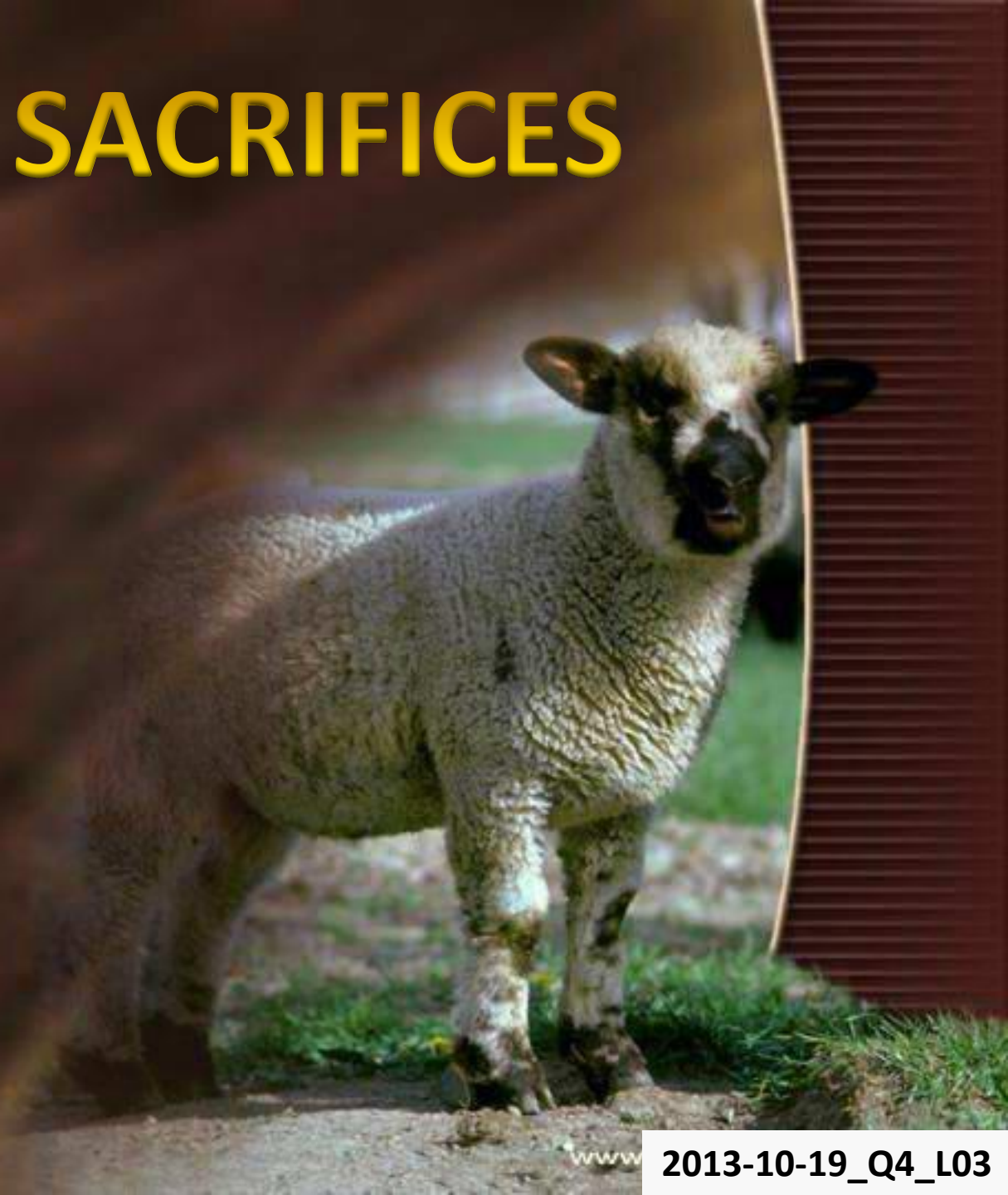
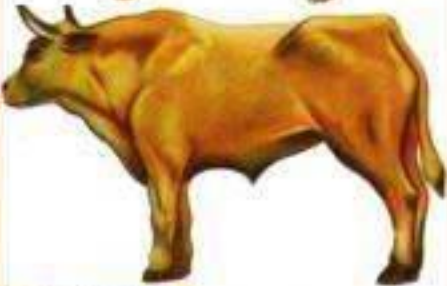
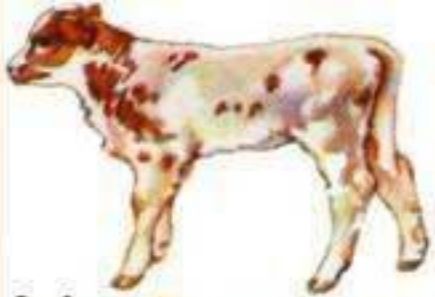


