



Third Week of the blessed month of Kiahk

“Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth.”

LUKE 1:39-40

A Living Sacrifice

Rom 12:1

“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.”

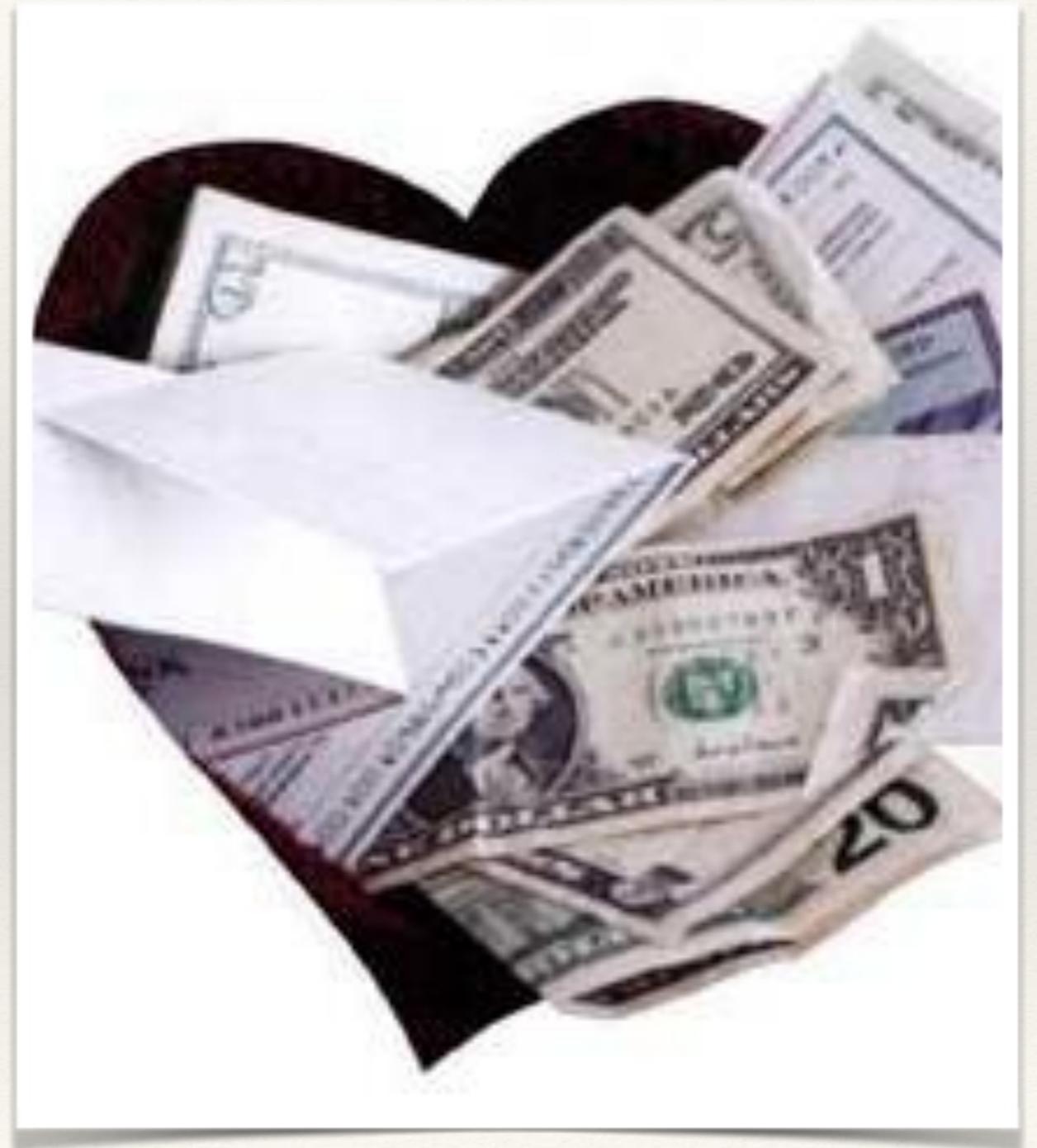
Sacrifice... 1. Relationships

† Matt 10:34-37 - “Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. For I have come to “set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law”; and ‘a man's enemies will be those of his own household.’ He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.”



