



GREATER HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH

CYBER BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAYS AT 7PM



PASTOR THOMAS
CYBER CHURCH COMMUNITY

PASTOR REGINALD D. THOMAS

CYBER SERIES: “USE THE WORD”



PASTOR THOMAS
CYBER CHURCH COMMUNITY

TONIGHT'S LESSON:

FELLOWSHIP 2020

A group of children and an adult are gathered together, all with their hands clasped in prayer. The children are of various ages, some looking down and others looking forward. They are wearing casual clothing like t-shirts and dresses. The background is a simple wall with a window. The text "LET US PRAY" is overlaid in large blue letters across the center of the image.

LET US PRAY

OUR BIBLE STUDY GOAL:

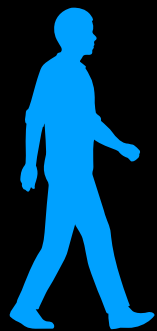




PASTOR THOMAS
CYBER CHURCH COMMUNITY

Living a Life Pleasing unto God.

**Walking in Righteousness, Becoming a better
Christian by following God's word.**



May 6th, 2020

LUKE 1:37 "FOR NO WORD FROM GOD WILL EVER FAIL"



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CYBER CHURCH COMMUNITY

TONIGHT'S LESSON:

FELLOWSHIP 2020

FEL·LOW·SHIP (FĚL'Ō-SHĬP')

N.

1.

A. THE COMPANIONSHIP OF INDIVIDUALS IN A CONGENIAL ATMOSPHERE AND ON EQUAL TERMS: **A VORACIOUS READER WHO FOUND FELLOWSHIP IN A BOOK CLUB.**

B. FRIENDSHIP; COMRADESHIP: A STRONG FELLOWSHIP DEVELOPED AMONG THEM.

C. A CLOSE ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS OR EQUALS SHARING SIMILAR INTERESTS: **A FELLOWSHIP OF PHOTOGRAPHERS.**

2.

A. THE FINANCIAL GRANT MADE TO A FELLOW IN A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.

B. THE STATUS OR POSITION OF ONE WHO IS AWARDED SUCH A GRANT.

As we often do, over time we have changed the meaning of something God designed to be one thing, and we have changed it into something we can fit into our understanding.

Fellowship is a word that has evolved like many words in our language, and now what it used to mean, has become fractured and incomplete.

We often use the word fellowship to mean gathering together to enjoy each other's company, I do the same thing, but just because we do it, does not mean that it's proper, or biblically accurate to do so.

The reality is; we think of fellowship as only half of what God created it to be.

In our lesson tonight we are going to examine "Fellowship" from it's original meaning and application, so that going forward we will at least know what God's Fellowship Offering was, what true Biblical fellowship was and is, and how in the future we would be well served to return to that meaning and application.

This will help us when we are able to return to our houses of worship once it is safe and acceptable to do so.

**IN THE OLD TESTAMENT THE BOOK OF LEVITICUS
TEACHES US ABOUT 5 DIFFERENT SACRIFICES OR
OFFERINGS THE PRIESTS MADE FOR SPECIFIC
REASONS.**

**EACH OFFERING OR SACRIFICE WAS DONE WITH THE
INTENTION OF WORSHIP.**

**HOWEVER, EACH OFFERING HAD A MEANING, AND IN
ORDER TO UNDERSTAND THEM AND WHY THEY WERE
DONE IT'S IMPORTANT TO TREAT THEM BOTH
INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY.**

BURNT OFFERING (OLAH) FOR THE ATONEMENT OF SIN,
AND AN EXPRESSION OF DEVOTION TO GOD. THE
ANIMAL WAS TO BE BURNT ENTIRELY OVERNIGHT, ALL
OF IT WAS GIVEN TO GOD EXCEPT THE SKIN OF THE
ANIMAL THAT WAS GIVEN TO THE PRIEST.

GRAIN OFFERING (MINCHAH) ALSO A VOLUNTARY
EXPRESSION OF DEVOTION TO GOD. THIS WAS BREAD,
BUT ONLY A PORTION OF IT WAS BURNT, THE REST WAS
GIVEN TO THE PRIESTS.

PEACE OFFERING OR FELLOWSHIP OFFERING,
(SHELEM) THIS WAS THE MOST DIVERSE SACRIFICE,
AND IT HAD TO BE AN ANIMAL WITHOUT FAULT OR
DEFECT. THE PURPOSE OF THIS OFFERING WAS TO
CONSECRATE A MEAL BETWEEN TWO OR MORE PARTIES
BEFORE GOD AND SHARE THE MEAL TOGETHER IN
FELLOWSHIP AND PEACE WHILE MAKING A
COMMITMENT TO EACH OTHER'S FUTURE PROSPERITY.
EVERYTHING WAS TO BE CONSUMED BY THE AGREEING
OR FELLOWSHIPPING PARTIES, AND WHAT WAS LEFT
WAS TO BE BURNT AND DESTROYED.

