

**The Duties of Faith
(Chapters 12 & 13)**

Sacrifice (10-16)

-Allusion to the procedures for the purification (sin) offering (Lev 4:1-5:13)

-This offering signified the removal of impurity from the community (Lev 4:1-21) and from individuals (Lev 4:22-35).

-The purification offerings of the community could not be eaten by the priests; instead, they had to be taken outside the camp and burned (Ex 29:14; Lev 4:11-12, 20-21; 6:30; 16:27)

-The blood from those offerings was brought into the tabernacle and sprinkled before the veil that separated the holy place from the most holy place—the holy of holies (Lev 4:5-7).

-The Day of Atonement followed similar procedures, except the high priest brought the blood all the way into the holy of holies (Lev 16:11-16).

God of Peace

-Rom 15:33; 16:20
 -2Co 13:11
 -Phil 4:9
 -1Th 5:23

Saints = Believers
 (Not Dead Christians)
 *Rom 1:7, I Cor 1:2,
 II Cor 1:1, Eph 1:1,
 Col 1:2

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The Greater Response (Chapters 11 to 13)

¹⁰We have an **altar** from which **those who serve the tent** have **no right to eat**. ¹¹For the bodies of **those animals** whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned **outside the camp**. ¹²So **Jesus also suffered outside the gate** in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Therefore **let us go to him** outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the **city that is to come**.

Jesus is outside the camp of Judaism (self)...remaining within the camp will separate them (us) from Christ.

¹⁵**Through him** then let us **continually** offer up a **sacrifice of praise to God**, that is, the **fruit of lips** that acknowledge his name. <- It is through Jesus and not the Jewish priests that men offer to God acceptable sacrifice.

(2) (3)

¹⁶Do not neglect to **do good** and to **share what you have**, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Submission (17)

¹⁷**Obey your leaders and submit to them**, for they are **keeping watch over your souls**, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with **joy** and not with **groaning**, for that would be of no advantage to you. <- Acts 20:28-30

Supplications (18-21)

¹⁸**Pray for us**, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. ¹⁹I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be **restored to you the sooner**. ²⁰Now may the **God of peace** who brought again from the dead our **Lord Jesus, the great shepherd** of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, ²¹**equip you with everything good** that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

²²I appeal to you, brothers, bear with my word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly. ²³You should know that our brother **Timothy** has been released, with whom I shall see you if he comes soon. ²⁴Greet all your leaders and all the **saints**. Those who come from Italy send you greetings. ²⁵**Grace be with all of you**. <- Similar to Paul's typical conclusion

1 Co 16:23; Col 4:18

Altar - Christ's death as sacrifice. This symbolic altar fulfills the purpose of the sacrificial altar under the old law.

"those who serve the tent" - Priests and at the tabernacle

"Jesus also..."

Refers the crucifixion, which occurred just outside Jerusalem (Jn 19:17-20)

"city that is to come" Refers to the heavenly Jerusalem (Heb 11:10, 14, 16)

Our Sacrifices

(1) Praise to God

Can we describe the praises we offer to God as "sacrificial?"

Continually - Not just at set times like in Judaism.

-1Th 5:18

(2) Do Good

(3) Share What You have

κοινωνία
 (koinōnía)

Restored

-Implies that the author had once been part of their community.

"great shepherd..."

-The Messiah is depicted as a shepherd

*Isa 40:11; 63:11

*Ezek 34:1-31

*John 10:11, 14

*1 Pet 2:25; 5:4

Hebrews Chapter 13 - Questions for Discussion

What is the altar spoken of in Hebrews 13:10?

What comparison is made between Christ and the body of animals? (vv. 11-12)

What is the significance of Christ “suffering outside the gate?” (v. 12)

What is the appeal to these readers when he says to “go to Him, outside the camp?” (v. 13)

What is the “sacrifice of praise” in Hebrews 13:15? According to this passage, what types of sacrifices can will please God? Apply this specifically to our daily lives. (vv. 15-16; Rom 12:1)

Who are the “leaders” described in verse 17? Are they the same leaders as in verse seven?

What did the Hebrew writer request in Hebrews 13:18?