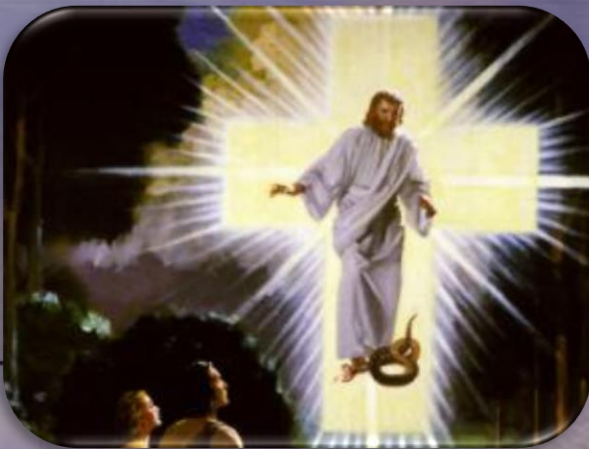
# SACRIFICES



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# THE FIRST SACRIFICES



Just after Adam and Eve's sin, God showed them a draft of His plan to rescue them. Eve's seed —Jesus Christ— would destroy the serpent's —Satan (Gn. 3:15)



God sacrificed an animal and made tunics of skin to clothe them before driving them out of Eden.

So, from the earliest days of human history, sacrifices taught that sinful humans could find union with God, but only through the death of Jesus, who was prefigured in those sacrifices.



# THE SACRIFICE OF ISAAC

“God tested Abraham” by asking him to sacrifice his son Isaac (Gn. 22:1)



Abraham obeyed God's order. God was more important for him than anything else.



God taught Abraham two vital teachings:

1. God is the One providing salvation; He provides the true sacrifice, the “Lamb of God” (“YHVH Jireh” → “God will provide”, Gn. 22:14)
2. No one can die for his own sins or for any person's sins. Only Jesus can die for all our sins; He is our SUBSTITUTE.

# THE SACRIFICES IN THE SANCTUARY

The sacrifices in the Sanctuary were not offered only for forgiving sins. They were also given as an expression of gratitude for God's blessings, as a symbol of dedication, as a penitential request or just as a gift given to God.

There were two main types of sacrifices:

**Mandatory sacrifices**

Sin or purification offering

When a person sinned or was ritually contaminated

Repairing offering

When a return was demanded (e.g. after a robbery)