SIN OFFERING, (CHATTATH) THIS WAS AN OFFERING FOR ATONEMENT FOR UNINTENTIONAL SIN. IT CONTAINED ELEMENTS FROM THE BURNT OFFERING AND FROM THE PEACE OFFERING. THIS OFFERING CLEANSED THE PERSON OFFERING THE SACRIFICE. IT WAS DONE SO THAT THE PERSON OFFERING THE SACRIFICE COULD BE “PURIFIED” TO ENTER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD. IT WAS NOT DONE FOR THE PERSON TO ATONE FOR THEIR SINS, BUT TO PREPARE TO MINISTER OFFERINGS PROPERLY.

**GUILT OFFERING, (ASHAM) THIS OFFERING ALSO
KNOWN AS THE TRESPASS OFFERING OR THE
REPARATION OFFERING WAS TO MAKE MONETARY
ATONEMENT FOR A DEBT OR MISDEED DONE TO
SOMEONE SIMILAR TO PAYING A JUDGMENT BECAUSE
OF A LOSS CLAIM IN A LAWSUIT.**

THE **FELLOWSHIP** OFFERING WAS ALWAYS
PRECEDED BY A **BURNT** OFFERING, AND
GENERALLY A **GRAIN** OFFERING AS WELL.
THIS WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF RITUAL
CLEANSING:

SINCE THE **FELLOWSHIP** OFFERING HAD
NO POWER TO CLEANSE SINS, OR TO MAKE
CLEAN AGAIN A PERSON WHO WAS
RITUALLY UNCLEAN,

A SEPARATE OFFERING NEEDED TO BE
MADE WHICH WOULD DEAL WITH THE SINS
OF THE SUPPLICANT.

THERE WAS A CURSE ON THOSE WHO PARTOOK OF THE MEAT OF THE FELLOWSHIP OFFERING WHILE THEY THEMSELVES ARE RITUALLY UNCLEAN. "IF ANYONE WHO IS UNCLEAN EATS ANY MEAT OF THE FELLOWSHIP OFFERING BELONGING TO THE LORD, THAT PERSON MUST BE CUT OFF FROM HIS PEOPLE" (LEV. 7:20). SEE 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-29

THIS TELLS US THAT THE FELLOWSHIP OFFERING, ALTHOUGH IT **WAS ACCOMPANIED WITH FEASTING AND REJOICING**, WAS NOT TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY. IT WAS, AFTER ALL, AN OFFERING TO THE LORD.

THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM OF THE OLD TESTAMENT WAS A MEANS OF GRACE BY WHICH THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOD AND HUMANITY **BEGINS TO BE RESTORED. ULTIMATELY, THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM WAS INADEQUATE, AND NONE COULD REPAY THE DEBT OF LIFE THAT WAS OWED UNTIL CHRIST DEFEATED DEATH ONCE AND FOR ALL (HEB. 10:10).**

Hebrews 10:10~11~12

By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

WHAT DOES THE
FELLOWSHIP
OFFERING MEAN
TODAY?

You just heard, and prayerfully you understand the formal definition of the Fellowship offering.

But here is the 2020 translation. The Fellowship offering was not about atonement of sin, not about cleansing the sinner, not about repaying debt, but it was about worship and praise among like minded people of faith and giving God glory for what he had done, and what he promised to do, and what the people in fellowship together believed he would do.

So there is the fellowship part that we understand today with no problem, we get the part about being together and sharing each others company, but we often omit the other part of the fellowship. The part where there is sharing the sacrifice, celebrating and rejoicing.

The fellowship offering bridges the divide between the sacred and the secular, showing us that there really is no divide at all. Celebration, family, church, worship, and feasting all belong together. Every celebration is potentially a fellowship offering, and every feast can be dedicated to the Lord.

- ▶ **CELEBRATION/FEAST**
- ▶ **COMMON FAITH**
- ▶ **AT PEACE AND IN AGREEMENT**
- ▶ **COMMON DESIRE FOR ALL TO SUCCEED**
- ▶ **THANKSGIVING/PRAISE**

1 JOHN 1:3-7

3 THAT WHICH WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD DECLARE WE UNTO YOU, THAT YE ALSO MAY HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH US: AND TRULY OUR FELLOWSHIP IS WITH THE FATHER, AND WITH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST.

4 AND THESE THINGS WRITE WE UNTO YOU, THAT YOUR JOY MAY BE FULL.

5 THIS THEN IS THE MESSAGE WHICH WE HAVE HEARD OF HIM, AND DECLARE UNTO YOU, THAT GOD IS LIGHT, AND IN HIM IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL.

6 IF WE SAY THAT WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM, AND WALK IN DARKNESS, WE LIE, AND DO NOT THE TRUTH:

7 BUT IF WE WALK IN THE LIGHT, AS HE IS IN THE LIGHT, WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP ONE WITH ANOTHER, AND THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST HIS SON CLEANSETH US FROM ALL SIN.

2 CORINTHIANS

6:14-16

14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: **for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?** and what communion hath light with darkness?