Sacrifice... 2. Possessions

- † Luke 12:15 - “Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”
- † Matt 6:19-21 - “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”
- † Matt 16:26 – “For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul.”



Sacrifice...

3. The Self

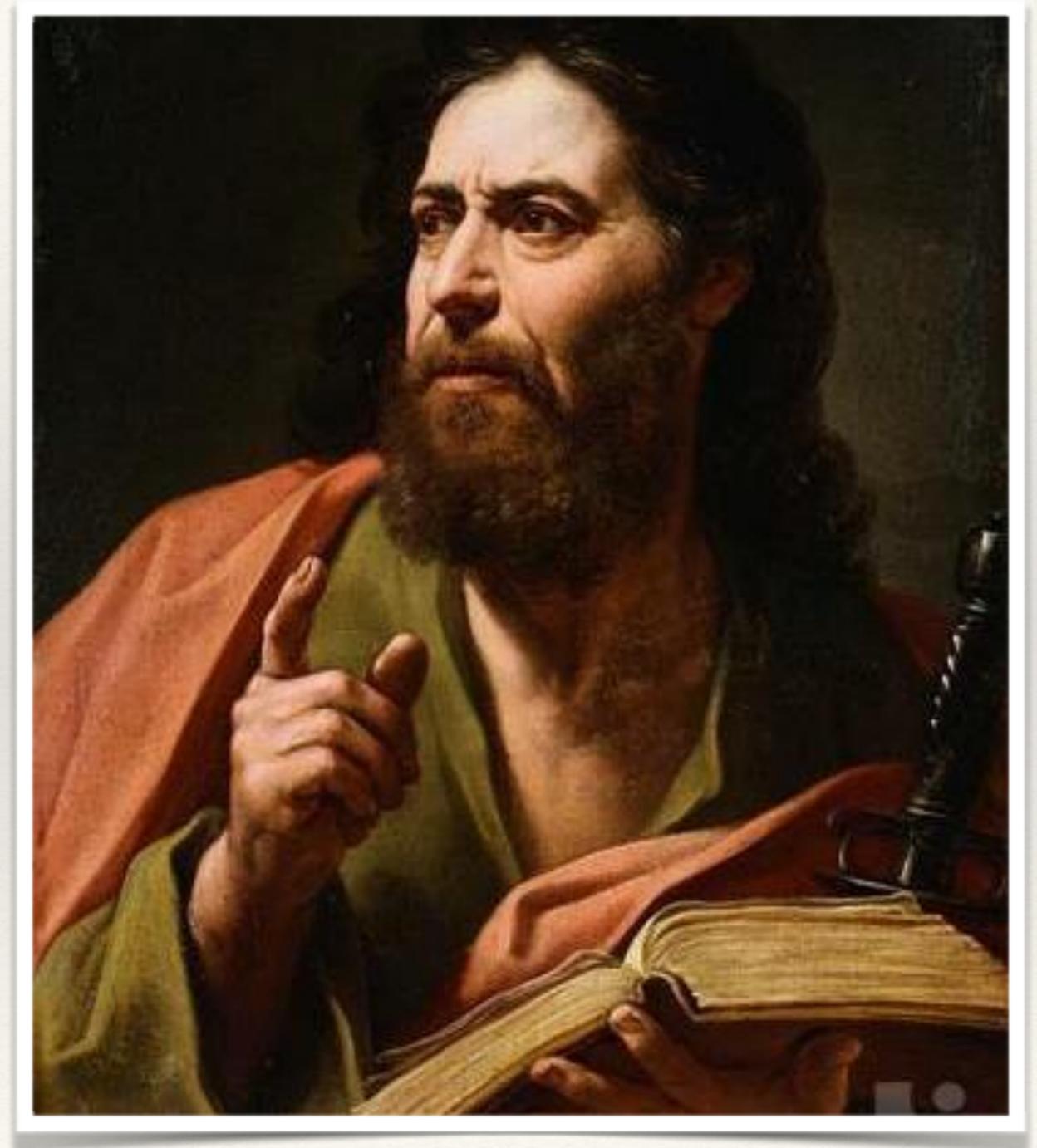
- † **Giving preference to others**
- † Phil. 2:3 – “Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.”
- † Rom. 12:10 – “Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another...”



Sacrifice...

3. The Self

- † **Being spent for others**
- † Rom 12:1 – “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.”
- † 2 Cor 12:15 – “And I will **very gladly spend and be spent for your souls**; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I am loved.”



