

*"An Altar Of Earth Thou Shalt Make* unto Me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I Record My Name I Will Come unto thee, and I Will Bless thee. And if thou wilt make Me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it." *Exodus 20:24-25 KJV*

*"The LORD God Formed man of the dust of the ground, for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."* Our bodies are earthen vessels. Here is the pattern for sacrifices to God. A sacrifice given from bounty is no sacrifice. Sacrifice will always cost you. Sacrificing our desires for His, demonstrates love and fear towards God. True love never hesitates to sacrifice!

*"Charity suffereth long."* Your sacrifices to God are directly proportional to your love of God. Faith gives all to the Saviour Who Gave all to us. Our bodies are the tool by which we gather souls from the Master's field. Before faith, my body dictated who I was. It does no longer. *"If any man be in Christ, he is a New Creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things Are Become New."* My Resurrected spirit is now who I will be forever. I know I am in Christ, because I *"hear"* His Voice of Truth, and I follow Him. My body is to be used to glorify God Who Gave all that I might have the Free Gift Of Eternal Life By Grace Through Faith. *"What? Know ye not that your body is the Temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye Are Bought With A Price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."* I can only interact with lost men through my physical form. Preaching the Gospel of Christ is God's Chosen Method for Delivering His Word. *"It Pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to Save them that believe."* Unbelievers can't hear God, but they can hear God's Truth preached by other men. Men, whose earthen vessels are *"altars of earth,"* offer sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving to God in spite of circumstance. *"Present your bodies a Living Sacrifice, Holy, Acceptable Unto God."* We slay, *"mortify the deeds of the body"* by obeying Truth. The altar came as is. *"For if thou lift up THY tool upon it, thou hast polluted it."* God doesn't want man's righteousness. *"Not by works of righteousness which we have done. God (Truth) Worketh in you both to Will and to Do of His Good Pleasure."*



Our earthen altars to the Lord,  
Are built upon His Holy Word,  
We slay our lusts with Holy Sword,  
To give our heart unto the Lord. –CGP

Men burn out in the service of God, because there is no Holy Oil for their wick. Daily meditation and study in God's Word allows the Spirit to Empower, Guide, And Direct our physical actions. Desire originates in thought. What you think is who you are. *"As he thinketh in his heart, so is he."* If you think unrighteously, you'll act unrighteously. What do you want? Are your desires God-pleasing? By yielding to Truth instead of lust, (physical desire) I sacrifice my desires to God because I love God. If I do not love Him, I will never sacrifice anything. Sacrifice is never pleasant, but if made to God, the reward is Joy, Peace, And Infinite Bliss.

*"But as It Is Written, 'Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God Hath Prepared for them that love Him.'" 1 Corinthians 2:9 KJV*