15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

**HERE'S WHY WE ARE
TALKING ABOUT
FELLOWSHIP**

THIS OFFERING HAS NOTHING WHATSOEVER TO DO WITH SIN, THE TALMUD STATES THAT IN THE MESSIANIC AGE, THIS IS THE ONLY TYPE OF OFFERING THAT WILL BE MADE, BECAUSE THERE WILL BE NO MORE SIN.

THIS SEEMS TO ECHO REVELATION 21:4: **“HE WILL WIPE EVERY TEAR FROM THEIR EYES. THERE WILL BE NO MORE DEATH OR MOURNING OR CRYING OR PAIN, FOR THE OLD ORDER OF THINGS HAS PASSED AWAY.”**

THE FELLOWSHIP OFFERING IS THEREFORE NOT ONLY AN OFFERING WHICH LOOKS BACK TO THOSE THINGS WHICH GOD HAS DONE FOR US, BUT IT ALSO LOOKS FORWARD TO A TIME WHEN ALL OFFERINGS TO GOD WILL BE THOSE OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING. THE FELLOWSHIP OFFERING IS BOTH A PROMISE AND A FORETASTE OF THE AGE TO COME.

Exodus 12:1-14

A deeper understanding of the fellowship offering can be found by examining the first offering of this kind mentioned in the Bible: **the Passover lamb**. Considered a type of fellowship offering, the Passover lamb shares many aspects with the fellowship offering.

The lamb was to be roasted and eaten by the family that offered it, and only a small portion, the blood, was used symbolically in obedience to God.

The Passover lamb is seen as a type of Christ, the "Lamb of God, slain for our sins."

Yet the fellowship offering is most emphatically not a sin offering.

A closer examination of the Passover lamb indicates that it was not intended as a sacrifice for remission of sins,

but rather as a covering, with the blood of the lamb setting apart the people of God.

The Passover lamb also brings out another aspect of the fellowship offering, which is to give thanks for what God has promised, and not only for what he has done. The first Passover lamb was offered in trust that God would release the Hebrews from bondage, as well as in gratitude that God had sent Moses as a deliverer.

This illustrates that gratitude to God includes giving thanks for what we trust him to do, as well as for what he has done.

It also intimates that the feast or celebration is to be kept throughout all generations.

**ONE OF MY CHURCH
PET PEEVES...**



I HATE WHEN
PEOPLE SAY
“IT DON’T TAKE
ALL OF THAT”

62 AND THE KING, AND ALL ISRAEL WITH HIM,
OFFERED SACRIFICE BEFORE THE LORD.

63 AND SOLOMON OFFERED A SACRIFICE OF **PEACE
OFFERINGS**, WHICH HE OFFERED UNTO THE LORD,
**TWO AND TWENTY THOUSAND OXEN, AND AN
HUNDRED AND TWENTY THOUSAND SHEEP.** SO THE
KING AND ALL THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL DEDICATED
THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.

64 THE SAME DAY DID THE KING HALLOW THE
MIDDLE OF THE COURT THAT WAS BEFORE THE
HOUSE OF THE LORD: FOR THERE HE OFFERED
BURNT OFFERINGS, AND MEAT OFFERINGS, AND THE
FAT OF THE PEACE OFFERINGS: **BECAUSE THE
BRASEN ALTAR THAT WAS BEFORE THE LORD WAS
TOO LITTLE** TO RECEIVE THE BURNT OFFERINGS, AND
MEAT OFFERINGS, AND THE FAT OF THE PEACE
OFFERINGS.

**MAKE YOUR FELLOWSHIP
OFFERING TOO BIG FOR
THE CHURCH TO HOLD!!!**

REMEMBER THE FELLOWSHIP OFFERING WAS DIVIDED UP AMONG THE PEOPLE AFTER THE FAT WAS REMOVED TO BE BURNED.

NOT ONLY WAS SOLOMON GIVING WITH OVERWHELMING GENEROSITY TO THE LORD— AND INCIDENTALLY GIVING THE BEST OF HIS OFFERING TO GOD—HE WAS ALSO SHARING HIS JOY OVER THE COMPLETION OF THE TEMPLE WITH THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL. THIS WAS A WAY OF SAYING **“COME, CELEBRATE WITH ME!”** SOLOMON DID NOT HOLD BACK WHEN IT CAME TIME TO GIVE THANKS.

SOLOMON KNEW THAT THERE CAN BE NO SUCH THING AS “TOO MUCH” WHEN IT COMES TO THANKING GOD.

WHEN YOU CRITICIZE SISTER SHOUT A LOT AND SAY IT DOESN'T TAKE ALL OF THAT, YOU ARE DISREGARDING BIBLE HISTORY, BECAUSE NOTHING YOU DO FOR GOD CAN BE TOO MUCH.

SOLOMON THE WISEST MAN IN THE BIBLE DIDN'T THINK HE WAS GIVING TOO MUCH AND YOU SHOULDN'T EITHER.