

## Sacrifices of Praise

### *Hebrews 13:9 - 21*

Devotional Reading: Psalm 146

Background Scripture: Hebrews 13:1 - 21

**LESSON AIMS:** the students will:

- **Match** elements of the old covenant with their new covenant counterparts
- **Identify** some ways that the new covenant is unlike the old covenant while being an extension of it
- **Make a list** of ways that he or she can improve on being a "sacrifice of praise"

**INTRODUCTION:** Since their conversion to Christianity, the early Christians had been exposed to persecution which included public abuse, imprisonment and even the looting of their property. Circumstances were dire, but they had not yet been called upon to die for their faith. Some had begun to regress in their faith walk. In their opinion, it was easier to stay with a religion that was protected under Roman law. The writer of this Epistle warned his readers of the danger of forsaking Jesus.

**KEY VERSE:** *<sup>15</sup> By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.* Hebrews 13:15

#### **LESSON:**

Great Changes

Hebrews 13:9 - 14

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Great Sacrifice

verses 15 - 19

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**Summary:** Many early Christians - - both Jews and Gentiles - - clung to Old Testament ritualistic observances. The author of Hebrews encouraged them to see that these former rituals of daily sacrifice are inferior to the sacrifice of Jesus. Jesus' death recalls the old system of animal sacrifices. Now, followers of Christ offer a "sacrifice of praise" back to God. We offer sacrifices of praise as a public confession as we profess His name and follow Him. We also offer Him sacrifices when we do good and share with others.

### Questions:

1. *Fight, flight, or freeze - - which action should you take when in the presence of false doctrine?*
2. *How should your prayers for church leaders differ from prayers for civic leaders?*
3. *Who can you help this week to be better equipped for the Lord's tasks?*

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### Hebrews 13:9 - 21

DAY / DATE	SCRIPTURE	
Mon., Aug. 18 <sup>th</sup>	Return to the Lord	Joel 2:12 – 17
Tue., Aug. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Faith Without Works is Dead	James 2:14 – 26
Wed., Aug. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Everlasting Reign	Psalms 146
Thurs., Aug. 21 <sup>st</sup>	A New Song	Psalms 149 – 150
Fri., Aug. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Teach Us to Pray	Luke 11:1 – 13
Sat., Aug. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Practice Deeds of Mutual Love	Hebrews 13:1 – 8
Sun., Aug. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Offer Sacrifices of Praise	Hebrews 12:9 - 21