

Week #:	74	Text:	(various)	Title:	Secrets of the Holy Place: 6 (A)
Songs:	Lord Prepare Me (4:21)				
	Lord I Give You My Heart – Hillsong (4:46)				
	Heart of Worship – Matt Redman (5:01)				
	Here I Am to Worship – Chris Tomlin (4:52)				
Video:	Perry Stone – Secrets of the Holy Place #6				

Secrets of the Holy Place, by Perry Stone (begin DVD #6 at 00:00:00)

The Blessings of *Corban/Korban*:

- Word: ***Consecrate***
 - Found 14 times in the Old Testament
 - The word ***consecrate*** means: ***to fill the hands***
 - When you've consecrated yourself to God, everything belongs to God. You consecrate yourself by offering to God your mind, your body, your soul, your spirit, your finances, and everything.
 - We think of consecration of being looking a certain way, acting a certain way – it can include that, but in the Hebrew it actually means ***to fill the hands***.
 - God told Israel not to come into His house empty – bring something (Exodus 34:20)
 - fellowship offering or thanksgiving offering – an offering of appreciation to God for what He did in your life

Mark 7:10-13

¹⁰ For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.' ¹¹ But you say, 'If a man says to his father or mother, "Whatever profit you might have received from me is Corban" —' (that is, a gift to God), ¹² then you no longer let him do anything for his father or his mother, ¹³ making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do."

- Notice: If you say, "it's corban," you exempt yourself from giving to your mother and father
- In the time of Jesus the corban was an offering that you brought to God as an individual to the Temple.
- In the Old Testament time and in the time of Christ they didn't have the welfare system, government systems, that we have today to help take care of people who have retired. So when your mother and father got to the point that they could no longer work, it was the responsibility especially of the oldest son, who would end up getting a double inheritance, to make sure that mom and dad were taken care of for food, clothing, or whatever they needed.
- When the Temple was built, the religion became so corrupt that a man could say he had a set amount put aside for his mother and father, but he didn't want to give it to them. So he would put the responsibility on the siblings to take care of them, then go to the Temple and give a "gift to God." The priest would then give him a receipt.
- The corruption came in with this that Jesus said in Mark 7:10-13 (above), that they believed in the law so much, but they didn't even believe in Jesus healing on the Sabbath day (breaking the law), but He focused on how they were breaking the law by allowing people to exempt themselves from taking care of their mother and father by the law because they brought a gift to the Temple.
- Some scholars believe that if the mom and dad died, those same people would bring a receipt back to the priest, who would then give them that money back. If that's true, this was a horrible system that would cause someone not to take care of their mother and father.
- In the setting of Jesus using the corban here, He's using that in relation to helping your mother and father and giving a gift to the Temple called corban, which is an offering with sacrifice – in this case money – and then exempting yourself.

