

Psalms 50:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:

Analysis

What God actually wants: 'Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High.' Thanksgiving (todah) acknowledges God's gifts rather than attempting to pay Him. Paying vows means fulfilling promises made to God. Both are relational, responsive acts rather than transactional exchanges.

Historical Context

The todah (thanksgiving offering) included testimony of God's deliverance. It was communal, celebratory, and acknowledging--not attempting to create obligation or earn favor.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. Why is thanksgiving a more appropriate offering than animals as such?
2. What is the relationship between thanksgiving and vow-keeping?

Interlinear Text

ח	לֵאלֹהֵי יָם	תִּתֶּן ה	וְשָׁלַם	לְעֵלִי וְ	נְדָרֶיךָ:
Offer	unto God	thanksgiving	and pay	unto the most High	thy vows
H2076	H430	H8426	H7999	H5945	H5088

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 13:15 (References God): 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.

Psalms 56:12 (References God): Thy vows are upon me, O God: I will render praises unto thee.

Deuteronomy 23:21 (References God): When thou shalt vow a vow unto the LORD thy God, thou shalt not slack to pay it: for the LORD thy God will surely require it of thee; and it would be sin in thee.

1 Peter 2:5 (References God): Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Psalms 76:11 (References God): Vow, and pay unto the LORD your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared.

Hosea 14:2 (Parallel theme): Take with you words, and turn to the LORD: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (References God): In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Psalms 50:23 (References God): Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

Romans 12:1 (References God): I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Psalms 147:1 (References God): Praise ye the LORD: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely.

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