts and specific assignments in the church. Paul compares how these various gifts operate in the Body of Christ to how different body parts operate in the human body. And just as in Romans, Paul teaches us that each gift is hand-selected by God and distributed to His people. He further clarifies how this happens. Whereby he says it is by grace in Romans; here he tells us that it is by the Holy Spirit. Also see Implanted Sagacity for a complete teaching on this topic. (See I Corinthians 12:1-11)
 - 1. the word of wisdom
 - 2. the word of knowledge
 - 3. faith
 - 4. gifts of healings
 - 5. working of miracles
 - 6. prophecy
 - 7. discerning of spirits
 - 8. different kinds of tongues
 - 9. interpretation of tongues

(b) "But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills."

(2) Appointments

- (a) For as the body is one and has many members, the church is one body and has many appointments. It's awesome how Paul uses governmental language, something we should easily understand. Rulers appoint others to various positions, and if the ruler is competent, he will do so according to the strengths of the appointees. Also, Paul emphasizes that although it may appear that some appointments are better and more important than others, they are not! Each role is equally important, even the ones that seem lesser. Again, it is exactly like how the human body operates; each body part needs to do its job if the body is to function perfectly. If even the smallest part fails, the body is not whole! (See I Corinthians 12:12-31)
 - 1. first apostles
 - 2. second prophets
 - 3. third teachers
 - 4. miracles
 - 5. gifts of healings
 - 6. helps

- 7. administrations
- 8. varieties of tongues

(3) Offices

- (a) Paul teaches us about the five offices that make up the church in Ephesians and their aggregate mission to grow the Body into the image of Christ. (See Ephesians 4:11-16)
 - 1. apostles
 - 2. prophets
 - 3. evangelists
 - 4. pastors
 - teachers
- (b) The unified mission of the five offices...
 - for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry...
 - 2. for the edifying of the body of Christ...
 - 3. so we all come to the unity of the faith...
 - 4. so we all come to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...
 - 5. so every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share...(same idea: each part does its part!)
- (4) Separation of Powers

- (a) Paul teaches us about about the separation of powers and church governance in Ephesians 2:19-22. This is a key topic on how healthy government operates. We can see this function in the earth today, and also how it looks when governing authorities DO NOT adhere to these Biblical standards. This topic is expansive and not for today, but you can learn all the details here: Rock Paper Scissors
 - The house of God is built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ as the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

F. All Burned Up, One Way or the Other

- (1) Distracted from God, from what is better...
 - (a) We already emphasized that Mary chose the "good thing" and how that was the sacrificial life we are called to lead as disciples. Martha, on the other hand, was distracted by "external things."
 - 1. "But **Martha was distracted** with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me."" Luke 10:40 NKJV

- (2) Prophetic Timeout: Be warned; all choices wind up on the altar!
 - (a) This is such a great depiction about the great divide. What will go on the altar for God? History so often repeats itself and the outcome is always the same. Choose Yahweh and you will be all used up for Him; choose your own way and you will be burned to ashes anyway. The kingdom has two sides, just like your allegiances. Sit at the Lord's feet, or be distracted by what the world provides. Jeroboam wanted allegiance to himself as the king, and he was worried that if his followers returned to Jerusalem to worship, they would recognize that their true allegiance should be to worship Yahweh and to recognize Rehoboam as king. Here is the easy solution; I'll make my own city, my own gods, my own priests, my own altar, and my own holiday, and then I'll lead the people to worship in that "religion". We'll call this sin city, golden cow gods, substitute priests, the shrine of self, and a Hallmark holiday! But it all ends very badly, as in the end, what will wind up burned to ashes on the shrine of self, are the priests of the selfie religion!

"Then Jeroboam built Shechem in the mountains of Ephraim, and dwelt there. Also he went out from there and built Penuel. And Jeroboam said in his heart, "Now the kingdom may return to the house of David: If these people go up to offer sacrifices in the house of the Lord at Jerusalem, then the heart of this people will turn back to their Lord, Rehoboam king of Judah, and they will kill me and go back to Rehoboam king of Judah." Therefore the king asked advice, made two calves of gold, [Can you imagine that Jeroboam does a repeat of Aaron and the golden calve?] and said to the people, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Israel, [same claim Aaron made!] which brought you up from the land of Egypt!" And he set up one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan. Now this thing became a sin, for the people went to worship before the one as far as Dan. He made shrines on the high places, and made priests from every class of people, who were not of the sons of Levi. Jeroboam ordained a feast on the fifteenth day of the eighth month, like the feast that was in Judah, and offered sacrifices on **the altar**. So he did at Bethel, sacrificing to the calves

