

## Module 7 – Living Sacrifices 04

### Session 4

This short module Living Sacrifices is about the preparation for intimate relationship and the resultant transformation it brings so we can mature as sons of God. We will discover places of fire and learn to engage the fire of God's loving presence for heavenly as well as earthly transformation.

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

Rom 12:1 Live consistent with who you really are, inspired by the loving kindness of God. My brothers, the most practical expression of worship is to make your bodies available to him as a living sacrifice; this pleases him more than any religious routine. He desires to find visible, individual expression in your person.

Rom 12:2 Do not allow current religious tradition to mould you into its pattern of reasoning. Like an inspired artist, give attention to the detail of God's desire to find expression in you. Become acquainted with perfection. To accommodate yourself to the delight and good pleasure of him will transform your thoughts afresh from within.

There is an earthly outworking of transformation that involves ministry, practical trials and relational development.

Where we learn to reveal our hidden self to others through trust.

Where our blind self is revealed through others that requires a culture of honour, humility and openness.

Johari's window -ultimately this process is designed so that our revealed self, hidden self and blind self are all unveiled in our true self.

**Our true identity as sons of God can only be fully unveiled through our relationship with our heavenly Father by discovering our eternal identity.**

Sacrifices were made on altars and usually required fire.

**What does sacrifice refer to in the context of being a living sacrifice?**

**What is our understanding of sacrifices and offerings?**

- God requires us to be a living sacrifice not to appease His anger but to purify and transform us.
- Fire is a factor in transformation.
- God is a consuming fire therefore God's fire and love are synonymous terms.
- There are many different altars and places of fire within the heavenly realms; when we engage them as living sacrifices they enable us to be transformed.

- Tabernacle altars, Temple altar, Judgment seat, river of fire, fire stones, fiery sword.
- If we daily present ourselves as living sacrifices we can be transformed and continually changed from one degree of glory to another into our eternal identity.

First biblical mention of fire is in Genesis 3, the fiery sword that along with the Cherubim reveals the way to the tree of life.

→ **Fire symbolises purification and refining throughout the Bible, not destruction or annihilation.**

Abraham brought fire for the sacrifice as this was man's way but God gave him the offering.

Jehovah Jireh -The Lord shall provide

Jesus was the offering who was given once but has been effective for all time.

Fire is associated with dead animal sacrifices in the sacrificial system given by Moses.

To fully embrace being a living sacrifice we need to understand God's viewpoint of sacrifice.

John 1:17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.

- **The law and its sacrificial system was actually not God's idea but man's.**

Sacrifice and offerings to appease, satisfy or please a deity were introduced through the DIY tree path of religious knowledge.

Gen 4:3 So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the Lord of the fruit of the ground. 4 Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions.

There is no record of God asking for or requiring an offering or a sacrifice.

Adam and Eve were not required to sacrifice nor did so before the fall.

God did not kill an animal to make them clothes or skins but gave them skin as a covering for their bodies no longer clothed in their spirit glory.

- Sacrifices were the non-relational DIY religious efforts to try to restore a relationship with God.
- God required no sacrifice from man as the Lamb had already offered His life before the foundation of the world.
- The foundation stone of creation already had what was necessary for relationship built into it.

**Being a living sacrifice is not an act of appeasement but a worship offering. Being a living sacrifice is an act of worship in spirit and truth by laying down independence and any DIY notion of earning God's acceptance.**

**Being a living sacrifice enables us to enter into a pre-prepared relationship of restored innocence predestined by God.**

Jer7:21 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, "Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat flesh. 22 For I did not speak to your fathers, or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings and sacrifices."

Isa 1:11 "What are your multiplied sacrifices to Me?" says the Lord. "I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams And the fat of fed cattle; And I take no pleasure in the blood of bulls, lambs or goats."

Hosea 6:6 "For I delight in loyalty rather than sacrifice, And in the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings."

Micah 6:6 With what shall I come to the Lord and bow myself before the God on high? Shall I come to Him with burnt offerings, with yearling calves? 7 Does the Lord take delight in thousands of rams, in ten thousand rivers of oil?

Micah 6:7 Shall I present my firstborn for my rebellious acts, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? 8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

We are not appeasing an angry God by being living sacrifices but relating to God and becoming like Him as His sons.

We must understand that sacrifice was what man required to appease guilt, not God. Moses limited it in a system which did not allow them to kill their children.

Micah 6:25 "Did you present Me with sacrifices and grain offerings in the wilderness for forty years, O house of Israel? 26 You also carried along Sikkuth your king and Kiyyun, your images, the star of your gods which you made for yourselves."  
Molech, Kiyyun, Salem, Asher were their DIY Gods.

Acts 7:42 ...as it is written in the book of the prophets, "It was not to Me that you offered victims and sacrifices forty years in the wilderness, was it, O house of Israel? 43 You also took along the tabernacle of Moloch and the star of the god Rompha, the images which you made to worship."

Psa51:16 For You do not delight in sacrifice, otherwise I would give it; You are not pleased with burnt offering.

