

A Sacrifice of Praise

“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.”

Hebrews 13:15

- By him*** Jesus opened up the way to God, as our Priest, by His death; so we can go directly to God as kings and priests ourselves, unlike the Old Testament (Heb 10:19-22; Re 1:5-6).
- therefore*** Jesus died without the camp for us, so we owe Him sacrifices of praise (Heb 13:12-14).
- let us offer*** New Testament saints also bring offerings (Ac 2:46-47; I Cor 14:15-17,26; Ep 5:19-20).
- the sacrifice*** The Old Testament is full of great sacrifices by those loving the Lord (I Kings 8:5,63; I Samuel 7:7-12), but we also may offer a sacrifice, though different in kind (I Peter 2:5).
- of praise*** We don't bring sheep, as did Solomon; we bring praise (Psalm 69:30-32; 50:14-15,23).
- to God*** The object of all worship is the Lord – neither ourselves nor any man (Isaiah 42:8).
- continually*** This should not be an annual event, like our nation's Thanksgiving Day (Psalm 34:1).
- that is*** Paul is about to define for us the sacrifice of praise that he has under consideration.
- the fruit*** We do not bring the fruit of the ground or of the flock or of the vineyard to the Lord.
- of our lips*** It is something we do with our lips, mouth, and tongue (Hos 14:2; Ps 71:8,15; 35:28).
- giving thanks*** It is one thing to be thankful, and another to actually give thanks; and giving thanks is the will of God for us in Christ Jesus in every thing (I Thess 5:18). Where are the nine?
- to his name*** We use His name to refer to Him, and His name is great (Ps 113:1-2; 116:17; 83:18).

The Heart of David

- II Sam 6:14 David danced before the Lord with all his might, ignoring his kingly clothes and office.
- II Sam 7:1-3 David was not at peace in a house of cedar, knowing the Lord was worshipped in a tent.
- Psalm 18 Repeated from II Samuel 22, David's heart is very obvious in this glorious praise.
- Psalm 34:1-4 Praise was something David wanted to do at all times, and with others, for their benefit.
- Psalm 103:1 David praises ecstatically, with all that is within him, for all of God's many blessings.