

## **Spiritual Sacrifices**

**Text: 1 Peter 2:5**

### **Introduction**

In the Old Testament, God's people were instructed to offer sacrifices of certain animals and natural products and to employ the ministry of an especially selected priesthood. But in the New Testament, God has provided a "new way" (Hebrews 10:19,20) whereby every follower of Christ can both offer spiritual sacrifices and be his own priest.

### **Message**

#### **1. The spiritual sacrifices listed in the Bible are:**

- a. a broken spirit (Psalm 51:17).
- b. a broken and contrite heart (Psalm 51:17).
- c. a body consecrated to God (Romans 12:1).
- d. vocal praise to the Lord (Hebrews 13:15).
- e. doing good and sharing with others (Hebrews 13:16).

#### **2. The spiritual sacrifices are ministered:**

- a. by a "spiritual house" or temple (1 Peter 2:5; compare Ephesians 2:20–22; 1 Corinthians 3:16).
- b. by a "holy priesthood" (1 Peter 2:5).
- c. by a "royal priesthood" (1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:5,6).

#### **3. The spiritual sacrifices are made acceptable to God by Jesus Christ and His shed blood (1 Peter 2:5; Revelation 1:5, 5:9,10).**

### **Conclusion**

All Christians should recognize their position as members of a spiritual priesthood and seek His help in offering spiritual sacrifices.

F. Helen Jarvis