OFFERING OF THE WISE

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
OFFERING OF THE WISE
Text:Genesis 4:1-5; I Samuel 15:22

Prayer
Our Lord Jesus Christ we thank you we worship your name be thou exalted Lord. Father we thank you for your grace and mercy over our lives, we thank you because you are the same always Father accept our thanks in Jesus name. Lord we have gathered in your presence once again this evening Lord teach us yourself, the grace to be the doer of your word Father grant unto us, we commit our teacher into your hands tonight Lord show us yourself through him and at the end of tonight's teaching, let us have the full cause to worship your name in Jesus name, amen.

Introduction
Today is special for you and I. I want to encourage everyone to read each paragraph of our teaching and read between the lines so that NOTHING will be missed.

Bible Text: Genesis 4:1-5 KJV
[1]And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.
[2]And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.
[3]And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.
[4]And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:
[5]But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

Study
Having a friend without taking cognizance of his likes and dislikes is a foolish way to live. Similarly, making friends is not as difficult as maintaining a healthy relationship and having a healthy relationship is a whole lot of work which MUST be diligently carried out if valuable relationship will not be lost. A case study of God and man, so to say. **THE DISCOURSE:**

According to our text in **Genesis 4:5**:"But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect & Cain was very wroth and his countenance fell. Here is Cain, the first to be born by procreation not by creation. Though there was no record of Adam making any sacrifice to God but through Cain and Abel, we can infer that sacrifice is an act learnt from their father.

Cain, like many of us, learnt:
1. The Act of Sacrifice **(Proverbs 3:9-10)**
2. The Need for Sacrifice **(Malachi 3:10)**
3. But did not learn WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE **(Isaiah 1:10-20; Romans 12:1-2; II Corinthians 7:1)**

Paul the Apostle in Ephesians 5:10 raised a caution concerning our journey with God. "proving what is acceptable unto the Lord" Walking with God entails PROVING what is acceptable unto Him in all ramifications. A secret which Enoch understood and had an excellent walk with God for Three Hundred (300) years of UNBROKEN relationship. A world record no one has surpassed even till now.

Are you following?

Numerous in Church are of the belief that they know the ways of the Lord, probably because of their years in Church when in actual fact, they are only living on mere assumptions.

WHY DID GOD REJECT CAIN'S SACRIFICE?
What is usually taught over the years is that God rejected Cain's sacrifice on the ground that he brought what was not acceptable. But on the contrary, it was not Cain's offering that was rejected but Cain himself.

But why?

Reading carefully through **Genesis 4:5,** the message of the Holy spirit to us is evidently clear. The verse started by saying, "unto Cain and his offering". Meaning that Cain's appearance before God precedes the appearance of his offering before God. That is, what God sees first, is the person bringing a sacrifice, not his sacrifice or gift. No wonder, the Holy Spirit through Paul Apostle wrote to us in **Romans 12:1** mentioning that "ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God..."By implication, it was the awful appearance of Cain's life before God that automatically condemned his offerings notwithstanding the aroma of the sacrifice. We can establish this truth in **proverbs 21:27:**

The sacrifice of the wicked is abomination, how much more when he bringeth it with a wicked mind. God, who is All-knowing, knew Cain was a murderer even before he actually perpetrated the act. It's such an heart broken situation that the church of today take pleasure in the purses of Hell-bound congregation than the state of their souls. Many take it lightly when we say we serve a God who weighs the heart. He considers the INTENT before the very ACT. Why would the offering of a murderer be acceptable unto an Holy God? So much of such offerings in the apostate Churches of today. The application of this to our life is that, our life matters to God more than whatever offering (services, tithe, offering etc) we may bring to Him.

Ecclesiastes 5:1 instruct thus: "Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil". Learning from the verse above, the first three words are : "keep thy foot". The question here is, what does our feet got to do with our appearance in Church than to take us for a walk? To answer the above, our feet as used metaphorically in the verse can be likened to our life. Just as when God approached Moses in **Exodus 3:5** telling him to "put off thy shoes from thy feet". Was God pissed off with the kind of shoe Moses had on? No! The implication here is that, the shoe represents a cover, while the feet represents Moses life. Therefore, the cover (shoes) of impurity of any kind MUST be removed before we can approach God's presence.

Likewise, in **Ecclesiastes 5:1,** our feet which represents our life MUST be well kept (according to the exact words of the verse) without spot or wrinkle **(Ephesians 5:27)** so that our offerings to Him in Church will not be "sacrifice of fools who consider not that they do evil". Cain was unaware that the cover of murderous heart in Him must first be removed before any sacrifice can be made. Just as Cain failed and only wasted his precious offering, so are many in Church today. Though they serve with all fervency, they are not tithe defaulters, their offering is always huge, yet, the cover if sin and trespasses has prevented them from approaching our God whose eyes cannot behold iniquity.

God is NOT so hungry to be in a haste to take anything from those who are of impure heart. That your Pastor accepts it with kindhearted prayer does not mean your offering ascends. The cry of our Lord Jesus is "go and straighten your life first" "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee;

24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." The cry in **Jude 23** is "... hating the garment spotted by the flesh. King Saul was a classic example of a man with big offerings but a rejected life **(I Samuel 15).**

LET IT BE KNOWN :
. That your life comes before your offering.

. When your life is not right, your offering cannot be right

. It is not the size of your offering that matters but the weight of your uprightness before God & man.

. Your offering cannot be a penance for your wrongdoings

. Your offering may be seen by God but may not be acceptable. Remember Cornelius **(Act 10).**

Is someone still learning?

On a final note, **God desires the FRUIT OF YOUR LIFE more than He desires the LABOUR OF YOUR HAND .** Don't continue to waste your services, tithe and offering in Church. You are just feeding hungry pastors without reward. Go and adjust your life first.

The offering of the wise is their life, their gift is just an appendage.

Stay blessed and do have a wonderful day.

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp **+2347067511039** and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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