

A SACRIFICE OF PRAISE
(Hebrews 13:15-16)

- I. Its SOURCE (13:15a; cf. 13:12)

- II. Its CONSTANCY (13:15b)

- III. Its PURPOSE (13:15c)
 - A. It is addressed to GOD
 - B. It is a PROCLAMATION of GRATITUDE

- IV. Its CHARACTER
 - A. It is UNIQUE in the NT
 - 1. Blood sacrifices ENDED with CHRIST (cf. Heb. 7:27; 9:11-14)
 - 2. Only OT sacrifice that continues today is the THANK offering (Lev. 7:12-15)

B. A sacrifice requires the giver to SURRENDER something (2 Sam. 24:22-25)

C. A sacrifice of PRAISE requires surrendering the ILLUSION of INDEPENDENCE

1. Giving up your “right” to UNDERSTAND

2. Giving up your “right” to BE IN CONTROL

D. Praise, therefore, is not a SACRIFICE when expressing gratitude for things or circumstances that make you HAPPY or COMFORTABLE

1. We should, of course, be GRATEFUL for PLEASANT things

2. We must also be THANKFUL for the TRIALS of life (cf. 1 Thess. 5:18)

V. Its COMPANIONS (13:16a)

A. The sacrifice of DOING GOOD

1. Demonstrating LOVE

2. Demonstrating COMPASSION

B. The sacrifice of SHARING

1. Partnership in MINISTRY

2. Providing MATERIAL and/or FINANCIAL support in ministry

VI. Its REWARD: God is “PLEASED” (13:16*b*)