- that he had made. And at Bethel he installed the priests of the high places which he had made. So he made offerings on the altar which he had made at Bethel on the fifteenth day of the eighth month, in the month which he had devised in his own heart. And he ordained a feast for the children of Israel, and offered sacrifices on the altar and burned incense." I Kings 12:25-33 NKJV
- 2. "And behold, a man of God [Shemaiah] went from Judah to Bethel by the word of the Lord, and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense. Then he cried out against the altar by the word of the Lord, and said, "O altar, altar! Thus says the Lord: 'Behold, a child, Josiah by name, shall be born to the house of David; and on you he shall sacrifice the priests of the high places who burn incense on you, and men's bones shall be burned on you.' " And he gave a sign the same day, saying, "This is the sign which the Lord has spoken: Surely the altar shall split apart, and the ashes on it shall be poured out."" I Kings 13:1-3 NKJV
- (b) Elijah on Mount Carmel encounters the prophets of Baal. He presents his offer; sit at the feet of the Lord, or

go the way of the world? The challenge ends with the fire of God consuming everything anyway! You can either be all burned up for God, or all burned up for something else! Either way you will be ash! (see I Kings 18:19-40)

- 1. "Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."" I Kings 18:19 NKJV
- 2. He asks... "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." I Kings 18:21 NKJV
- 3. "Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench." I Kings 18:38 NKJV
- 4. And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal!

 Do not let one of them escape!" So they seized them;

 and Elijah brought them down to the Brook Kishon

 and executed them there." I Kings 18:40 NKJV
- (c) The all consuming fire of God... King Ahaziah does not like what Elijah has to say about his inquiring of "false gods" so he sends men to apprehend him. It ends badly

for those who come against the "man of Yahweh" (two groups of fifty men and their captain) and fire from Heaven consumes them to ashes. A third group is spared as the captain is repentant. You can see that his allegiance had shifted from King Ahaziah (the world) to Elijah (the feet of man of God).

1. "Then the king sent to him a captain of fifty with his **fifty men.** So he went up to him; and there he was, sitting on the top of a hill. And he spoke to him: "Man of God, the king has said, 'Come down!' " So Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, "If I am a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men." And fire came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty. Then he sent to him another captain of fifty with his fifty men. And he answered and said to him: "Man of God, thus has the king said, 'Come down quickly!" So Elijah answered and said to them, "If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven and consume you and your fifty men." And the fire of God came down from heaven and consumed him and his fifty. Again, he sent a third captain of fifty with his fifty men. And the third captain of fifty went

up, and came and **fell on his knees before Elijah**, and pleaded with him, and said to him: "Man of God, **please let my life and the life of these fifty servants of yours** be precious in your sight. Look, fire has come down from heaven and burned up the first two captains of fifties with their fifties. But let my life now be precious in your sight."" Il Kings 1:9-14 NKJV

Summary: THE LIVING SACRIFICE

2. Sitting at the Lord's Feet

A. A Life of Sacrifice

- (1) Mary has chosen that good part...
 - (a) Again, we must recognize that sitting at the Lord's feet is the better choice. Sure it is easier to go about your busy day and do your own thing, and that is why patiently waiting at the feet of Y'shua is a sacrifice.
- (2) Thoughts on Sacrifices
 - (a) As we learn about the burnt offering, we will recognize a few key details. We can quickly see that we must choose a sheep without blemish, a good Sheep!
 - (b) Later on we notice a key feature of the burnt offering, one that has relevance to us as the Body of Christ. The offering must stay on the fire day and night, and fire

must burn continually, so that the sacrifice is completely consumed.

B. You also must bring your best to the altar—and hold nothing back!

- (1) The Burnt Offering of Christians
 - (a) We are to offer our lives as if we are the burnt offering on the altar. We are to become completely consumed. Only this level of living for God is good, just as Mary chose what was good as she sat at Y'shua's feet, instead of being distracted by the world. Notice, this level of sacrifice is considered reasonable, not extraordinary. Paul calls it a living sacrifice. Think of your life like the sheep of the burnt offering: neck slit, blood drained, chopped to pieces, and burned until only ash remains. Paul says that is the reasonable choice for Christians!
- (2) A Life of Sacrifice
 - (a) Your life no longer belongs to you. It was paid for by Christ and the life you now live is for Him!

C. Anything less than all-in for God is unacceptable!

- (1) SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH GIVING YAHWEH YOUR CHEAP LEFTOVERS! (See Malachi 1:1-14)
 - (a) You will build something and He will tear it down...