- When we read the word corban it sounds like it's a negative word. Corban really is not a negative word. It's a very significant word when you understand the meaning.
- **Corban became the Hebrew word that would be known and used throughout the Bible for the word sacrifice.** When it talked of giving a sacrifice unto God of any type, this was considered to be called corban.
- Word: **Sacrifice**
 - Found 194 times in the Old Testament
 - Usually translated as the Hebrew word zebach or olah
 - Corban comes from the Hebrew out of an Aramaic word used as any offering presented to God in the Temple
- Commentary by a Jewish Rabbi (which changes your understanding of your giving to God):
- "It is most regrettable that we have no word that really reproduces the idea that lies in the expression 'Korban.' The unfortunate use of the term 'sacrifice' implies giving up something of value to oneself for the benefit of another, or having to do without something of value, ideas not only entirely absent from the nature of 'korban,' but diametrically opposed to it. In addition, the idea of an 'offering' presupposes a wish on the part of the one to whom it is brought... but the idea of 'korban' is far away from all this. It is used exclusively with reference with humanity's relationship with Hashem [God], and can only be understood from the meaning that lies in its root." -Rabbi Shimshon Rafael Hirsch
- Every Hebrew word has at least two (or three) root letters – all of them.
 - In English we translate it as - K R V - those aren't the Hebrew letters, they are the English letter sounds. [Hebrew letters are: zain, bet, chet]
 - The root means: to approach, to come near, to enter into a relationship with
 - Corban therefore implies closeness.
- The root of those three words **near** in Hebrew means **bringing something together**, it endears the two people, and never has harshness connected with it. This is why **Korban la Hashem**, or **the gift of God**, or **a gift given in the name of God**, is so important. Its intent is to draw you closer to God.
- When it's time for a pastor to receive tithe, the mind thinks you are giving up that \$20 and that maybe God will bless you.
- This is the misconception through teaching – we think *offering* is offering something to God in which you give up something so God can have it. **God doesn't need your money! But I/we need the blessing! I/We need the relationship!**
 - There are ministries you give to that has plenty of money and they don't need your \$100, but with that comes a blessing, and a ministry so hot with God right now and seeing the favour of God and such anointing on it, that if you connect yourself where that anointing and that touch of God and what God is doing, then what comes from the head is going to trickle down. Give because you want to be close to God and you want God to be pleased with what you do.
 - You need to see offering time as a time of presenting something to the Lord, but your gift draws you closer to God because of your obedience toward Him, and your willingness to not express any greed or selfishness in your life of being able to give to Him. That's the idea behind corban.
- **Corban** actually means: **to draw near**
- When we talk about the sacrifices at the offering, any individual offering could be called *corban*. However, there are different words used in the Hebrew in the Old Testament concerning offering, concerning an oblation, concerning a sacrifice – 8 different words.
 - These words are found 633 times in the Torah

- 559 times in the other 61 books of the Bible
- They are either translated as **offering** or they are translated as **sacrifice**
- Here are the 4 words used by Moses when he talked about the brass altar and the offerings that were going to be made by sacrifices at the brass altar
 - **Asah**: to make ready or prepare the sacrifice (Leviticus 9:22-24)
 - **Zebach**: to offer/slaughter the sacrifice (Leviticus 22:18-24)
 - **Olah**: to see the sacrifice go up in smoke (Leviticus 8:18-29)
 - **Terumah**: a heave offering (Exodus 25:2-3)
 - God loved the sacrifice so much that He gives you four different words to describe the process of every part of it:
 1. presenting it to Him
 2. putting it on the altar
 3. watching it be burned
 4. Him receiving it
 - The significance of the sacrifice was God knowing, *“I’m sending My Son to earth one day, everything we do has to point to Him so that He can say He is the fulfillment by looking back to these sacrifices.”*
 - That’s what Jesus did with the two men on the road to Emmaus – he said, *“The Torah, Moses, and Prophets have spoken about me. Let me now expand to You what I know about myself from the Word of God.”* (Luke 24)
- We need to look at this from the Old Testament perspective and establish things concerning the corban, which was the offering which was offered individually by people.
- Every individual offering was called a corban, but there were different kinds of offerings that were connected with the corban itself.
 1. **Burnt Offering** – bull or ram (Leviticus 6:8-13)
 2. **Grain Offering** – grain or flour (Leviticus 6:14-23)
 3. **Fellowship/Peace Offering** – any animal (Leviticus 7:11-34)
 4. **Sin Offering** – bull, goat, lamb, pigeon and flour (Leviticus 4:1-2)
 - You’d better be glad we’re not living in the sacrificial days, because some folks would be bankrupt in their sin offering.
 5. **Guilt Offering** – lamb or ram (Leviticus 7:1-6)
 - We don’t think about this – we come to church and give what we feel led to give, maybe we’re inspired to give something, we go through our money and drop it in the offering.
- Had you been in the time of Moses, here are the today’s standards of the cost of the following offerings:
 - Bull (Exodus 29:1): \$1200 – \$1500
 - Ram (Exodus 29:15): \$600
 - Goat (Exodus 16:15): \$300
 - Lamb (Exodus 29:39): \$700
 - Pigeon (Leviticus 12:6): \$50 – \$300
 - Turtle Dove (Leviticus 12:6): \$25
 - In that day God said the poor people didn’t have to provide the larger offerings because they couldn’t, so God said if they sinned they could bring a turtle dove instead.