How did the Hebrew writer desire to live? (v. 18)

Who is the “great Shepherd of the sheep?” (v. 20)

What is the “blood of the eternal covenant?” (v. 20)

What would make us “well pleasing” in the sight of God? (v. 21)

What appeal did the writer Hebrews make in his closing words? (v. 22)

Teacher's Notes

Purification / Sin Offering

Exodus 29:14 (ESV)

¹⁴ But the flesh of the bull and its skin and its dung you shall burn with fire outside the camp; it is a sin offering.

Leviticus 4:1–5:13 (ESV)

¹ And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ² “Speak to the people of Israel, saying, If anyone sins unintentionally in any of the LORD’s commandments about things not to be done, and does any one of them, ³ if it is the anointed priest who sins, thus bringing guilt on the people, then he shall offer for the sin that he has committed a bull from the herd without blemish to the LORD for a sin offering. ⁴ He shall bring the bull to the entrance of the tent of meeting before the LORD and lay his hand on the head of the bull and kill the bull before the LORD. ⁵ And the anointed priest shall take some of the blood of the bull and bring it into the tent of meeting, ⁶ and the priest shall dip his finger in the blood and sprinkle part of the blood seven times before the LORD in front of the veil of the sanctuary. ⁷ And the priest shall put some of the blood on the horns of the altar of fragrant incense before the LORD that is in the tent of meeting, and all the rest of the blood of the bull he shall pour out at the base of the altar of burnt offering that is at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ⁸ And all the fat of the bull of the sin offering he shall remove from it, the fat that covers the entrails and all the fat that is on the entrails ⁹ and the two kidneys with the fat that is on them at the loins and the long lobe of the liver that he shall remove with the kidneys ¹⁰ (just as these are taken from the ox of the sacrifice of the peace offerings); and the priest shall burn them on the altar of burnt offering. ¹¹ But the skin of the bull and all its flesh, with its head, its legs, its entrails, and its dung— ¹² all the rest of the bull—he shall carry outside the camp to a clean place, to the ash heap, and shall burn it up on a fire of wood. On the ash heap it shall be burned up.

¹³ “If the whole congregation of Israel sins unintentionally and the thing is hidden from the eyes of the assembly, and they do any one of the things that by the LORD’s commandments ought not to be done, and they realize their guilt, ¹⁴ when the sin which they have committed becomes known, the assembly shall offer a bull from the herd for a sin offering and bring it in front of the tent of meeting. ¹⁵ And the elders of the congregation shall lay their hands on the head of the bull before the LORD, and the bull shall be killed before the LORD. ¹⁶ Then the anointed priest shall bring some of the blood of the bull into the tent of meeting, ¹⁷ and the priest shall dip his finger in the blood and sprinkle it seven times before the LORD in front of the veil. ¹⁸ And he shall put some of the blood on the horns of the altar that is in the tent of meeting before the LORD, and the rest of the blood he shall pour out at the base of the altar of burnt offering that is at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ¹⁹ And all its fat he shall take from it and burn on

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the altar. ²⁰ Thus shall he do with the bull. As he did with the bull of the sin offering, so shall he do with this. And the priest shall make atonement for them, and they shall be forgiven. ²¹ And he shall carry the bull outside the camp and burn it up as he burned the first bull; it is the sin offering for the assembly.

²² “When a leader sins, doing unintentionally any one of all the things that by the commandments of the LORD his God ought not to be done, and realizes his guilt, ²³ or the sin which he has committed is made known to him, he shall bring as his offering a goat, a male without blemish, ²⁴ and shall lay his hand on the head of the goat and kill it in the place where they kill the burnt offering before the LORD; it is a sin offering. ²⁵ Then the priest shall take some of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering and pour out the rest of its blood at the base of the altar of burnt offering. ²⁶ And all its fat he shall burn on the altar, like the fat of the sacrifice of peace offerings. So the priest shall make atonement for him for his sin, and he shall be forgiven.

