

# Hebrews 8:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer.

## Analysis

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Every high priest is appointed 'to offer both gifts and sacrifices,' therefore Christ 'also must have something to offer.' This establishes the necessity of Christ's sacrifice. A priest without an offering is no priest. Christ's offering is Himself (7:27), the only sacrifice sufficient to remove sin. Reformed substitutionary atonement sees Christ as both priest (offerer) and victim (offering), uniquely qualified to reconcile God and man.

## Historical Context

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The Levitical system's central feature was sacrifice. The author demonstrates Christ fulfills this pattern while transcending it - His sacrifice is superior in kind (Himself, not animals) and effect (eternal redemption, not temporary covering).

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. Why was it necessary for Christ to offer a sacrifice, and why couldn't He simply forgive by decree?
2. How does Christ serving as both priest and sacrifice demonstrate God's love and justice?

## Interlinear Text

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πᾶς γὰρ ἀρχιερεὺς εἰς τὸ προσενέγκη δῶρά τε καὶ  
**every For high priest to offer gifts and also**  
G3956 G1063 G749 G1519 G3588 G4374 G1435 G5037 G2532

θυσίας καθίσταται· ὅθεν ἀναγκαῖον ἔχειν τι καὶ  
**sacrifices is ordained wherefore it is of necessity have somewhat also**  
G2378 G2525 G3606 G316 G2192 G5100 G2532

τοῦτον ὃ προσενέγκη  
**that this man to offer**  
G5126 G3739 G4374

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hebrews 5:1** (Sacrifice): For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins:

**Ephesians 5:2** (Sacrifice): And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

**Hebrews 9:14** (Parallel theme): How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

**Hebrews 7:27** (Sacrifice): Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.

**Titus 2:14** (Parallel theme): Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

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