Sacrifice...

4. Our Rights

† Consider St. Paul

† Eating meat offered to idols

† 1 Cor. 8:11,13 – “And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died?... Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.”

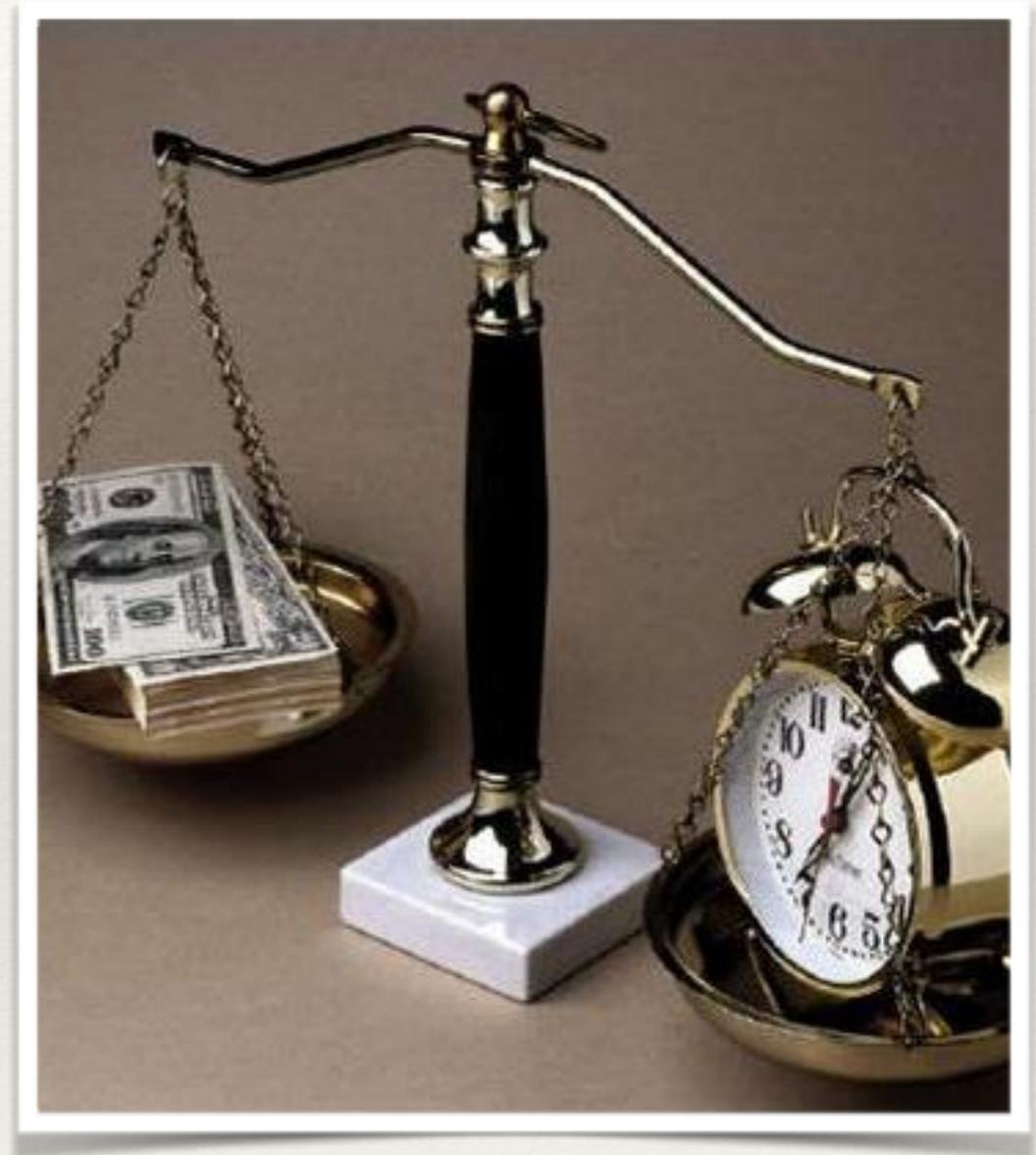
† Marriage

† 1 Cor. 9:5 – “Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas?”

† 1 Cor. 9:12 – “Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ.”

