

Unacceptable Offerings

1. When offered by an evil person such as Cain

“And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering.”

(Genesis 4:3-4)

2. When offered by unauthorized people such as Korah, Dathan, and Abiram

“Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods” (Numbers 16:31-32)

3. When offered without obedience and submission to God

“Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams.” (1 Samuel 15:22)

**4. When offered with pride
and self-righteousness like
the Pharisee**

“I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” (Luke 18:14)

5. When the offering is obtained by unlawful means

“You shall not bring the wages of a harlotto the house of the LORD your God.” (Deuteronomy 23:18)

6. When offerings are without mercy or the knowledge of God

“For I desire mercy and not sacrifice, and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.” (Hosea 6:6)

7. When the offering is not befitting God's honor and glory

And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice, Is it not evil? And when you offer the lame and sick, Is it not evil? Offer it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favorably?" Says the LORD of hosts. (Malachi 1:8)

8. When offered without first reconciling with my brother

“Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, Leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.” (Matthew 5:23-24)

9. When offered without love

“If a man would give for love all the wealth of his house, it would be utterly despised.” (Song of Songs 8:7)

“And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.”

(1 Corinthians 13:3)

10. When offered in order to seek the praise of others

“Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 6:1)