- God could have looked at a poor man and a very rich man and required them the same exact offering, but even in sin God had compassion on the poor man. This is the mercy of God.
 - God understood that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins, so He offered another way for the poor to also give the required animal sacrifice (Hebrews 9:22).
- The high priest had to make a sacrifice for himself (bull and ram), then for the Levites (bull and rams), then for the Israelites (goats, lambs, and pigeons).
 - The higher you were to God, and the closer you were to God and His presence, the more responsibility was placed on you, whereas the Israelites were not.
 - Example (by Old Testament law): If you were an Israelite you were an Outer Court person. You couldn't go any further than this. You could be divorced.
 - If you were in the priesthood under the law of God, they had to be very careful of who they married (required to marry someone from the tribe of Levi).
 - If you were a high priest and your wife died, you could not marry a woman who was a harlot and had been converted, and other such stipulations. He had to marry a certain woman of a certain type of a certain way.
 - The closer you were to God, the more requirements God placed on you. But the closer you were to God, the more you got to enjoy the presence of God. So the requirements weren't such a big thing when you got to consider what you got to be a part of or what you got to participate in.
- The five offerings:
 1. **Burnt Offering** (Leviticus 6:8-13)
 - They would remove the skin [bull or ram] (to be kept by the priest) and the entire offering would be offered on the altar.
 - It had to be a male animal without defect, and the kind depended on the wealth of the person.
 - The hands were placed on the animal by the priest before it was sacrificed, transferring the sins to the animal.
 - The blood then was sprinkled on the altar, the animal was flayed, the fat was burnt along with the entrails, then the rest of the animal was offered.
 - A lamb was offered in the morning and in the evening, and this dealt with the sins of the people as well (Exodus 29:38-42)
 2. **Grain Offering** (Leviticus 6:14-23)
 - It consisted of grains and other vegetable products.
 - It was offered separately from the other offerings.
 - There were four types of offerings that would be made with grains, along with oil and salt added to them (Leviticus 2):
 - The priest would throw a portion on the fire, but they would eat the rest.
 - One of the reasons for some of these offerings – like this particular one – was to provide food for the priesthood. There were 22,000 priests in Moses' day in the Tabernacle, and so this provided food for them.
 3. **Fellowship/Peace Offering** (Leviticus 3; Leviticus 7:11-34)
 - These were shared by the priests and the worshipper themselves.

- The blood was collected, poured out upon the edges of the altar, the fat and entrails of the animal were burnt, and the rest of the animal was eaten by the priest and the worshipper.
 - This was an expression of thanksgiving to God for what He had done in your life. You just brought an offering to fellowship with the priest to say “*Thank You.*”
4. **Sin Offering** (Leviticus 4:1-2; Leviticus 6:24-30; Leviticus 8:14-17; Leviticus 16:3-22)
- This dealt with sacrifices for sins.
 - It was also a sacrifice for an unintentional fault against God.
 - Sins of the high priest required a bull.
 - Sins of the leaders required a male goat.
 - Sins of the ordinary people required a goat, lamb, or turtle dove
 - These offerings symbolized the redemption of the nation.
5. **Trespass/Guilt Offering** (Leviticus 5:14-19; Leviticus 7:1-6)
- You could take an offering of money if you didn’t have the animal.
 - This could be offered for a sin of ignorance connected to fraud – if you did something and didn’t know it was wrong, this offering had to be given.
 - You had to offer the person you cheated the equal amount, at least, of what you cheated them from.
 - You had to then make restitution with that person.
 - People think restitution (or making your wrongs right with people) was only something that Jesus established in the New Testament. It is not. There was an entire offering established that if you wronged somebody, you had to go to that person, you had to make it right.
 - How to empty out prisons and keep people out of prison: when a dude steals your car, he has to pay for a brand new one; when they break in your house and break the door down and steal stuff, they have to replace exactly what they’ve stolen, and if they pawned it in a pawn shop, they have to work until they restore it. You put these guys in prison and you’ve got some of them going to play basketball, or watch tv all day long, and never have to make restitution. If you start making people physically pay back the damage they’ve done, and you’re going to have a lot of people quit damaging things.
 - That’s how God set the system up. If a man killed someone’s donkey, God required he replace it with his own donkey.
 - If we did things the way God did it in some of His laws, the whole system would be a whole lot different than what we have today.
- How serious did God take all these offerings:
 - Nadab and Abihu – offered strange fire before God and were struck dead (Leviticus 10:1)
 - Korah and 250 leaders – offered their own incense and the earth opened up and swallowed them up (Numbers 16)
 - Uzzah – reached out and touched the Ark of the Covenant with both hands and he was slain and dropped dead (II Samuel 6:6-7)
 - Uzziah – offered incense on the golden altar [he was a king] and he came down with leprosy and died (II Chronicles 25:16-19)