Burnt offerings

It was completely burnt. It represented the consecration of the one offering it

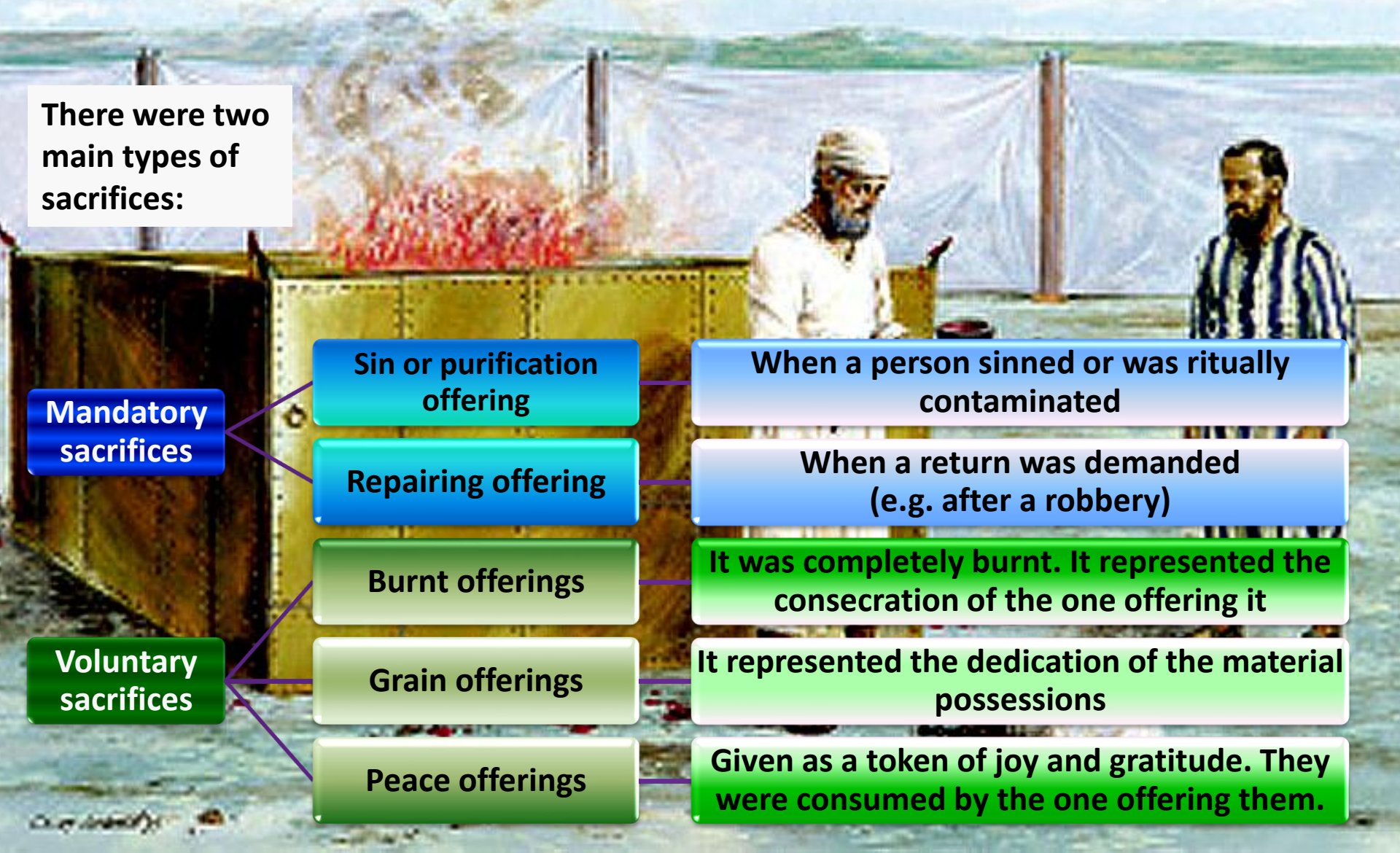
**Voluntary sacrifices**

Grain offerings

It represented the dedication of the material possessions

Peace offerings

Given as a token of joy and gratitude. They were consumed by the one offering them.



# THE MEANING OF THE SACRIFICES

**"For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul" (Leviticus 17:11)**

**"And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission" (Hebrews 9:22)**



**The blood represents life. God made the expiatory blood a ransom for the human life.**

**The blood of every sacrificed animal represented the spilled blood of the "Lamb of God", Jesus Christ.**

**Life for life. God gave the life of His Son for the sinner's life.**

**“The Jews saw in the sacrificial offerings the symbol of Christ whose blood was shed for the salvation of the world. All these offerings were to typify Christ and to rivet the great truth in their hearts that the blood of Jesus Christ alone cleanseth from all sin, and without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. Some wonder why God desired so many sacrifices and appointed the offering of so many bleeding victims in the Jewish economy.**

**Every dying victim was a type of Christ, which lesson was impressed on mind and heart in the most solemn, sacred ceremony, and explained definitely by the priests. Sacrifices were explicitly planned by God Himself to teach this great and momentous truth, that through the blood of Christ alone there is forgiveness of sins”**

# TODAY'S SACRIFICES

The sacrificing system was abolished when Jesus died.

God does not require sacrifices for sin today. Nevertheless, He wants us to offer another type of sacrifices.



