

LET THE MEN THAT SACRIFICE  
KISS THE CALVES

TAPIOLA  
APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH  
NEWSLETTER  
OCTOBER 2012

Hosea 13:2

From the Garden of Eden to the present, God has required the shedding of blood to forgive the sins of a penitent soul, “And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission” (Heb 9:22). Leviticus 1:3 directs how this blood must be shed, “If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD”. Thus, one who is awakened to sin by the preached Word willingly comes forward to confess his guilt by bringing a specific animal to the priest who then sprinkles the blood upon the altar, “and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him” (Lev 1:4). Likewise, Jesus has instructed all believers to preach repentance and remission of sins in His name but only those who “gladly received his word” (Acts 2:41) “receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (Acts 2:38).

The open confession of sins has always been difficult for man to humble himself to do. The breakup of the nation of Israel into two kingdoms came down to this very issue where the Northern Kingdom compromised their worship practices by accepting portions of heathen worship. Jeroboam, the first king of the Northern Kingdom, introduced two golden calves calling them the gods which brought the people out of the bondage of Egypt. The new form of worship, which kept the people away from Jerusalem, retained most of the old familiar forms of worship but caused a subtle change in the people who gladly accepted a more tolerant god: they began to lose their focus on the living God. By the time the seventh king, Ahab, arrived, the people were completely turned away from God; Ahab, not only tolerated other religions but he converted to them, “and went and served Baal, and worshiped him” (1 Kings 16:31). The sacrifices in the new religion had become one of celebration rather than of Godly sorrow over sin.

People rejoiced in the fact that they were worshipping a loving god and that they could comfortably reject mention of sin. This practice angered God, “And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him”.

As with the Northern Kingdom in Hosea’s time, many false prophets have entered living Christianity today preaching comfortable doctrines, leading souls astray. Modern false prophets also retain all the outward trappings of true worship, in fact one would be hard pressed to find anything wrong with their preaching; it is bible based. Yet the subtle shift away from the power of the sacrificial blood of Christ—the confession and forgiveness of sins—toward the preaching that one can go directly to God, sidestepping His servants, is leading many in our day to lose focus on Christ.

The people of Hosea’s time had forsaken the need for repentance (Godly sorrow) and embraced other ways of worshipping God. Instead of humbling themselves before God’s servants and openly confessing their sin they desired to continue joyfully sacrificing animals to servants of Baal who deny the power of the blood of Christ. In essence God told these people to continue in their ungodly ways; “Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves”. God continues to call all people to repentance but if they continue to reject His call He will leave them to their own devices as God told John in Rev 22:11, “He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.” When God calls; do not turn your back.

God’s Peace,  
Charles Korhonen

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Oct 7th	Ken Storm	10:00	Holy Communion
Oct 14th	Jim Johnson	11:00	
Oct 21st	Ken Storm	11:00	Cal Niemela Med Care 2:00PM
Oct 28th	Dave Lappi	11:00	

Ken Storm, Pastor (906) 482-3234  
Church (906) 334-2766  
Church Location - 17602 N. Lake Ave. Tapiola, MI  
Bible Study - Wednesday - 7:00 PM  
Sunday School: 9:45 AM Sunday Worship: 11:00 AM

TELECONFERENCE

Local: 334-6338 Long Distance: 1-906-334-6338  
Instructions: After “greeting”, enter Conference I.D. No. 44444



**TAPIOLA APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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