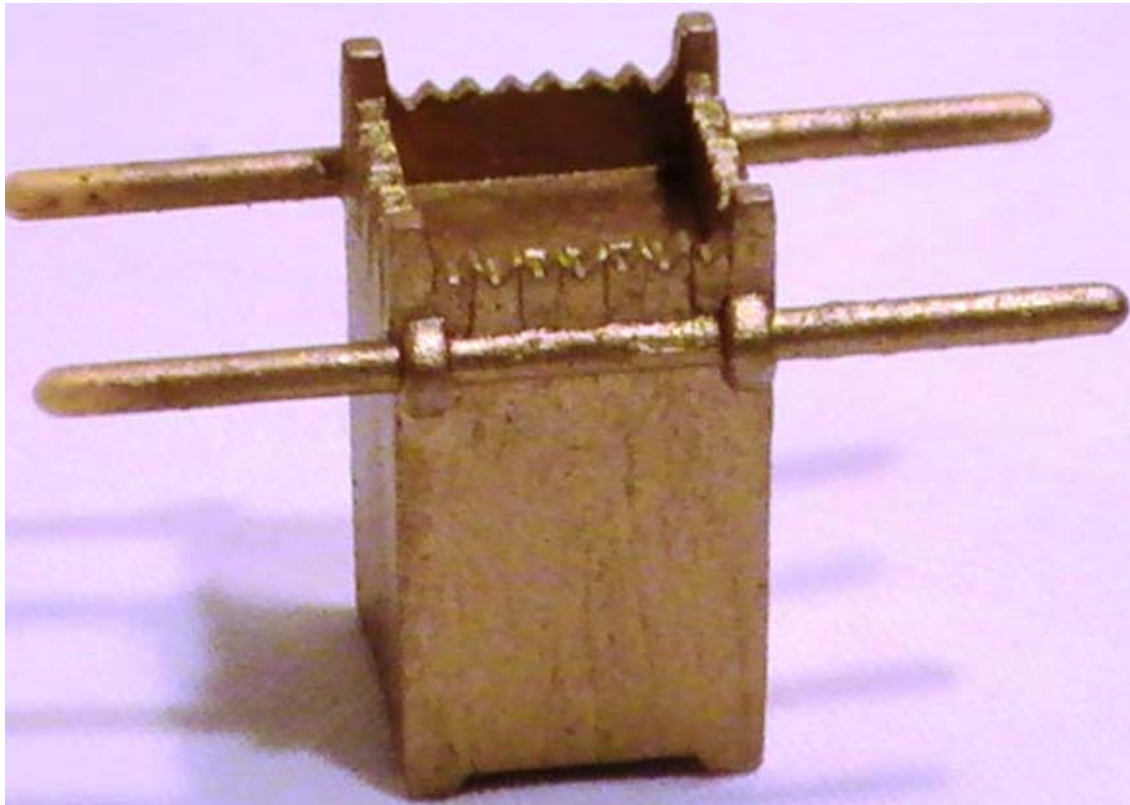


- OUR BODIES AS SACRIFICE TO GOD
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10

THE  
GOLDEN  
ALTAR OF  
INCENSE



**Exodus 30:1** And thou shalt make an altar to burn incense upon: of acacia wood shalt thou make it. A cubit shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof; foursquare shall it be; and two cubits shall be the height thereof: the horns thereof shall be of one piece with it. **3** And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, the top thereof, and the sides thereof round about, and the horns thereof; and thou shalt make unto it a crown of gold round about. **4** And two golden rings shalt thou make for it under the crown thereof; upon the two ribs thereof, upon the two sides of it shalt thou make them; and they shall be for places for staves wherewith to bear it. **5** And thou shalt make the staves of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold. **6** And thou shalt put it before the veil that is by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy-seat that is over the testimony, where I will meet with thee. **7** And Aaron shall burn thereon incense of sweet spices: every morning, when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn it. **8** And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn it, a perpetual incense before Jehovah throughout your generations. **9** Ye shall offer no strange incense thereon, nor burnt-offering, nor meal-offering; and ye shall pour no drink-offering thereon. **10** And Aaron shall make atonement upon the horns of it once in the year; with the blood of the sin-offering of atonement once in the year shall he make atonement for it throughout your generations: it is most holy unto Jehovah. (ASV)

