## an Offering and a Sacrifice

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"Be you therefore imitators of God, as dear children; and walk in love, as also the Christ has loved us, and gave-up Himself for us an **Offering and a Sacrifice** to God into a sweet smelling aroma." (Ephesians 5:1-2)

**Offering:** from the greek word *prosphoran* (*prosphora*) which means: an offering; <u>that</u> which is offered, as a sacrifice for sin, or as a gift of thanksgiving, etc. .

**Sacrifice:** from the greek word *thysian* (*thysia*) which means: a sacrifice whether slain or not, an official sacrifice prescribed by God; hence a sacrificial offering that God accepts because it is offered on His terms. May also refer to various forms of Old Covenant blood sacrifices.

Jesus is the Fathers' promised Savior Messiah who Offered Himself up as the Fathers prescribed <u>unblemished **Sacrifice**</u> for the forgiveness of sin, 'once' and continually for all time. Jesus became The **Offering** of eternal redemption <u>for all people</u>! Consider these passages from the the Letter to the Hebrews:

"But this Man, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. Therefore He is able also to save those (us) to the uttermost who come unto God through Him, since He lives forever to make intercession for them (us). For such a High Priest He became for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's; <u>for this He did once,</u> <u>when He Offered up Himself</u>. For the law makes men high priests who are weak; but the word of the oath, which came after the law, <u>makes the Son (Jesus), consecrated</u> <u>for evermore</u>." (Hebrews 7:24-28)

"Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle (the Holy-place...), accomplishing the service of God. But into the second (the Most Holy-place...) went the high priest **alone once** every year, and not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people. The Holy Spirit is signifying this, that the way into the Most Holy-place was not yet made manifest, while the first tabernacle was still standing; which is a symbol for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him who did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; which stood only in meats and drinks, and diverse washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation. But when Christ came as a High Priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; nor by the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood (through His death on the Cross) He entered in 'once' into the Holy-place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies to the purifying of the flesh; how much more shall the Blood of Christ, who through the Eternal Spirit Offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (Hebrews 9:6-14)

"... But now <u>once</u> in the consummation of the ages He has appeared to put away sin through the **Sacrfice of Himself**. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment; <u>so Christ was **Offered once** to bear the sins of many</u>; and unto those who eagerly-await for Him, He shall appear the second time, apart-from sin, unto salvation" (from harm, from tribulation wrath). (Hebrews 9:26-28)

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"For the law being a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of those things, can never with the sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make perfect those who come near. For then they would not have ceased to be offered, because the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance made again of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Therefore when He comes into the world, He says, 'Sacrifice and offering You desired not; but a body You have prepared for Me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You have had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of Me,) to do Your will, O God.' Above when He said, 'Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein;' which are offered by the law; then He says, 'Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.' He takes away the first, so that He may establish the second. By this 'will' we are sanctified through the Offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest stands daily ministering and oftentimes offering the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But this Man, after He had Offered one Sacrifice for sins continuously, sat down in the right hand of God; from that time onward waiting until His enemies are made His footstool. For by **One Offering (Himself) He has perfected continuously** those who are sanctified." (Hebrews 10:1-14)

Finally, consider this concerning Jesus:

"He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, and yet He opened not His mouth. He was brought <u>as a lamb to the slaughter</u>, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He opened not His mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment; and who shall declare His generation? For He was cut off out of the land of the living; and for the transgression of My people was He stricken. And His grave was made with the wicked, and with the rich in His death; although He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth. <u>Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him</u>; and He (the Father) has put Him (Jesus) to grief; when His Soul shall make His soul <u>an Offering for sin</u>, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall <u>My Righteous Servant (Jesus) justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities</u>. Therefore will I allot for Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong; because He has poured out His soul unto death; and He was numbered with the transgressors. (Isaiah 53:7-12)

## JESUS is...

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Jesus offered Himself as a Sacrifice on the Cross to the Father, a Sweet and Fragrant Offering given up to the Father for <u>our</u> Salvation from sin! For the Joy set before Himself, and because it also pleased the father, Jesus endured the Cross for <u>you</u> and for <u>me</u> !!!

Father in Heaven, how wonderful you are to give Your Beloved Son Jesus to be an Offering and a Sacrifice for our eternal sanctification!!

All Praise, and Glory, and Honor to You my Father, and to You Jesus my Savior!!