- (b) If you dishonor Him by offering defiled food on His altar...
 - 1. By offering blind sacrifices...
 - 2. By offering lame and sick sacrifices...
 - 3. By offering what you would no even offer your own human leaders...
 - 4. By offering stolen animals as sacrifices...
- (c) Yahweh has no pleasure in you and will not accept an offering from your hands.
- (d) Cursed be the deceiver who has in his flock, but sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished.

D. Proof you've given your life as a living sacrifice

- (1) A Measure of Faith
 - (a) The words that follow Paul's admonition to give your life as a living sacrifice, are an excellent example of how to do just that. It's starts off with the exhortation to be sober-minded and to not be so self-absorbed. The faith you have was given as a gift and it was meant to make you part of a team of God's faithful who all have different assigned roles.
- (2) Gifts According to Grace
 - (a) Consider the specific role or roles you were assigned as gifts from God, each gift being the result of God's

- supernatural empowerment. Your job is to share your gifts faithfully. It's really easy to not become full of yourself when you recognize that what you have is from God, and why you have it is to serve God!
- (3) Character Traits of Christians who have presented their lives as "Living Sacrifices" to Yahweh.
 - (a) And what character traits will you see in this disciple? They live without hypocrisy, hate evil, chase good, are affectionate, and care more about others and their needs than for themselves. They are diligent and fervent in their service to God. They are patient and hopeful when times are tough and they persist in prayer. They are hospitable to both friends and enemies and they are sensitive to both the joy and the pain of others. They are humble and satisfied with the simple things in life as they truly appreciate what God calls good. They don't think they are so smart that they cannot learn something new, and they let God fight their battles, instead of fighting evil with evil. This allows them to live at peace with almost anyone. They would feed their enemies before watching them starve, as a perfect example of overcoming evil with good.

E. <u>Disciples in Action</u>

(1) A Diversity of Gifts

- (a) Elsewhere in I Corinthians, Paul goes into more details about the the Diversity of Spiritual Gifts and specific assignments in the church. Paul compares how these various gifts operate in the Body of Christ to how different body parts operate in the human body. And just as in Romans, Paul teaches us that each gift is hand-selected by God and distributed to His people. He further clarifies how this happens. Whereby he says it is by grace in Romans; here he tells us that it is by the Holy Spirit. (See I Corinthians 12:1-11)
 - 1. the word of wisdom
 - 2. the word of knowledge
 - 3. faith
 - 4. gifts of healings
 - 5. working of miracles
 - 6. prophecy
 - 7. discerning of spirits
 - 8. different kinds of tongues
 - 9. interpretation of tongues
- (b) "But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills."
- (2) Appointments

- (a) For as the body is one and has many members, the church is one body and has many appointments. It's awesome how Paul uses governmental language, something we should easily understand. Rulers appoint others to various positions, and if the ruler is competent, he will do so according to the strengths of the appointees. Also, Paul emphasizes that although it may appear that some appointments are better and more important than others, they are not! Each role is equally important, even the ones that seem lesser. Again, it is exactly like how the human body operates; each body part needs to do its job if the body is to function perfectly. If even the smallest part fails, the body is not whole! (See I Corinthians 12:12-31)
 - 1. first apostles
 - 2. second prophets
 - 3. third teachers
 - 4. miracles
 - 5. gifts of healings
 - 6. helps
 - 7. administrations
 - 8. varieties of tongues
- (3) Offices

- (a) Paul teaches us about the five offices that make up the church in Ephesians and their aggregate mission to grow the Body into the image of Christ. (See Ephesians 4:11-16)
 - 1. apostles
 - 2. prophets
 - 3. evangelists
 - 4. pastors
 - 5. teachers
- (b) The unified mission of the five offices...
 - 1. for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry...
 - 2. for the edifying of the body of Christ...
 - 3. so we all come to the unity of the faith...
 - 4. so we all come to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...
 - 5. so every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share...(same idea: each part does its part!)
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allegiance had shifted from King Ahaziah (the world) to Elijah (the feet of man of God).

CHOOSE BETTER

3. Imagery from sacrifices relevant to Christians!

A. Leave your sin at the door!

- (1) Burn no Leaven
 - (a) Do not include any leaven in your offerings. Even a little ruins everything!
 - 1. "'No grain offering which you bring to the LORD shall be made with leaven, for you shall burn no leaven nor any honey in any offering to the LORD made by fire." Leviticus 2:11 NKJV
 - 2. "You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? This persuasion does not come from Him who calls you. **A little leaven leavens the whole lump.**" [especially fast if you add honey!] Galatians 5:7-9 NKJV
- (2) What is it about leaven that makes it inappropriate in offerings to God? In other words, to keep with our theme, how could leaven not possibly be part of a life offered as a living sacrifice?