Moving towards God's presence beyond the veil we meet the golden altar of incense just before the veil. It was made of pure gold signifying divine or eternal in the heavens. God instructed the High priest of Israel to continuously burn incense to the Lord on the altar of incense; we can find this in **Exodus 30: 7 – 8**. The High Priest was also instructed to put atonement blood on the four horns of the altar once a year; we read this in **Exodus 30:10**.

## **OUR BODIES AS SACRIFICE UNTO GOD.**

Sweet smelling incense was to be offered every morning to the Lord from the altar of incense. The sweet incense that was fashioned to please God would drift beyond the veil where God's presence was. God's uses all this to describe the ultimate sacrifice we are to make as true disciples of the Lord. It talks of sacrificing ourselves our bodies and souls unto the Lord; we must come to the place where we live unto the Lord. Paul talks of these things briefly in a letter to the Roman brethren [**Romans 12:1**].

At this point we have eaten of the bread and are abiding in the vine we know the will of the Lord we understand the hope of our calling. We now sacrifice our lives for the gospel so that we become bread unto the world; by doing this we reveal Christ in us to the world.

The burning of sweet incense as we saw from the scriptures was done in the mornings. This shows that only those who walk in the day can offer this sacrifice, those who sleep, sleep in the night and can't offer this sacrifice.

We are of the day when we practice righteousness and walk in obedience to the truth to the glory of the father. That is why the psalmist say's early in the morning I will arise and praise the Lord. As we arise from the Bed of ignorance, death and religion, we are able to understand that without Christ we are nothing, as we awake we realize that dying to ourselves and living to God is Life eternal.

The Lord by the revelation of His true word is waking us up in this hour that we may be able to be accepted on His golden altar of incense. As we sacrifice ourselves unto the Lord we are given access to God's dwelling place in the holies of holies.

## **PRAYERS TO BE HEARD ON HIGH**

Sacrificing ourselves is a form of Prayer unto the Lord, for those who seek to be heard on High by Him who created all things. An example of prayers going up from this golden alter is seen in the following revelation that John had on the island of Patmos.

## Revelations

8:3-4

**3 Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. And he was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. 4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.**

Our lives have to be a life of prayer unto the Lord, all our being must be directed by a life of one seeking to be heard on high. Prayers is not the vain repetitions we see in Churches, or religions today, all that babbling we see is part of the ignorance of religion. Prayers should be continuous and should come from within; this is one thing that will remain from age to Age.

The new dispensation that the saints are entering into is a realm of constant prayers and dependency on God. The full context of prayers is summarized in the Lord's Prayer, there is no point making vain repetitions in Public. **Now we are not preaching a doctrine here, so that no one forms a movement where it is forbidden to pray in public, saying I wrote this.**

## **THY WILL BE DONE**

Sacrificing ourselves is also the same as being married to the cross, because when we are married to the cross, we die to the world and ourselves. In dying to ourselves we reveal the Christ within us to the world. This is the one thing that is of the uttermost value to God and He has sworn that those who sacrifice their only soul and life for His name's sake and for the gospel will receive blessing from the Lord for ever and ever. It is then the Lord can demonstrate to the world that these are my sons in whom I am well pleased.

The Lord is pleased because we have obeyed Him and said not my will but your will be done in my life. It is only as we live and have our whole being in Him that the righteous laws of god can be fulfilled, without which no man can enter the kingdom [**Matthew 5:17-20**]. Many of the Prophets and righteous men of old before the appearing

of the Lord Jesus never attained to the place of total righteousness where they pleased God completely. The power to live that holy life pleasing to God is only available in Christ.