²⁷ “If anyone of the common people sins unintentionally in doing any one of the things that by the LORD’s commandments ought not to be done, and realizes his guilt, ²⁸ or the sin which he has committed is made known to him, he shall bring for his offering a goat, a female without blemish, for his sin which he has committed. ²⁹ And he shall lay his hand on the head of the sin offering and kill the sin offering in the place of burnt offering. ³⁰ And the priest shall take some of its blood with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering and pour out all the rest of its blood at the base of the altar. ³¹ And all its fat he shall remove, as the fat is removed from the peace offerings, and the priest shall burn it on the altar for a pleasing aroma to the LORD. And the priest shall make atonement for him, and he shall be forgiven.

³² “If he brings a lamb as his offering for a sin offering, he shall bring a female without blemish ³³ and lay his hand on the head of the sin offering and kill it for a sin offering in the place where they kill the burnt offering. ³⁴ Then the priest shall take some of the blood of the sin offering with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering and pour out all the rest of its blood at the base of the altar. ³⁵ And all its fat he shall remove as the fat of the lamb is removed from the sacrifice of peace offerings, and the priest shall burn it on the altar, on top of the LORD’s food offerings. And the priest shall make atonement for him for the sin which he has committed, and he shall be forgiven.

¹ “If anyone sins in that he hears a public adjuration to testify, and though he is a witness, whether he has seen or come to know the matter, yet does not speak, he shall bear his iniquity; ² or if anyone touches an unclean thing, whether a carcass of an unclean wild animal or a carcass of unclean livestock or a carcass of unclean swarming things, and it is hidden from him and he has become unclean, and he realizes his guilt; ³ or if he touches human uncleanness, of whatever sort the uncleanness may be with which one becomes unclean, and it is hidden from him, when he comes to know it, and realizes his guilt; ⁴ or if anyone utters with his lips a rash oath to do evil or to do good, any sort of rash oath that people swear, and it is hidden from him, when he comes to

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know it, and he realizes his guilt in any of these;⁵ when he realizes his guilt in any of these and confesses the sin he has committed,⁶ he shall bring to the LORD as his compensation for the sin that he has committed, a female from the flock, a lamb or a goat, for a sin offering. And the priest shall make atonement for him for his sin.

⁷ “But if he cannot afford a lamb, then he shall bring to the LORD as his compensation for the sin that he has committed two turtledoves or two pigeons, one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering.⁸ He shall bring them to the priest, who shall offer first the one for the sin offering. He shall wring its head from its neck but shall not sever it completely,⁹ and he shall sprinkle some of the blood of the sin offering on the side of the altar, while the rest of the blood shall be drained out at the base of the altar; it is a sin offering.¹⁰ Then he shall offer the second for a burnt offering according to the rule. And the priest shall make atonement for him for the sin that he has committed, and he shall be forgiven.

¹¹ “But if he cannot afford two turtledoves or two pigeons, then he shall bring as his offering for the sin that he has committed a tenth of an ephah of fine flour for a sin offering. He shall put no oil on it and shall put no frankincense on it, for it is a sin offering.¹² And he shall bring it to the priest, and the priest shall take a handful of it as its memorial portion and burn this on the altar, on the LORD’s food offerings; it is a sin offering.¹³ Thus the priest shall make atonement for him for the sin which he has committed in any one of these things, and he shall be forgiven. And the remainder shall be for the priest, as in the grain offering.”

Leviticus 6:30 (ESV)

³⁰ But no sin offering shall be eaten from which any blood is brought into the tent of meeting to make atonement in the Holy Place; it shall be burned up with fire.

Leviticus 16:11–16 (ESV)

¹¹ “Aaron shall present the bull as a sin offering for himself, and shall make atonement for himself and for his house. He shall kill the bull as a sin offering for himself.¹² And he shall take a censer full of coals of fire from the altar before the LORD, and two handfuls of sweet incense beaten small, and he shall bring it inside the veil¹³ and put the incense on the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that is over the testimony, so that he does not die.¹⁴ And he shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the front of the mercy seat on the east side, and in front of the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times.

¹⁵ “Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, sprinkling it over the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat.¹⁶ Thus he shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleannesses of the people of Israel and because of their transgressions, all their sins. And so he shall do for the tent of meeting, which dwells with them in the midst of their uncleannesses.