Jer19:5 ...and have built the high places of Baal to burn their sons in the fire as burnt offerings to Baal, a thing which I never commanded or spoke of, nor did it ever enter My mind.

Mark 12:33 ...and to love Him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbour as himself, is much more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."

Heb 10:8 After saying above, "Sacrifices and offerings and whole burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You have not desired, nor have You taken pleasure in them" (which are offered according to the Law),

- Son, embracing fire has always been an aspect of maturity to sonship. The fire stones and the river of fire have been an expression of the process of coming deeper into the experience of love that facilitates maturity.
- Fire and love are synonymous within the heavenly realms.
- The desire for My children to ascend into mature sons did not begin after the fall but was always part of the plan from the beginning.
- The fire of My consuming love brings transformation which was always intended to be a metamorphic process just like the caterpillar and the butterfly.
- Sonship will be manifested through transformation ascension.
- Mankind was never intended to be a one dimensional being but created to become an ascended father who would transcend the spiritual and physical dimensions and connect them with convergence.
- **Fire is love's expression and was never intended to become something to fear but was always to be the crucible for maturity in glory.**
- **Creation itself thrives in the atmosphere of fiery glory and is groaning for the return of the light of love's glory revealed in sonship.**
- Son, freedom emanates from fire and glory is the result that will bring about the liberty of sonship to creation itself.
- **When My sons return to the fabric of creation in glorious light, love will triumph over darkness and all separation and division will be no more.**
- Son, it is the fire that produces the heat necessary for transfiguration to take place by breaking the bonds of the old to release the reality of the new.
- The ashes of the old are the birthplaces of the new as fire consumes the old to unveil the new.

The new covenant heavenly Jerusalem fully came forth from the ashes of the old earthly Jerusalem through the fires of AD70 when I came in loving judgment. All the sheep of the old fold are safely within the new fold and are one within the gates of Zion.

The transition took place through fire for those who could have embraced transformation through water baptism that was offered but rejected. But love won in the end, as love always overcomes.

**Nothing is more powerful to transform than love's consuming fire.**

Isa 65:17 For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former things will not be remembered or come to mind.

2 Peter 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.

So what was the first century context for understanding the concept of heavens and earth and a new heaven and new earth?

Was it a cosmological concept of a literal heaven or physical earth or something that had a different meaning for the people in Israel in the first century?

Matt 5:18 For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

If heaven and earth still exist = all of the Law still operates.

If heaven and earth disappear = the law disappears.

If we believe that Jesus was referring to a literal, physical earth, then the whole Mosaic Old Covenant Law is still in operation until the end of this planet.

**Jesus was using a figure of speech.**

**Therefore what did it actually mean?**

Matthew 24:35 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away."

Matthew 24 is about the destruction of the temple and the old covenant system in the first century: AD70.

The first century people referred to the temple system as "heaven and earth."

Heb8:13 When He said, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete. But whatever is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to disappear.

Law of the old covenant has now disappeared because heaven and earth has symbolically ended.

Charles Spurgeon's words:

Did you ever regret the absence of the burnt-offering, or the red heifer, or any one of the sacrifices and rites of the Jews? Did you ever pine for the feast of tabernacles, or the dedication?

No, because, though these were like the old heavens and earth to the Jewish believers, they have passed away, and we now live under new heavens and a new earth, so far as the dispensation of the divine teaching is concerned. The substance is come, and the shadow has gone: and we do not remember it.

Revelation 21-22 is not about the end of human history.

Rev 21:5 Jesus is "making all things new" this is the process of restoration.

We live under a New Covenant that will see all things restored until the earth is filled with God's glory.

Her gates (New Jerusalem) are never shut.

Jonathan Welton has a great article on the New Heavens and the New Earth in his blog:  
<https://weltonacademy.com/blogs/jonathanwelton/50140161-literal-new-heaven-and-new-earth>

2 Peter 3:13 But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

**This was written pre AD70 as was all the New Testament, therefore to them the destruction Fire was the way the temple law-based system was finally removed.**

Fire causes the old to pass away and the new to come.

- **Fire was the birthing process for change.**

Matt 24:8 But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs. of Jerusalem is always a future event but is now in the past for us.

- Fire is a key to transformation, transfiguration and metamorphosis.
- Fire -Greek pur-is where we get the English words pure, purify, purification from.
- Fire changes and transforms and should be embraced as living sacrifices, not feared.

Rom 12:1 do not be conformed to this world –removing the programming that has come from outside in from nature, nurture or trauma is a key.

Rom 8:29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

Transformation, transfiguration or metamorphosis, is a process of change to bring spirit, soul and body into mature sonship.

Different processes for tadpole and the butterfly: one is water and one is heat.

Both processes are restricted. Tadpole can't live outside of the pond and the caterpillar can't live outside of the cocoon or chrysalis.

Isa 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you... When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, Nor will the flame burn you.

**We need to embrace the places of restriction and preparation where transformation can take place.**

**The places of water or heat.**



Are we willing to embrace the process to be transformed?

Joseph was prepared in the pit, in slavery, in stewardship and in the prison of obscurity, until the time was right when his dreams and destiny would be fulfilled.

