奉献(陆)

Consecration (VI)

肆 怎样奉献

IV. How to Consecrate

一 甘心乐意

A. Voluntarily

(一)'甘心乐意。'林后八章三节。

1. "Of their own accord" (2 Cor. 8:3).

主是宝贵的,值得我们奉献,所以我们奉献必须甘心乐意。不甘心的奉献,等于把主贬值了。

The Lord is precious. He is worthy of our consecration. Therefore, our consecration must be voluntary. We devalue the Lord with an involuntary consecration.

- (二) '是出于乐意,不是出于勉强。···各人要随本心所酌定的,不要作难,不要勉强;因为捐得乐意的人,是神所喜爱的。'林后九章五至七节。
- 2. "As a blessing and not as a matter of covetousness...Each one as he has purposed in his heart, not out of sorrow or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:5, 7).

神从来不勉强人奉献,乃是听凭人自愿。献得乐意的,才是神所喜爱的。

God never forces people to consecrate; it is a matter of our free will. God loves a cheerful giver.

二 行在暗中

B. In Secret

- (一) '不可在你前面吹号; …不要叫左手知道, …要…行在暗中。'马太六章三至四节。
- 1. "Do not sound a trumpet before you...Do not let your left hand know...Be in secret" (Matt. 6:2-4).

我们奉献,要行在暗中,不要向人宣扬('吹号'),叫人知道,免得受人的称赞和荣耀,以致失去神的赏赐。为着神的荣耀,和别人的益处,我们奉献也该尽力隐藏不显露。

Our consecration should be in secret. We should not advertise it before man, that is, to "sound a trumpet." We should not let people know, lest we receive praise and glory from man but lose the reward from God. For the glory of God and the benefit of others, our consecration should be hidden, not revealed.

伍 奉献的目的

V. The Goal of Consecration

一 为主而活

A. To Live to the Lord

- (一) '不再为自己活,乃为…死而复活的主活。'林后五章十四至十五节。
- 1. "No longer live to themselves but to Him who died for them and has been raised" (2 Cor. 5:15).

奉献的目的,就是为主而活。这不一定是作传道,乃是照主的旨意和安排,无论在什么职业上,都是为着主作见证,叫主得荣耀。整个的生活,都是照着主的意思,讨主的喜悦,连衣食、花钱、用时间、找亲友,一切生活中的事,都不随己意、为自己,乃随主的心意,为主而作。这样的人,虽然不是'作传道',却是为主而活;虽然也许不会讲道,但却能活出主来,叫人在他们身上看见主,感觉主的同在。

The goal of consecration is to live to the Lord. This does not necessarily mean that we must become missionaries. It means that, according to the Lord's purpose and arrangement, we testify of the Lord and glorify Him in all that we do. Our whole living should be according to the Lord's will and pleasing to the Lord. The choice of our clothing and food, the spending of our money, the use of our time, the visiting of our friends,

and everything in our living must be according to the Lord's heart's desire and to the Lord, not according to our own will and to ourselves. Such a person, even if he is not a missionary, will be living to the Lord. Although he may not be able to give a message, he will be able to live the Lord so that others can see the Lord in him and sense His presence.

二 作活祭

B. To Be a Living Sacrifice

- (一) '将身体献上,当作活祭,是圣洁的,是神所喜悦的。'罗马十二章一节。
- 1. "Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, well pleasing to God" (Rom. 12:1).

祭物乃是叫神喜悦,使神满足的。我们将身体献上,就是这样作神的祭物。不过,在旧约时,神的百姓所献给神的祭,都是死的,我们今天将身体献给神当作祭,乃是活的,为要给神使用,为神作事。但这不是专指'献身作传道',乃是说献上身体,照着神的旨意为神使用,而事奉神。圣灵在我们里面怎样带领,我们的身体就怎样随着活动。这样,这身体就是为神而用的活祭。神没有意思要祂的儿女都'献身作传道',却愿意我们个个都这样献上身体,当作活祭,以事奉神。

A sacrifice is pleasing to God and satisfies Him. When we present our bodies, we are a sacrifice to God. In the Old Testament people offered sacrifices that were dead. Today, however, we present our bodies to God as living sacrifices so that they may be used by God and work for God. This does not refer to "dedicating ourselves to be a missionary." It refers to presenting our bodies to be used by God according to His will to serve Him. Our body moves according to the leading of the Holy Spirit within us. In this way our body is a living sacrifice for God's use. Although God has no intention that all His children would be missionaries, He wants each of us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to serve Him.

祭物一献给神,它的活动和命运,就都由神作主,不能由得自己。我们既是献给神作活祭,就我们虽 然该为神有活动,却不能由自己主张,必须受神的约束,顺从神的意思。

Once a sacrifice is offered to God, its activity and destiny are determined by God, not by itself. Once we present ourselves to God as a living sacrifice, we should act according to God rather than our own ideas. We must be limited by God and follow His will.