Jesus who is the pattern son demonstrated this before His ordeal on the Cross. While battling with His human nature on whether to go or not to go to the cross He constantly proclaimed thy will be done not mine. **[Luke 22:42-43]** We know the will of the Father is as many as see the Son and believe His testimony should be saved. God is saying here that as many as lay down their lives for Christ to reign in them, glorify God. The world sees the beauty and glory that is in Christ and is therefore saved when we obey Him by sacrificing our lives for His cause. This is the will of God. **[John 6:40]** The world must see the Christ in us revealed so that they may believe and be saved.

### **THE ALTAR AT MOUNT MORIAH**

Abraham as we all know was called out from among His people and told to go to a land the Lord will lead Him to. He was promised that He will be great and he will be a blessing to nations. His seed was to evolve into a mighty nation that will be a blessing to the whole world. After a long wait against hope He finally got a son as we all know.

We all know that Abraham got approval and blessing from God because He performed a sweet smelling sacrifice unto the Lord. He gave His son, His only son as a sacrifice to God on the altar. He believed God that the same God who called Him will make of Him a great nation and bless Him mightily. He believed that God is not a man that lies; He believed that if need be God could have raised His Son up from the Dead to fulfill His promise of making a nation out of Him. He mixed faith with works so that He executed the will of God to the letter. He was sincere in His thought that is why He left His servants below, at the feet of mount Moriah (A TYPE OF MOUNT ZION) so that they wouldn't stop Him. God stopped Him eventually, but by this very act, the Child was the Lord's from that moment onwards.

God was pleased and He swore for the first time ever that He will bless Abraham beyond comprehension. He also swore that in

Abraham's seed al nations of the earth will be blessed. [**Genesis 22:16 -18**]

If we are the children of Abraham by faith, we ought to act like He acted by laying down our lives, our only lives for Christ and the gospel. That is the only thing that of a truth can please God. This act is love revealed, because there is no greater love than laying down our lives so that the brethren might see the light and be saved. If we hold on to our lives in this world we walk in darkness, because our life in this world does not really exist. Our life in this world is a life outside God, and in this state we emit darkness. Laying down our lives on getting a revelation of our true inner identities in God from the foundation of the world is like illuminating the world with the truth.

Notice in the book of Revelations, when the angel opened the fifth seal John saw the souls of men that had been slain for the word of God and their testimony. These are the ones who have lost their identities for the gospel of God's kingdom and are waiting to be glorified from above. [**Revelations 6:9-12**]. They have lost their heads and put on the head of the Christ, so that t is no longer their will but His will in their lives.

The very act of losing of heads (Our mind and self will) for glorious service unto God is the greatest thing that a man can do. Apart from pleasing God you become a savior in Christ unto the whole world. Those who hear this message and obey it by losing their life will enter in eternal favor and life with God, they will posses the gates of their enemies which is the gates of Hell. This reality is in the now not tomorrow when you die like religion says. Remember we all have the infinite possibility to enter into this blessed place of glory in God.

## JESUS AT THE ALTER OF INCENSE

**Mark 14:32-42**

**32 Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, "Sit here while I pray." 33 And He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed. 34 Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch." 35 He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. 36 And He said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will." 37 Then He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "Simon, are you sleeping? Could you not watch one hour? 38 Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit truly is willing, but the flesh is weak." 39 Again He went away and prayed, and spoke the same words. 40 And when He returned, He found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him. 41 Then He came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough! The hour has come; behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. 42 Rise up, let us go. See, My betrayer is at hand."**

Jesus had eaten at the table with His disciples; He talked about deep things on this table. He revealed the Father and their oneness with the Father according to the level of their understanding at that time. He told them to abide in the vine and continue in the feasting on the table in remembrance of the Father. He moved further, and passed into the next phase which is the phase of prayers and offering Himself to God. The spirit of God ordered the whole thing this way to reflect the order of things spiritually.

The step by step spiritual order into glory is summarized in the following steps.