- Ananias and Sapphira – said they were going to sell some land and give all the proceeds to God for the poor people in Jerusalem, then they lied and only gave a portion of it; one dropped dead then a few hours later the other dropped dead (Acts 5:1-11)
- If you think Jesus does not take seriously your offerings, you've got another thing coming.
- The amount is not important – for some it is all they may have. Sometimes you have to make sacrifices in order to be obedient to God in your life.
- We should take very seriously everything we use of the offering (as a church), and everyone's gift in the offering.
- Fulfillment of the offerings:
 - Sin Offering – any sin committed against God
 - Jesus fulfilled this by taking our sins to the cross (Isaiah 53:3-10).
 - Guilt Offering – any sin against someone else
 - Christ fulfilled this by telling us that whoever sins you remit [release], are remitted [released] back to them (John 20:23).
 - Jesus' death and resurrection enabled us to be able to release people that have sinned against us so we have no animosity towards them.
 - Burnt Offering – an offering of surrender
 - Jesus surrendered His body, soul, and spirit to God in order to be the offering sacrifice (John 3:16-17)
 - Grain/Meal Offering – the thanksgiving offering
 - Through Christ, we are told to feed the poor, take care of the needy, provide clothes for those who don't have it – that is how we express our thanksgiving for being clothed, our thanksgiving for having food, our thanksgiving for having a home – we take a little of what we have and we present it either through a ministry or through a person that is feeding the poor and taking care of the needy (Matthew 25:35-40).
 - Some blast ministers for building facilities – Jesus even said the poor you have with you always (Mark 14:7). Unless people get out of poverty, they will still be poor a year later.
 - The missionary says: you can always take the Gospel to the people and get him won to Jesus, but it's a whole lot better to teach a man how to fish and how to grow his own food and then bring the Gospel to him, so he can now trust God with the works of his hands. The combination of faith and works is connected to all of this.
 - People are hesitant in their giving because of those fakers that manipulate. If you're going to give, you want to know it's going to the right place. Don't ever let the fact that some crazy preacher or some hypocrite came along and took people's money causing you to tighten up on people who need help, on the Kingdom of God, all because of crazy preacher that went out and bought him a Rolls Royce with your money. That's between him and God. You gave it in a good heart, you gave it with faith. He will answer to God for the abuse that he has.
 - Thanksgiving offering: where would you be tonight if God hadn't saved you?
 - God asks for a tithe – a tenth – which is nothing to what some would be spending if they were still in sin.
 - Fellowship Offering - it's an offering that gives you peace with God
 - We have peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:20)