- (a) Leaven is often likened to sin, hypocrisy, and false religion. It will always be exposed. And as we have learned, everything winds up on some altar and is burned to ashes!
 - 1. "In the meantime, when an innumerable multitude of people had gathered together, so that they trampled one another, He began to say to His disciples first of all, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known."

 Luke 12:1-2 NKJV
 - 2. "Now when His disciples had come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread. Then Jesus said to them, "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees."" Matthew 16:5-6 NKJV
 - 3. How is it you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread?—but to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees." Matthew 16:11-12 NKJV
- (3) Beware of the hypocrisy! (Read Matthew 23)

- (a) Do what they say, not as they do! There is no greater example of hypocrisy than religious activities that pretend to be offered to Yahweh, but really are for self-fulfillment!
 - "The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat.
 Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do. Matthew 23:2-3 NKJV
- (b) But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees (See Matthew 23:13-36)...
 - 1. You actually obscure the kingdom of God by substituting your own kingdom...
 - 2. You suck up all your followers' resources because you've convinced them that giving everything for God is the godly thing to do. Unfortunately, you really want it for yourself...
 - 3. You fool the people by appearing holy with your long and elaborate prayers...
 - 4. You evangelize the world with your mission trips and then you trap your converts in your false religion.

 Your followers wind up worse than you...

- 5. You are blind men pretending to lead people into truth when you have no truth in you...
- 6. You are hypocrites because you care more about the religious rules of giving than you do about the heart of God, which is much more important. God cares more about justice and mercy and faith than money....
- 7. You do ritual washings so you look very holy to others, but on the inside your character is completely possessed with taking from others to satisfy your self-indulgent nature.
- 8. Looking at you is like standing in a beautiful cemetery. Everything on the outside is appealing to the eyes, and you make every effort to make sure that is all people notice. Because, if they stop and consider, even for a moment, where they are, they would realize they are surrounded by dead people...
- 9. You are guilty of eliminating anyone who dares to expose you, just as your religious ancestors did. But you are masters at *gaslighting, because although you are just like those hypocrites, you look back into history at those who habitually assassinated anyone who exposed religious hypocrisy, and you shout,

- "Those people were bad; don't be like that; instead be like us, we are good!"
- a) *Gaslighting means to manipulate someone by psychological means into questioning their own take on reality, even their own sanity.

B. Be Salty

- (1) Covenant of Salt (See <u>The Best of the Best</u> for an extensive teaching on this subject.)
 - (a) Salt brings flavor and preserves food: if it loses its character, what use is it? Your sacrifices need to be seasoned with salt! As a matter of fact, you are that salt. And if salt loses its inherent properties it is useless.Likewise, if a believer does not possess the necessary character traits of a believer, he is useless. Actually, he is less than useless!
 - 1. "And every offering of your grain offering you shall season with salt; you shall not allow the salt of the covenant of your God to be lacking from your grain offering. With all your offerings you shall offer salt." Leviticus 2:13 NKJV
 - 2. ""You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot

by men. "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:13-16 NKJV

- 3. ""Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, but men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"" Luke 14:34-35 NKJV
- (b) Y'shua's teaching about salt in Luke is preceded by His interpretation of what it takes to be a disciple. (Read Luke 14:25-33)
 - 1. Relative hate for anyone in comparison to what it is like to love Him...
 - 2. Relative hate for his own life in comparison to your love for Him...
 - 3. You must carry your own cross and chase after Him...
 - 4. You must count the cost of discipleship...
 - 5. That cost...you must forsake everything, even your own life, if necessary, to be His disciple!

- (c) The covenant of salt has beautiful imagery for Christianity. The notion of an enduring covenant—one that continues through all generations. Salt is a picture of covenants that endure perpetually. They are resistant to decay, because of the use of salt as a preservative.
 - 1. ""All the heave offerings of the holy things, which the children of Israel offer to the Lord, I have given to you and your sons and daughters with you as an ordinance forever; it is a covenant of salt forever before the Lord with you and your descendants with you."" Numbers 18:19 NKJV

(2) Saltiness!

- (a) In the Sermon on the Mount, Y'shua outlines the life of a "living sacrifice disciple." In the end He refers to what it means to be seasoned with salt! (See Matthew 5:1-12)
 - 1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven...
 - 2. Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted...
 - 3. Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth...
 - 4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled...