When Jesus was 12, the age of responsibility, He was in the temple –“I must be about my father's business.”

Jesus increased in wisdom with God and man in the restriction and preparation of apprenticeship in His earthly father's business for 18 years.

Jesus could have been the greatest rabbi even at 12 but chose the restriction that enabled him to be unveiled as the Son of Man and Son of God at the right time.

Esther: 12 months of preparation before she could meet the king.

Jesus as the last Adam went through the trials and tests that the first Adam failed to deal with.

Jesus passed the test of the wilderness and the garden and was qualified to go to the cross to represent man and voluntarily take mankind's death.

Heb 12:2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

The cross to Sheol to the throne so we are all now included in Him.

A convergence of time and eternity occurred in Jesus' first coming and was consummated at the cross.

We can live in continual convergence.

Eternity, present and future meet where “what was was” transforms “what is” to enable “what will be” to be aligned with “what was was”.

2012 was the beginning of a 3 year season that birthed transformation in my life. Maturing in sonship through the discipline of being a living sacrifice in a transformation process.

I walked the pathways of relationship and responsibility daily. They are now my lifestyle.

Daily cleansing and opening my gateways, flowing from inside out.

Daily presenting myself as a living sacrifice so I could enter the heavens from the outside in.

Daily surrendering by denying myself, embracing the cross where I have been crucified with Christ.

This initial process was not random, I now see it was my marriage process.

It led me to the dark cloud, the *huppah* of consummation.

**I became untethered from the earth and my soul and spirit became separated and reintegrated.**

**Dual realms living became possible as my spirit and soul became unified and connected in heaven and on earth.**

- Expanding the kingdom as a gateway of heaven into the earth became possible by being joined to the Lord and one spirit with Him.

We can all be baptised into the river of fire.

Dan 7:10 "A river of fire was flowing and coming out from before Him;"

Embracing the fire of transformation by going deeper into God's loving presence.

- River of fire is God's glory, the intensity of His presence represented by fire.
- Not a real fire but an intensity of light that produces a form of transforming heat.
- It is a place of refining and purification to make us ready to engage God's person face to face.

There are three things you need for fire: heat, oxygen and a fuel source.

God's glory presence is the heat.

The wind of the Holy Spirit is the air (the more the wind blows, the hotter the fire).

Now, who is willing to be a fuel source?

There is no other fuel for this fire but our souls.

Fire changes the composition of a substance at a molecular level.

This transforming process in our lives will need the increased heat of God's fire to change our hearts.

Heating	-temperature rises
Transition	-softening of bonds
Degradation	-bonds break
Decomposition	-release of gases
Oxidation	-combustion
Transformation	-change of substance

Heb12:29 for our God is a consuming fire.

Lev 9:24 Then fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the portions of fat on the altar; and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.



2 Chron7:1 Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the house.

- **When we willingly engage being living sacrifices here, it also opens up the corresponding heavenly realm experiences of engaging places of fire.**
- **Altar, Fire stones, river of fire, Judgment Seat, fiery sword, seraphim.**
- **The judgment seat is where the consuming fire can purify the wood, hay and straw of our life's scroll.**
- **God is going to look at the scroll of our lives and see how it matches up with our scroll of destiny.**

Ps 139:16-17 All the vast thoughts God had about us; all that was written about our lives.

Do our lives match up with how God intended them to be?

We need to be ready to face that question and receive that judgment so our scroll can be purified.

2 Cor5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,

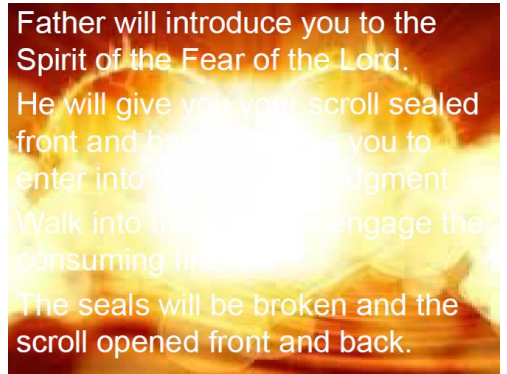
1 Cor3:11-13 If we build with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or straw, the quality of our work will be tested with fire.

“Basanizo” translated torment is better translated testing as it means a touch stone for testing the quality of metal.

- It is the quality that is tested, not the quantity.
- The transforming fire of God will consume and burn up all those things that are not of Him, but will purify and affirm those things that are.
- Our destiny restored and rebooted.

Are you willing to look into the fire  
in His eyes at the judgment seat?  
Are you willing for your scroll to be  
opened and the wood, hay and  
stubble to be purged with fire?  
Are you willing for the river of fire to  
flow through your soul, through  
your first love gate?





Ask Jesus to take you to the throne of grace.

Let the Father take you onto His lap and reveal His heart of love to you and for you.  
Ask the Father to give you permission to enter the judgment seat with the scroll of your life.

Father will introduce you to the Spirit of the Fear of the Lord.  
He will give you your scroll sealed front and back and give you to enter into the judgment.  
Walk into the fire to engage the consuming fire.  
The seals will be broken and the scroll opened front and back.