- When it comes to sin:
 - Sin Offering - Hebrew: hatat offering
 - Guilt Offering - Hebrew: asham offering
 - If we do something that is totally contrary to God, and we know it, then your sin has become against God and His word
 - If however we really cut somebody down and gossip about somebody and attack them because we don't like them so you want to hurt their reputation and integrity, you have sinned Biblically against that person
 - It's easy for us to know we've sinned and apologize to God.
 - Jesus said if anyone sins against you we should forgive them 70 times 7 (Matthew 18:21-22)
 - In other words: Sincere forgiveness from someone is unlimited if it's sincere.
 - The church is missing genuine love. We need to have an agape type of love for people that we love them despite anything they do. "God so loved the world..." (John 3:16)
 - You can get bold and run off the pastor in your church, but if you live in a small town everybody hears about it. You get another pastor and three months later you run him off, and then get another one. This happens in denominations, and you can't figure out why you can't grow. The reason you can't grow is nobody wants to go to a church that's judging everybody. Nobody wants to go to a church that's running off good people. They're not going to sit down and hear anybody preach, no matter what kind of good preacher you get, because it's run by the same people who've ran it for 50 years, you're not going to grow an ounce, and every church around you is going to grow because people in the town have found out the way that you are, what you do, and how you treat people. Nobody wants to go to a church that doesn't honor a pastor, and you dishonor him by causing a rebellion like Cora, and because you don't like his preaching or his style you want to run him off so you can get in the man that you want. That is not of God! You're going to hurt your reputation in the community.
 - In a survey of what people want who don't go to church:
 - #1 is not good singing, good preaching, or good music or children's ministry – it's to be able to go to a place where they can feel loved and where people aren't going to judge them by what they look like.
 - There was an offering you gave to God when you sinned against God, but there was also an offering you had to give when you sinned against people. But then God didn't let you off the hook – restitution face-to-face had to be made.

Matthew 5:23-24

²³ Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

- We think the altar is the place in the front of the sanctuary. The altar is the place of sacrifice. The Temple still existed when Jesus spoke this. Your gift was your sacrifice – your grain offering, your thanksgiving offering, your peace offering. So Jesus told them that if they wanted to be pleasing to God, before they put their animal/grain/oil on the altar, stop – because God is not going to pay a bit of attention to you until you go make reconciliation with the brother you got messed up.

- We don't make reconciliation because we want to believe we were right. So we sit back and wait for the person to come to us. That's not what Jesus said. He said for us to go to them and ask for forgiveness and then you have remitted [released] their sin and their offense – and you've released it back to them (Matthew 5:23-24; John 20:23). That means now it's up to them to turn to you and say they are also sorry. Once they have told you they are sorry, it's totally erased, it's reconciled, it's done. Then both of you can be blessed by giving your gifts – your offerings, your tithes, your work that you do for God.

Matthew 6:14-15

¹⁴ "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

- The one thing Jesus spoke quite a bit about to believers was the attitude toward other people, and unforgiveness.
- The servant who does not forgive is turned over to a tormenting spirit and they are tormented until they learn how to forgive (Matthew 18:23-35).
- Forgiveness is not about them (the person who wronged you) – forgiveness is about YOU!
- Forgiveness benefits you.
- Whether or not that person ever looks at you and forgives you what you may have said or done, is not the issue. You did the right thing. You did the thing that God would have you to do.
- In the ideas of this offering, there are basically two things –
- 1. dealing with sins against God
- 2. dealing with sins against others
- 3. dealing with guilt you may have
- The flip side of this is presenting offerings to God for appreciation, for giving us peace, for giving us the blessings of life – thanksgiving and fellowship offerings. Fellowshiping with Him. We make that practical today by saying: we do not offer a bull, ram, goat, animal today. What we offer ourselves as a living sacrifice unto Him (Romans 12:1).
- Our offerings today:
 1. Offering ourselves to Him – body, soul, and spirit (I Thessalonians 5:23)
 2. Offering the fruit of our lips – sacrifice of praise (Hebrews 13:15)
 3. Offering of tithes and offerings – finances or other things... drawings, art, skills, etc. (Malachi 3:8-11). You may not have finances, but you can do something. Be a greeter: David said he'd rather be a gatekeeper in the house of God than dwell in the house of the wicked (Psalms 84:10). You can do little things: encouraging people; use something you have to offer for ministry.
- Even though we don't offer animals, Christ has fulfilled our sacrifices – there are still sacrifices that we make to Him.

God always honours sacrifice!