- 5. Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy...
- 6. Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God...
- 7. Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God...
- 8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven...
- 9. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you!
- (b) What good is your convent if it does not endure? Salt is not salt if it is not salty!
 - 1. ""You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the

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- (c) What does salty believe? Salty believes in radical, faith-based, grace-empowered obedience to God! Don't be one of those hypocrites, "...do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do. (Matthew 23:3)
 - 1. ""Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:17-20 NKJV

C. Be Responsible!

(1) Hold Other Accountable!

- (a) If you are witness to one of these "say, and do not do" types, it is incumbent upon you to hold them accountable and to say something about it!
 - "If a person sins in hearing the utterance of an oath, and is a witness, whether he has seen or known of the matter—if he does not tell it, he bears guilt." Leviticus 5:1 NKJV
 - 2. "'Or if a person swears, speaking thoughtlessly with his lips to do evil or to do good, whatever it is that a man may pronounce by an oath, and he is unaware of it—when he realizes it, then he shall be guilty in any of these matters. 'And it shall be, when he is guilty in any of these matters, that he shall confess that he has sinned in that thing;" Leviticus 5:4-5 NKJV
 - For an extensive teaching about making oaths and the importance of your yes being a yes, see: <u>Vows</u> and <u>Vanity</u>
 - 2. And for an excellent teaching on the power of words and why words matter, see: The Treasures of the Heart

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QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

1. Yahweh desires to reprogram your DNA to align with all things Godly.

A. Write a personal statement about how that can happen using the following guidelines. (Hint: Psalms 119:11; Hebrews 4:12; Psalms 1:2-3; Philippians 4:8-9; I Thessalonians 5:16-22)

2. We must be sensitive to God's voice...

- A. Use Matthew 7:24-29 to describe two opposing responses to God's voice.
- B. Why is it important to listen carefully? (Hint: I Kings 19:11-12)

- C. Use Luke 10:38-42 to describe two opposing approaches to your service for God.
- D. How can we be certain that hearing and obeying God's voice will alway be a benefit? (Hint: Isaiah 55:11)

3. Y'shua teaches us in Luke 10:38-42 that Mary chose what was better...

- A. Compare Mary's choice in Luke 10:38-42 to Paul's admonition in Romans 12:1-2.
- B. How do Paul's words about the "living sacrifice" come to life when considering the various elements of the burnt offering? (See: Leviticus 1:10-13, 6:8-13)
- C. Describe a life of sacrifice for a Christian using Galatians 2:20 and I Corinthians 6:19-20.

4. Paul continues in his letter to the Romans by describing what it looks like to be a "living sacrifice" Christian:

- A. Describe the roles that faith and grace play in making this possible. (See Romans 12:3-8)
- B. Describe the character traits of a "living sacrifice" Christian using Romans 12:9-21.
- C. Describe the diversity of gifts and appointments available for Christians in I Corinthians 12:1-31.
- D. Describe the various church offices and what they are intended to accomplish using Ephesians 4:11-16.

- 5. Romans 12:3-5 gives us a hint about Paul's view of how each person is to fill their proper role in the church.
 - A. Review I Corinthians 12:12-31 again and describe in your own words the analogy Paul uses to teach us how the church is intended to function.
- 6. The Bible is replete with examples that demonstrate and contrast a "living sacrifice" life with a life of "alternative service." (Review Luke 10:38-42)
 - A. Use the following to describe the choices and outcomes for those who chose the life "distracted by the world" as opposed the life at the "feet of the Lord." (See: I Kings 12:25-33, 13:1-3, 18:19-40; II Kings 1:9-14)
- 7. Again, there is excellent relevant imagery for the Christian when we observe the rules for various sacrifices and offerings...
 - A. What is the relevance of keeping the leaven out of your offerings? (See: Leviticus 2:11; Galatians 5:7-9; Luke 12:1-2, Matthew 16:5-12)
 - B. Read Matthew 23 and describe all the "woes of leaven."
- 8. Offerings to the Lord are to be seasoned with salt (See: Leviticus 2:13; Numbers 18:19)
 - A. How is this command about salt relevant to Y'shua's teaching in the Sermon on the Mount? (See Matthew 5:1-16)

- B. How is the hypocrisy of Matthew 23:3 related to Y'shua's punctuation after His comment on saltiness in Matthew 5:17-20?
- C. How is this command about salt relevant to Y'shua's teaching about a true disciple? (Luke 14:25-35)
- 9. What is your responsibility in holding others accountable for their words and promises? (See Leviticus 5:1-5)