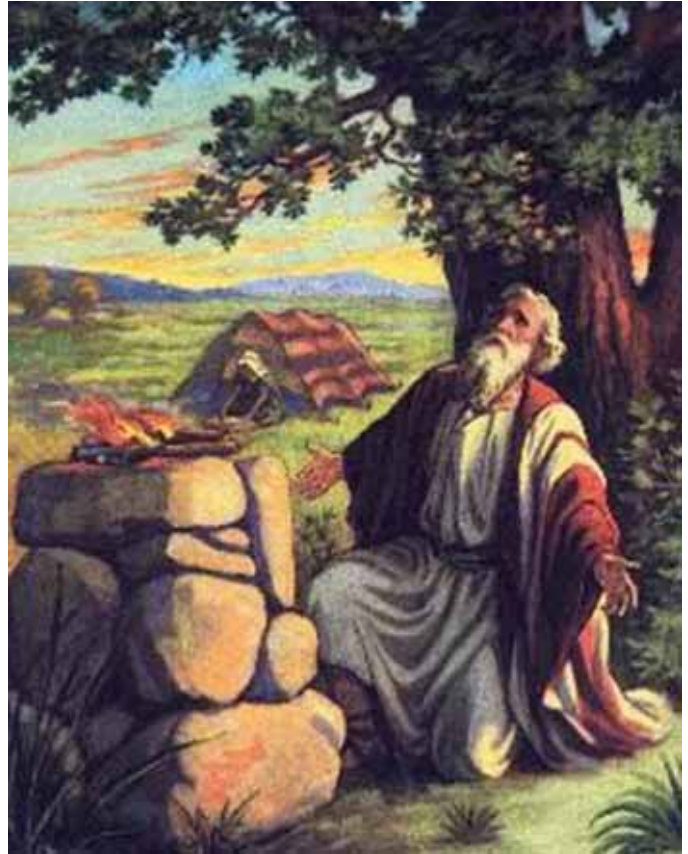


"And the LORD Appeared unto Abram, and Said, 'Unto thy seed will I Give this land.' And There Buildd He An Altar unto the LORD, Who Appeared unto him." Genesis 12:7 KJV



Altars are a place of sacrifice. Sacrifice is costly. If not, it isn't sacrifice. Offerings are good, but are not sacrifice. Sacrifice is painful giving! Jesus Gave His Life Sacrificially Upon Calvary for us! *"Whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but Have Everlasting Life!"* No pain, no remembrance. Pain etches a memorial forever in our hearts. Ask any grieving loved one if they can forget! God's Word doesn't tell us what Abraham sacrificed, but scripture teaches us, sacrifices required the shedding of blood. Death is a complete separation! God used the death of innocent animals to portray total separation. Blood was required for sin to be forgiven. Life for life. Blood is life. Try living without it! David needed a threshing floor for sacrifice and the owner tried to make a gift of it to the king. David answered, *"Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing."* If we do not forsake sin, we've made no sacrifice. God rewards men with His presence. *"In Thy Presence Is Fulness Of Joy; At Thy Right Hand There Are Pleasures For Evermore."* Don't expect God to meet you if you cling to sin! God abhors sin! If we forsake it, He Forgives And Cleanses. *"If we confess our sins, He Is Faithful And Just To Forgive us our sins, and to Cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* Prayer is time for new beginnings! *"Sin doth so easily beset us,"* so we need prayer often!

When God requires a sacrifice,
An offering will not suffice,
No sacrifice is giv'n today,
But God abundantly repays. –CGP

In Matthew 6:9-13, Jesus gave a specific order for prayer, but no time limit. He outlines prayer as: Praise, Worship, Daily needs, Confession of Sin, Forgiveness of others, Requests, Praise, and Worship. Time is one of our most precious commodities. Time spent in prayer, is giving of time to God. Time is life. One thing we need never forget; "You cannot outgive God." Time is perhaps one of the greatest sacrifices we give God. Altar building takes time. God will not meet you without sacrifice. *"Present your bodies a Living Sacrifice, Holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and Perfect, Will of God."* A young minister asked an older, "How do I get the Power of God in my life?" The older man said, "Follow me." And walked out the door into the woods. They came to a deep stream. He waded in and motioned the young man to follow. In the middle, he suddenly grabbed the young man and held him thrashing under water! Finally he let him up gasping for air saying, "When you desire God as much as you desired that breath of air, you will know His Power!" Have you ever tried to outgive God? Maybe you should give it a try. It will gloriously delight you!

"I Am Come that they might Have Life, and that they might Have It More Abundantly." John 10:10b KJV