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Leviticus 16:27 (ESV)

²⁷ And the bull for the sin offering and the goat for the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the Holy Place, shall be carried outside the camp. Their skin and their flesh and their dung shall be burned up with fire.

“Jesus also...”

John 19:17–20 (ESV)

¹⁷ and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹ Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek.

“city that is to come”

Hebrews 11:10 (ESV)

¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

Hebrews 11:14 (ESV)

¹⁴ For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

Hebrews 11:16 (ESV)

¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

Share What You Have

3126 κοινωνία (*koinōnia*), ας (*as*), ἡ (*hē*): n.fem.; ≡ Str 2842; TDNT 3.797—**1.** LN 34.5 **fellowship**, close mutual association (1Jn 1:3; 1Co 1:9); **2.** LN 57.98 **share**, participation (2Co 8:4); **3.** LN 57.101 **willing contribution**, gift (Ro 15:26+)¹

¹ Swanson, J. (1997). [Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek \(New Testament\)](#) (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

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Leaders

Acts 20:28–30 (ESV)

²⁸ Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.

1 Thessalonians 2:20 (ESV)

²⁰ For you are our glory and joy.

3 John 4 (ESV)

⁴ I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

God of Peace

Romans 15:33 (ESV)

³³ May the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

Romans 16:20 (ESV)

²⁰ The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

2 Corinthians 13:11 (ESV)

¹¹ Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Philippians 4:9 (ESV)

⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 (ESV)

²³ Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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“great shepherd...”

Isaiah 40:11 (ESV)

¹¹ He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

Isaiah 63:11 (ESV)

¹¹ Then he remembered the days of old,
of Moses and his people.
Where is he who brought them up out of the sea
with the shepherds of his flock?
Where is he who put in the midst of them
his Holy Spirit,

Ezekiel 34:1–31 (ESV)

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy, and say to them, even to the shepherds, Thus says the Lord GOD: Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? ³ You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat ones, but you do not feed the sheep. ⁴ The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the injured you have not bound up, the strayed you have not brought back, the lost you have not sought, and with force and harshness you have ruled them. ⁵ So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd, and they became food for all the wild beasts. My sheep were scattered; ⁶ they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. My sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with none to search or seek for them.

⁷ “Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: ⁸ As I live, declares the Lord GOD, surely because my sheep have become a prey, and my sheep have become food for all the wild beasts, since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves, and have not fed my sheep, ⁹ therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: ¹⁰ Thus says the Lord GOD, Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require my sheep at their hand and put a stop to their feeding the sheep. No longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, that they may not be food for them.

¹¹ “For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and

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in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶ I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

¹⁷ “As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸ Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹ And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

²⁰ “Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹ Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²² I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³ And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.

²⁵ “I will make with them a covenant of peace and banish wild beasts from the land, so that they may dwell securely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods. ²⁶ And I will make them and the places all around my hill a blessing, and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing. ²⁷ And the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield its increase, and they shall be secure in their land. And they shall know that I am the LORD, when I break the bars of their yoke, and deliver them from the hand of those who enslaved them. ²⁸ They shall no more be a prey to the nations, nor shall the beasts of the land devour them. They shall dwell securely, and none shall make them afraid. ²⁹ And I will provide for them renowned plantations so that they shall no more be consumed with hunger in the land, and no longer suffer the reproach of the nations. ³⁰ And they shall know that I am the LORD their God with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are my people, declares the Lord GOD. ³¹ And you are my sheep, human sheep of my pasture, and I am your God, declares the Lord GOD.”

John 10:11 (ESV)

¹¹ I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 10:14 (ESV)

¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,

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1 Peter 2:25 (ESV)

²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

1 Peter 5:4 (ESV)

⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Saints

Romans 1:7 (ESV)

⁷ To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:2 (ESV)

² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

2 Corinthians 1:2 (ESV)

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 1:1 (ESV)

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

Colossians 1:2 (ESV)

² To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

Similar to Paul's typical conclusion

1 Corinthians 16:23 (ESV)

²³ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

Colossians 4:18 (ESV)

¹⁸ I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you.