

Consecration

TEXT: 2 Samuel 24:17-25; Romans 12:1,2

KEY VERSE: I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing. — 2 Samuel 24:24

RESOURCE MATERIAL: Tract No. 46 — Consecration

There is nothing so honored of God as a holy, consecrated life, nothing as essential to growth in Christian experience, and nothing that will as surely bring the presence of God into the life. Consecration is the route to everything we receive from God: salvation, sanctification, the baptism of the Holy Ghost, divine healing, or any other blessing. Consecrations of years back will not suffice to retain God's blessing, but one's life must be yielded to God daily.

1. In Old Testament times what things were often used to show consecration (Exodus 29:21,22)? Why do you think God instituted the rituals surrounding these sacrifices?

2. Why did David insist on paying for the threshing floor and the oxen? What would have been the probable result if David had accepted Araunah's offer and sacrificed without any payment?

3. What was the result of David's actions at this time?

4. How can we tell that Job's life and possessions were consecrated to God? See Job 1:21.

5. When God called upon Abraham for a deep consecration, what was his reaction (Genesis 22:2,3,9-13)?

Was Abraham's consecration of Isaac complete before this trial came? Explain.

6. What types of offerings are we to give in consecration today?

7. What were the words of Saul when Jesus appeared to him on the Damascus Road (Acts 9:6)? How does his response relate to being truly successful in the Lord's service?

8. Before he came to Jesus, Saul had great hopes and ambitions: he studied the Law of Moses under Gamaliel, the foremost teacher of that day; he had ambitions of becoming a ruler of the Jews; perhaps he would one day be a member of the Jewish high court, the Sanhedrin. But he forsook all those worldly ambitions in order to follow Christ. How can we know that the Apostle Paul had made deep consecrations to God? See Philippians 3:7,8.

9. What was Jesus Christ's constant attitude toward His heavenly Father? See Matthew 26:39 and John 4:34.