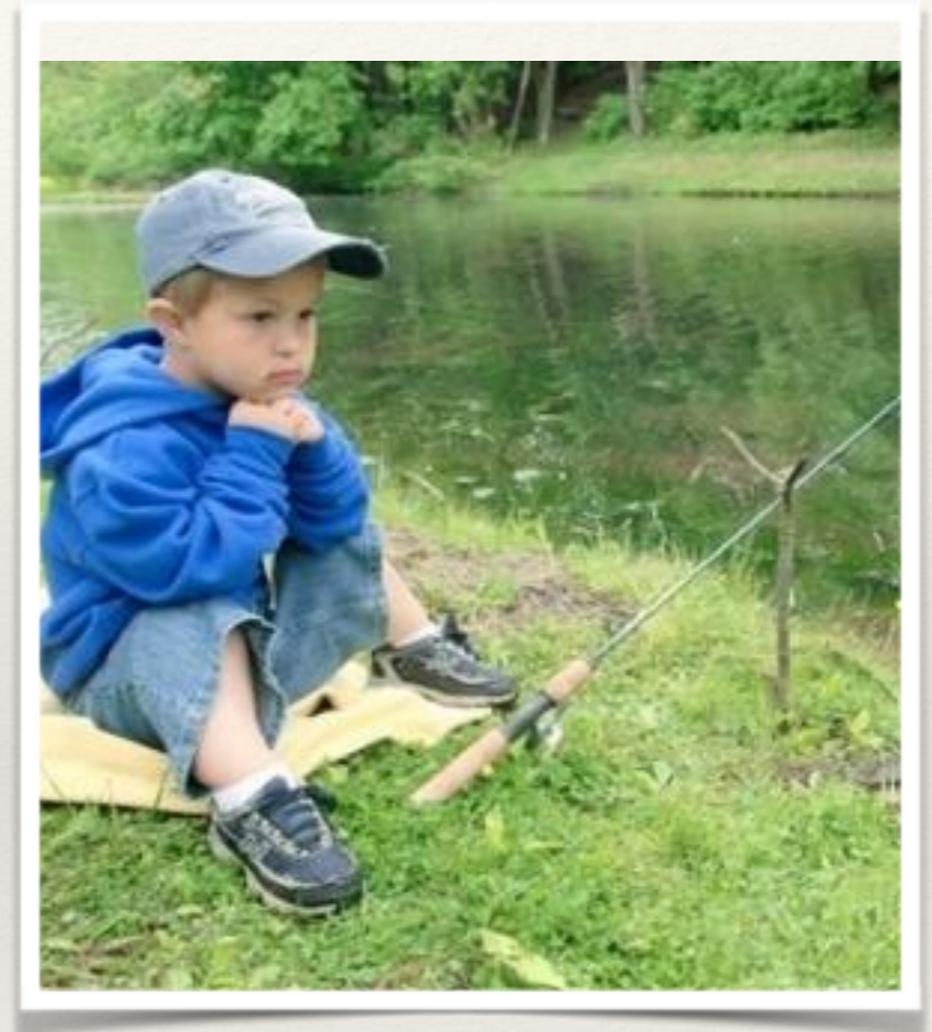
Living a Sacrificial Life

- † The 3 P's: Practice, Patience, Perseverance
- † **Practice**
 - † Practice giving up something you have or want for someone else
 - † Real sacrifice means being deprived
 - † Start at home



Living a Sacrificial Life

- † The 3 P's: Practice, Patience, Perseverance
- † **Patience**
 - † Tolerating delay
 - † Giving up control
 - † Psa 130:5-6 – “I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning— Yes, more than those who watch for the morning.”



Living a Sacrificial Life

- † The 3 P's: Practice, Patience, Perseverance
- † **Perseverance**
- † **2 Sam 12:20-23** – “So David **arose** from the ground, washed and **anointed himself**, and **changed his clothes**; and he **went into the house of the Lord** and **worshiped**. Then he went to his own house; and when he requested, they set food before him, and **he ate**. Then his servants said to him, “What is this that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive, but when the child died, you arose and ate food.” And he said, “While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, ‘Who can tell whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?’ But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? **I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.**”

Summary

- † **We are called to sacrifice:**
 - † Relationships
 - † Possessions
 - † Ourselves
 - † Our rights
- † **How can we learn to live a sacrificial life?**
 - † Practice
 - † Patience
 - † Perseverance