

## MERCY AND SACRIFICE

Mercy and sacrifice are not only different, they are opposites. One looks in, and the other out. One is selfish and the other selfless. One represents the nature of man and the other the nature of God. God gave the sacrificial system, but the focus was still inward. It taught man to seek forgiveness for his own sin. The preparation and the entire process involved personal gain. Mercy is not like this at all. Mercy does not seek personal gain, it seeks to benefit others. The focus of mercy is outward. The Scriptures teach that God wants mercy more than sacrifice.

The sacrificial system was administered by the descendants of Levi. Levi was a man without mercy. He helped kill all the men in a Hivite city because one of their princes had defiled his sister (Gen. 34:1-31). When Moses called for someone willing to kill his brother, neighbour, and companion, the Levites rose to the occasion and slaughtered 3,000 people in a single day (Ex. 32:26-28). The sacrificial system, like Levi, was without mercy. Not only was there no mercy to the sacrificial victim, but there was no mercy to anyone. Over and over the book of Deuteronomy admonished the keepers of law to show no mercy (see Deut. 7:2, 16; 13:8; 19:13, 21; 25:12, etc.)

It cannot be stressed too strongly that the Law, and the sacrificial system it espoused, do not reflect the nature of God. The Law was a shadow (Heb. 10:1), but God is reality without a shadow (Ja. 1:17). The Law changed (Heb. 7:12), but God never changes (Mal. 3:6). The Law was without mercy, but the mercy of the Lord endures forever. Those most familiar with the sacrificial system were the very ones who crucified Christ. Jesus was God manifest in the flesh, but they did not recognize Him. They were looking for a shadow and Jesus is Light!

When Jesus was criticized for eating with sinners, He said: "But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Matt 9:13). The sacrificial system was not given to teach the nature of God, it was a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ that we might be justified by faith (Gal. 3:24). Jesus wanted them to ponder all the Bible, and not just books of law.

The Scripture quoted by Christ comes from the book of Hosea. This is a book about mercy. The Law commanded that an immoral woman be put to death (Lev. 20:10), but Hosea was commanded to give an immoral woman mercy. He was even told to marry her. He was to take "a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the LORD" (Hosea 1:2). Jesus wanted them to remember that this inspired book is in the Bible too!

On another occasion, Jesus illustrated the im-

portance of mercy by telling of a man who was beaten, robbed, and left half dead on the road (Lk. 10:30-37). A priest and a Levite came by but did not help. These men represented the sacrificial system. They not only did not help, they deliberately avoided the man and "passed by on the other side". Their focus was inward. To even touch an unclean man would have prevented them from making a sacrifice. You know the story. A certain Samaritan came by and showed mercy. He forgot about himself and focussed on the man in need. He treated his wounds, put him on his own beast, took him to a place of refuge, and paid his bills. Jesus said: "Go and do thou likewise".

**GOD DESIRES MERCY MORE THAN HE DESIRES SACRIFICE!** This truth is undeniable for those who believe the Bible. Jesus personified this truth when He emptied Himself that we might be full (Phil. 2:5-11). He made Himself sin that we might be righteous (2 Cor. 5:21). He forgot about Himself and focussed on us. Paul personified this truth when he wished himself accursed so that his brethren might be saved (Rom. 9:3).

We personify this truth when we forget about ourselves in service to others. "Herein is our love made perfect that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in the world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love" (1 John 4:17-18).

**LET'S GO AND LEARN WHAT THIS MEANS!**

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'KHIRS' SUANGPHUM, A WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR  
 THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, DELHI,  
 ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK'

Website: [cocdelhi.org](http://cocdelhi.org)

Enkaiitu: Jamson Guite | Panpihtu Jangthang | Khamminthang

**BIBLE CLASS**

Class	Teacher
Adult	: L. James Guite
Inter	: Jamson
Primary	: Suanlian/Minlun
Beginner	: Suanching

**TOUPANI' THILPIAK**  
 [05/10/2014]  
 RS 15,140/-

**Tuni Biakna Hunzeek**  
 [12/10/2014]

Thumna hun-uk : Liankhogin  
 Lapitu : Timothy  
 Thilpiak : Janglet  
 Theihgigena : James  
 Thuhilhtu : Pauminlun  
 Thumna : Kammuanlal

