

Psalm 50

God comes forth from Zion to meet Israel, (for our purposes, at the sacrifice of Passover). But He issues a warning of judgment for present and future generations.

Psalm 50:1 - "The mighty God, even the LORD, has spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof."

"The mighty God, even the LORD" - El, Elohim, Yahweh - "The God of gods, even Yahweh, speaks!"

"God of gods" - that is, of angels, who are so called in Psalm 8:5 - (Gill's Exposition) Or, this could also show his superiority over Egypt's gods.

Psalm 50:5 - "Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice. And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God is judge himself. Selah."

Although He has redeemed them from Egypt and called them to be his people, they should not presume their place of honor. It requires obedience and righteousness.

Psalm 50:8-15 - He explains that the sacrifices and offerings are required not because he needs to eat them. He owns "the cattle on a thousand hills."

Rashi - I did not order you to bring a sacrifice because I need to "eat," but it is My pleasure that I spoke and My will was performed.

Also, sacrifice displays his eternal plan of Christ as the sacrifice for sin - reflecting Christ's "righteousness" which we can put on through faith.

Psalm 50:14 - "Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."

Rashi - "Offer unto God thanksgiving" = Slaughter for God a confession: Confess your deeds and return to Me. That is the sacrifice that I desire, and afterwards pay the Most High your vows, for then they will be accepted willingly.

The Talmud says all sacrifices will cease in future time, the times of the Messiah, except for the sacrifice of praise - (Vajikra Rabba, fol. 153. 1. & 168. 4.)

Psalm 50:16-22 - Words of warning to the wicked

God is more concerned with our moral rebellion than with proper liturgy.

Isaiah 11:1 - "To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the LORD: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not

in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats."

The final verse:

Psalm 50:23 (NET) - "Whoever presents a thank-offering honors me. To whoever obeys my commands, I will reveal my power to deliver."

Rashi - "Whoever presents a thank-offering" = One who slaughters a confession sacrifice: [One] who brings Me a sacrifice of repentance and confession for his iniquities, honors Me.

i.e. the deliverance from Egypt is contingent on Israel's repentance and continued faith and reliance on God.