

SCRIPTURES RABBIS USED TO REPLACE SACRIFICES

Following the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD, the Jewish priesthood and sacrificial system were no longer possible. Without a temple, there's no place to make sacrifices—especially when God specifically commanded sacrifices at the temple only. Rabbinic leadership transitioned Judaism to develop a theology that replaced sacrifices with prayer, repentance, Torah study, and good deeds. This shift was supported by Hebrew Scriptures that emphasized inner devotion and ethical conduct over ritual offerings. Below is a comprehensive list of scriptures commonly cited by rabbinic authorities to justify the transition from sacrifices to spiritual practices.

- **Hosea 6:6** – For I desire mercy and not sacrifice, and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.
- **Hosea 14:2** – Take words with you, and return to the LORD. Say to Him, 'Take away all iniquity; receive us graciously, for we will offer the sacrifices of our lips.'
- **Psalms 40:6-8** – Sacrifice and offering You did not desire; my ears You have opened. Burnt offering and sin offering You did not require. Then I said, 'Behold, I come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.'
- **Psalms 51:16-17** – For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart—these, O God, You will not despise.
- **1 Samuel 15:22** – So Samuel said: '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.'
- **Isaiah 1:11-17** – To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me? says the LORD... Bring no more futile sacrifices... Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good...
- **Isaiah 66:2-3** – 'But on this one will I look: on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word. He who kills a bull is as if he slays a man... they have chosen their own ways, and their soul delights in their abominations.'
- **Amos 5:21-24** – 'I hate, I despise your feast days... Though you offer Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them... But let justice run down like water, and righteousness like a mighty stream.'
- **Micah 6:6-8** – With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the High God? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings... He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?
- **Proverbs 15:8** – The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, but the prayer of the upright is His delight.
- **Proverbs 21:3** – To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.
- **Daniel 4:27** – Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you; break off your sins by being righteous, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor.
- **Ecclesiastes 5:1** – Walk prudently when you go to the house of God; and draw near to hear rather than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they do evil.