## Helping others

- “Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God” (Philippians 4:18)



## Praising and proclaiming the name of God

- “Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name” (Hebrews 13:15)



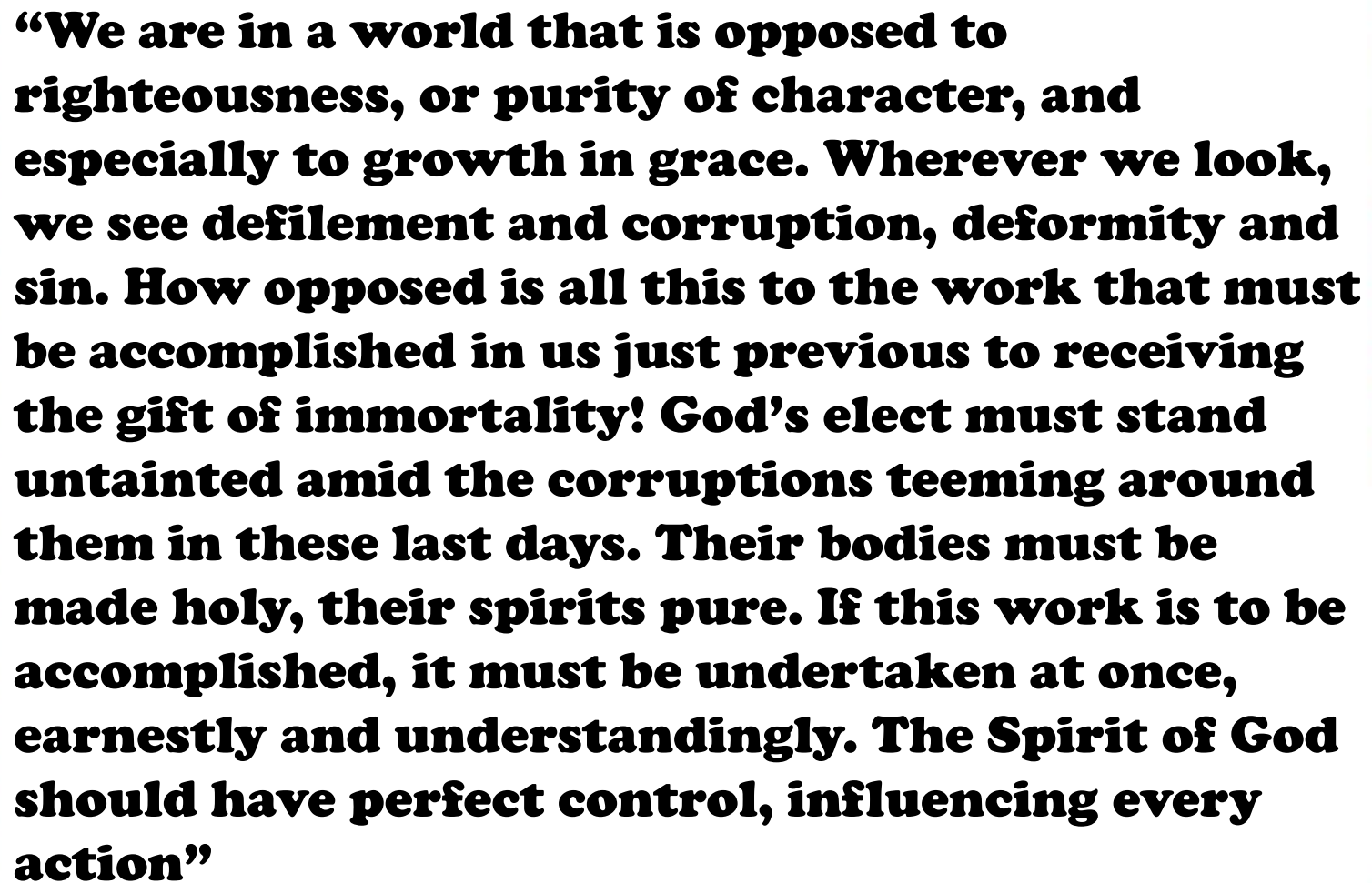
## Being willing to lose our lives for the sake of God

- “For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand” (2 Timothy 4:6)



## Dedicating our whole being to the Lord

- “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service” (Romans 12:1)



**“We are in a world that is opposed to righteousness, or purity of character, and especially to growth in grace. Wherever we look, we see defilement and corruption, deformity and sin. How opposed is all this to the work that must be accomplished in us just previous to receiving the gift of immortality! God’s elect must stand untainted amid the corruptions teeming around them in these last days. Their bodies must be made holy, their spirits pure. If this work is to be accomplished, it must be undertaken at once, earnestly and understandingly. The Spirit of God should have perfect control, influencing every action”**