

Noah's Costly Worship

God made a way for us to worship Him we are called to worship on God's terms not just any way we please. You see, Man becomes what he worships and when men refuse to worship the perfect Creator they become more and more like corruptible man. In fact, they get so bad that God must make a plan to destroy all that is in the world through a flood.

In mercy He makes a plan for true worshipers to be preserved in the ark. When Noah and his family come out of the ark we can see another worship service. In this worship act Noah is so overwhelmed with God's merciful act to himself and his family that he responds to God's act of mercy by giving a most costly sacrifice. When Noah came out of the ark, before he built a place for himself or his animals he built an altar to the Lord and offered a whole burnt offering. Noah didn't just offer a small sacrifice, he put his future and the future of his family on altar. When he sacrificed one of every clean animal, he was offering 1/7th of all of his domesticated livestock (Gen 8:20). Like Abel, Noah believed God was worthy of costly worship. It was not a waste of resources to show his love and gratitude for God's goodness in this act of worship.

How about you? I know God hasn't saved you from a world wide flood but stop and think about it, God sent His Son to die on the cross to save you from much worse, an eternity separated from Him in a place called hell. Noah was overwhelmed at God's mercy to him so he willingly offered a very costly sacrifice. Are you overwhelmed at God's mercy to you? Are you willing to offer your costly worship?

God, You saved me from immeasurable, eternal loss.

Noah willingly offered his sacrifice of worship.

He completely burned up something that to him were most precious

Lord, help me like Noah to offer to You those things that I hold precious.

As You lead me, I offer up my future, even my family's future

and show the whole world

how much I think of You.

Noah's act of worship happened in the context of a life of worship; a life of obedient choices over the course of over 120 years. What was the greater sacrifice? Noah's act of worship would have been meaningless without his life of worship. Yet, when God smelled Noah's act of worship He responded with the approval of His presence and a beautiful rainbow. More importantly, God responded with His promise to future generations to never flood the earth again (Gen 8:21 & 9:13).

***Take** my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee.*

Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King.

Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.