**Kiginni Biakna Hunzeek**  
 [18/10/2014]

Thumna hun-uk : Chinpau  
 Lapitu : Ginsuan  
 Thuhilhtu : Robert  
 Thumna : Thangbiaklun  
 Amun: Unp. Pauminthang inn  
 ☎ 9718587128

**Kalnawn Biakna Hunzeek**  
 [19/10/2014]

Thumna hun-uk : Pauminthang  
 Lapitu : Jamson  
 Thilpiak : Thongginlian  
 Theihgigena : Thangzalam  
 Thuhilhtu : Pauliansiam  
 Thumna : Ginsuan

**DAM IN TUNG**

☛ Tutung i workshop neihna ua thugenpi diing a ichial uh unaupa Kamlianpau in nilaini in honna paisan a, lamkal ah bou-ruak ziak in buaina omzek mah leh Guwahati a zankhat giak in ningeni in damtak in innlum tungthei hi. Hiai hun a thu hoih tapi ahon mop ziak in Unaupa Kamlianpau tung ah kipahtu a thak in i gen ua, huan, thugentu diing a unaupa hon phalsak hon sawl Mission Veng a unaute tung ah kipahtu hiai i Khirs Suangphum deihthoh tak uh tung-tawn in i taklang uhi.

**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

**Toupa'n van akipan in, mihingte, theisiam a, Pathian bia himhim a om uhiam chih muhtum in ahon ensuk hi (Sam 14:2).**

*Thu Tuantuan*

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**HONGTUNG**

☛ Apa damlounha ziak a Seitol lam a ana zinkhia unaupa Janglet kal paita seppatni in damtak in Delhi hongtung kikhawnta hi. Damtak a hongtung kikhtheih ziak in i kipak uh. Unaupa Jolkhojang a damlounha akipan halhsot mahmah chih thuzak ahi a, kipahhuai isa petmah uh.

☛ Huchi bang mah in unaupa Chinpau leng apa damlounha ziak mah a zinkhia leng kal paita sintopni in damtak in Delhi hongtung kikhawnta hi. Amah leng damtak a ahon tunkik theihziak in kipahhuai isa mahmah uhi.

☛ Unaunu Biaki leng hun bangtan hiam Lamka lam a ava om nung in kal paita sung in damtak in Delhi hongtung kikhawnta hi.

**MEETING OM**

☛ Zan kiginni biakkhawmna zoh in unaupa Thangbiakmang inn ah saptuam vai a kikap-khawmna poimoh takmai neih in om hi. Hiai hun ah saptuam sum dinmun etna neih in om a, huan thu poimoh tapi leng kikap i om hi. Hiai meeting a tup leh gelte Pathianin hon tangtunpih hen chih i thumna uh ahi.

**USHER KIKHEK**

☛ Unaupa Thangbiaklun leh unaupa Timothy te'n usher nna hun sawtkuamtak ahon letsak nung un tu October kha akipan usher nna hon letsak diing in unaupa Ginsuan leh Pausuanliante' muangtak a seh ahi uhi. Feltak leh ginom tak a ahon septouh uh i lamen ua, usher diing a akimanna uh leng phathuai isa uhi.

**KHOMPI NEI DIING UH**

☛ Unau New Lamka, Zion Veng a bekhawmte'n tu October khatawp lam in program thupitak mai neihsawm in nasa tak in kisakhoh lallel uhi. Nop chi mahmah. Lohchingtak a hon neihtheih uh i deihsak ua, i thumpih diing uh.

**TUALAI PROGRAM**

☛ Zan a meeting a thupukna dungzui in maban a tuailaite a diing program khat sai hi diing hi. Tuailaite'n i ngaituahna pia in a manpha theipen a zat ahiththeihna diing in thumna ah phawkni.

**KIKNAWNTA UH**

☛ Unaupa Dongzhangte innkuan Delhi hongzin uh a, kal paita Toupani in biakna ah hongtel uhi. Amau kal paita sintawpni in a omna lam uah honna kiksawnta uhi.

**NEW DELHI CHURCH OF CHRIST  
 FINANCIAL REPORT,  
 SEPTEMBER, 2014**

1. Opening Bal.	3,42,176.32
2. Total Recpt.	74,222.00
3. Grand Total	4,16,398.32
4. Total Expdt.	71,891.00
5. Closing Bal.	3,44,507.32