三 事奉神

C. To Serve God

- (一) '将身体献上. …如此事事,乃是理所当然的。'罗马十二章一节。
- 1. "Present your bodies...which is your reasonable service" (Rom. 12:1).

我们献给神作活祭,就是为着事奉神。这照罗马十二章一节的下文看,乃是指着在基督的身体一教会 一里面配搭事奉。这该是我们奉献的目的。

We present our bodies to God as a living sacrifice for serving Him. According to the context of Romans 12:1, this refers to our coordination in the service of the Body of Christ, the church. This should be the goal of our consecration.

四 遵行神的旨意

D. To Follow the Will of God

- (一) '将身体献上, ···察验何为神的善良、纯全可喜悦的旨意。'罗马十二章一至二节。
- 1. "Present your bodies...that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect" (Rom. 12:1-2).

我们对神真实正确的事奉,必定是遵照神旨意的。所以我们的奉献,既是为着事奉神,目的也就是要 遵行神的旨意。

Our real and proper service toward God must be in accordance with God's will. Therefore, since our consecration is to serve God, the goal of consecration must also be to follow His will.

五 让神作工

E. To Let God Work

- (一) '我们原是祂的工作,在基督耶稣里造成的,为要叫我们行善,就是神所预备叫我们行的。' 以弗所二章十节。
- 1. "We are His masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand in order that we would walk in them" (Eph. 2:10).

我们把自己奉献给神,目的不仅是为神作工,更是让神作工。因为我们不仅是神的工人,更是神的工作。我们是神的工人,该为神作工;我们是神的工作,该让神作工。我们让神作工,才能为神作工。神要把祂自己和祂的一切都作到我们里面来,所以祂在我们身上有许多工作要作。这需要我们同意。如果神要在木头石头上作工,那不需要它们同意,因为它们是无生之物。但我们是有理智、情感及意志的生物,神要在我们身上作工,就必须我们同意;否则,祂在我们身上就不能作什么。我们这个同意,就是奉献。我们向神献上自己,就是向祂表示同意,让祂在我们身上作工。在我们得救以后,祂一直等我们奉献,等我们把自己交在祂的手中,同意祂来作工。我们若不这样奉献,祂就毫无办法在我们身上作祂所要作到我们身上的工作。所以,我们必须彻底的将自己交给神,让祂在我们身上随意作工。我们让祂作工有多少,才能为祂作工有多少。我们若让祂作工,祂就要藉着圣灵把祂的丰富作到我们里面来,我们也就能靠着圣灵把祂的丰富作到别人身上去。你让不让呢?这要看你的奉献。

Our consecration to God is not only for the purpose of working for God but even more to allow God to work. We are not only God's workers but also His workmanship. As God's workers, we should work for God. As God's workmanship, we should let God work. We must let God work before we can work for God. God wants to work Himself and all that He has into us, so He has much work to do in us. This requires our cooperation. If God wanted to work on wood or stone, He would not need their cooperation, because they are not living. But when God wants to work on us, He needs our cooperation, because we have a mind, emotion, and will. Without our cooperation, He cannot do anything. Our cooperation is our consecration. When we consecrate ourselves to God, we express our willingness to let God work in us. From the time we were saved, He has been waiting for our consecration, waiting for us to hand ourselves over into His hand to let Him work in us. If we do not have this kind of consecration, God has no way to do the work that He wants to do in us. Therefore, we must give ourselves completely to God to allow Him to work in us as He pleases. The amount of work that we can do for God depends upon the amount of work that we allow Him to do in us. If we let Him work in us, He will work His riches into us by the Holy Spirit, and we will be able to work His riches into others by the Holy Spirit. Will we let Him work? The answer depends upon our consecration.

六 荣耀神

F. To Glorify God

- (一) '你们是重价买来的; 所以要在你们的身子上荣耀神。'林前六章二十节。
- 1. "You have been bought with a price. So then glorify God in your body" (1 Cor. 6:20).

我们奉献的最终目的,乃是荣耀神。荣耀神,就是彰显神,显出神来。电光从灯泡里发挥出来,就是荣耀了。我们所以奉献,就是要放下自己的所有,让神作我们的一切,在我们里面得着完全的地位,从我们身上显出祂的自己,而得着荣耀。

The final goal of our consecration is to glorify God. To glorify God is to express God, to live Him out. The light shining out from a light bulb is its glory. We consecrate in order to put everything of ourselves aside and to let God become our everything so that He has the complete position within us to express Himself through us and to be glorified.

参读: 圣经要道, 二十三题: 奉献

Reference: Crucial Truths in the Holy Scriptures, Vol. 2, Ch. 23 Consecration