**Jesus washed their feet which corresponds to the brazen laver, [John 13:3-12] He did this so that they could have a part in Christ. It is**

**sanctification and justification we get which causes us to enter into the kingdom of the dear son of the Father.**

**He then supped with them on the table in an upper room corresponding to the golden table in the Tabernacle [John 13].** It was in an upper room signifying it is a table set in the heavens in Christ. He told them secrets on this table, all with the intent of revealing the true Father and His love for them.

**He then talked to them about the vine and how we must abide in the vine [John 15]. This corresponds to the golden lamp stand.** Also he talked about the enlightenment from the spirit of God which was to come from above to teach us and guide us into the glorious age to come in Christ. The spirit is also given to us to cause us to behold and comprehend the love of the Father towards us. This corresponds to the seven lamps on the lamp stand.

**He then moved further into a place of intense prayer and watchfulness which corresponds to the altar of incense [Luke 22: 40-46].** It was here He warned His disciple not to sleep but be watchful and prayerful so that they do not fall into temptation. It was in the cause of this prayer that an angel was dispatched to Him to strengthen Him.

When He said pray against temptation, what He means is that after knowing the truth, beware of that which will seek to rob you of that truth and throw you back into darkness and bondage. The true knowledge of God that we heard on the table sets us free into the glorious liberty of God, but we have to guard it jealously by watching and praying so that we do not find ourselves outside of God's presence again.



After receiving the knowledge and understanding of that which is true we have to keep ourselves so that the wicked one does not touch us. **[1 John 5:18-20]**

We keep ourselves by abstaining from appearances of evil; we keep ourselves by being vigilant in the spirit; we keep ourselves by praying unto God and following His direction. It is the Lord that can keep us from that deception in the world and He does this by strengthening our inner man by deeper revelation and understanding of the truth. The devil that tempted Adam in the beginning is doing the same thing today, He will manifest in all forms just to rob you of that revelation truth that you heard on the table. Remember the Lord's Prayer **"LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL"**

At Gethsemane Jesus prayed saying thy will be done, Jesus at this point felt the pressure being in human form; He felt the pressure from the emotional part of Him which wars against obeying the will of the Father. He was willing in spirit but the flesh or human nature in Him was resistant being weak and anti God by nature. We know that the flesh opposes the will of God and can not be subject to it. What is the will of the Father? His will is to reveal His son to the world and Jesus obeyed this by picking up His Cross, in other words denying Himself so that the gospel can be preached to the nations. We should learn to pray as is written in the Lord's Prayer, **"THY KINGDOM COME, THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.**

His will like we have said, is that we reveal His truth unto all men so that they will be saved in return. The truth does the following things

- a) It breaks the yoke of the necks of those in captivity. The truth about God, our true identities and the love of God breaks the bondage men have to a corruptible nature.
- b) It satisfies those languishing in spiritual want, like the thirsty and the hungry for righteousness. It also heals the sense of poverty in humanity.

- c) It gives a spiritual cover to those who feel the coldness and nakedness of separation and condemnation towards God. In other words it justifies the sinner and gives Him peace.

**Isaiah 58** reveals what true prayers and Fasting is all about. It is acting to be heard on high by denying OUR OWN WILL and DOING THE WILL OF GOD. It is as we do His will that a hundred fold restoration and revival takes place in us. In that day divine health, prosperity and joy becomes ours again. In that day God that we once felt annihilated from reveals Himself to us so that we once more know the true meaning of oneness with God.

Those who please the Father by doing His will, will be glorified in Him. This is the reward and inheritance of those who please Him. Our prayer and desire is to see Him and His kingdom love. Our hope is to see His day of favor and rest, so that our whole being becomes a prayer to be heard on high by God.

We summarize by saying, we sacrifice ourselves on the horn of the altar as a sweet smelling sacrifice to the Lord. We lay down our lives for the sake of the gospel, knowing that this is the only thing that pleases the Lord. No greater love can one have than to lay down His earthly ambitions and dreams for His brethren by bringing the good news that will deliver them and cause them to come forth into the light. This is the will of the Father that all men come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved. As you do these works mixed with prayers and faith, now knowing the will of the Lord, He will keep you from that wicked one and cause you to grow from glory to glory in His kingdom.