

Out of Zion

Mercy, Not Sacrifice

Matthew 9:9-13 KJV

- 9) *And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him.*
- 10) *And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples.*
- 11) *And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?*
- 12) *But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.*
- 13) *But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.*

But go ye and learn what that meaneth — ([Hos 6:6](#)),

I will have mercy, and not sacrifice — that is, the one rather than the other. “Sacrifice,” the chief part of the ceremonial law, is here put for a religion of literal adherence to mere rules; while “mercy” expresses such compassion for the fallen as seeks to lift them up. The duty of keeping aloof from the polluted, in the sense of “having no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness,” (Eph 5:7) is obvious enough; but to understand this as prohibiting such intercourse with them as is necessary to their recovery, is to abuse it. This was what these pharisaical religionists did, and this is what our Lord here exposes.

(A commentary on the old and new testament by *Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fauset, and David Brown*)

Hosea 6:6 KJV

- 6) *For I desired **mercy (h2617-kindness)**, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than **burnt offerings (h5930-going up in smoke, a holocaust)**.*

Kindness is rooted in the knowledge of God.

Remember Jeremiah 9:23-24 and Jeremiah 23:7-8.

God Shines

Psalms 50:1-6 KJV

- 1) *A Psalm of Asaph. The mighty God, even the LORD, hath spoken, and called (to) the earth from the rising of the sun unto [the going down (h3996-an entrance) thereof]. More literal: it's going in. Cf. Eph 3:14-21 and 2 Peter 1:19.*
- 2) ***Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined.***
- 3) *Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.*
- 4) *He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people.*
- 5) *Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.*
- 6) *And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God is judge himself. Selah.*

Zion Defined

Hebrews 12:22-29 KJV

- 22) *But ye are come unto **mount Sion**, and unto the city of the living God, the **heavenly Jerusalem**, and to an innumerable company (g3461-myriads) of angels,*
- 23) *To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven,*

[Written in heaven: Cf. Revelation 17:8 w/Acts 15:28]

- and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,*
- 24) *And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.*
 - 25) *See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:*
 - 26) *Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.*
 - 27) *And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.*
 - 28) *Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:*
 - 29) *For our God is a consuming fire.*

Worshipping the Image

Psalms 50:16-23 KJV

- 16) *But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth?*
- 17) *Seeing thou hatest instruction, and castest my words behind thee.*
- 18) *When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers.*
- 19) *Thou givest thy mouth to evil, and thy tongue frameth deceit.*
- 20) *Thou sittest and speakest against thy brother; thou slanderest thine own mother's son.*
- 21) *These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; **thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself**: but I will reprove thee, and set them in order before thine eyes.*
- 22) *Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver.*
- 23) *Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.*

Hosea 6:1-5 KJV

- 1) *Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.*
- 2) *After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.*
- 3) *Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.*
- 4) *O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away.*
- 5) *Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth: and thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth.*