

Intro:

Main Point of Text: In the peace offering the priest was to bring the people immediately into the giving of thanks.

Sermon Point: *Pastors Must Lead You into Thankfulness.*

Move 1: Be thankful for inner peace.

Lev. 3, “Peace Offering”: Insides of animal = soul, inner person. Priest/people eat in God’s presence = fulfilling fellowship. Hebrew for “peace”: soundness; “Without blemish”: complete; “Holy”: whole. God’s peace makes you whole. Phil. 4:6-7. “Jesus Christ is Your Peace” (Eph. 2:14). Phil. 4:13.

Move 2: Be thankful now.

Vss. 15-18: thanksgiving must be timely. Meat not preserved after three days rots. So one who is not quick to be thankful. Jesus is feeding forgiveness. Eat now. Ex. 12:10: Passover meal was not to remain until morning. The Lamb of God rose the third day/did not see corruption (vss. 17-18; Ps. 16:7-10). ... *receive not the grace of God in vain. (For he saith, ... behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)* (2 Cor. 6:1-2) Now is the day to be thankful. Vs. 13: gratitude is the leaven of grace. Mt. 13:33.

Move 3: If you won’t be thankful, you are not holy.

Vss. 19-21: unclean = unthankful. Unthankful = unholy. Rom. 1:21. Person who is not interested in being holy is not thankful for God’s holiness – not at peace. *Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:* (Heb. 12:14). 1 Thes. 4:3/1 Thes. 5:18: holy people are thankful. Ps. 30:4. Col. 3:15. Letter to Hebrews teaches the whole Tabernacle System has been fulfilled in Christ. What does it summarize as your main application of Jesus having made you holy? Heb. 13:15: *By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.*

Move 4: So your pastor’s job is to teach you not only to be a holy, but also a thankful people.

Vss. 12-13, 15: “thanksgiving”. Calvin re: vs. 16: payment of conditional vow an act of thanksgiving. Vss. 22-27, the fat/blood reserved for God. Focus is God: vs. 29. Wave/heave: vss. 14, 30-34: priests visibly lead in being thankful to God. Change of order from first grouping of offerings (Lev. 1-6:7). With priests, final one is the peace offering by a thankful people. Notice it is a “sacrifice”. Thankfulness is a choice.

Conclusion:

Pastors Must Lead You into Thankfulness.