Repairing The Altar Of God

Robert Harkrider · 1 Kings 18:30–40 · Series: **Authority**

INTRODUCTION

- I want to talk this morning about repairing the altar that was broken down, the altar of God.
- How long halt ye between two opinions? You can't serve both the Lord God of Israel and Baal, an idol God. You have to choose one or the other.
- That within itself says, the altar of God once stood. It once was there, but it had been broken down.

1 Double-Mindedness About Serving the Lord

Matthew 6:24; 1 Kings 18:21; Luke 9:23

- Jesus in the Sermon on the Mountain said in Matthew 6 and verse 24, you cannot serve two masters.
- I'd say separation from God usually starts right here. That people do not intend to desert the Lord.
- Love for the world and love for God mix no better than oil and water can mix.
- We try to hang on to the world and try to hang on the Lord at the same time, and it will not work.

2 Over a Period of Time It Becomes Disinterest

Revelation 3:15–17

- So with that kind of innocent beginning, the next step really is that over a period of time it becomes disinterest.
- You are those who have become lukewarm. I know thy works. You're neither hot nor cold.
- It's not a church, it's not people that he would say, hey, you've just completely left me. But where are they? They're in the middle. Lukewarm.

3 The Altar Gets Broken Down: Desertion

Hebrews 3:12–15

- You know what really finally happens? That altar of the Lord really gets broken down. There is desertion.
- Take heed, brethren. Lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God.
- Exhort one another daily while it is called a day, lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.
- The altar of God needs to be repaired. Or you're going to desert the Lord totally. And that means eternal condemnation.

4 Repairing the Altar by Repenting of the Sin

Luke 15; Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:6–10

- And I'm going to say to you that you can come to yourself. You can reconstruct what once was there.

- The Lord didn't ask you to be perfect. He simply asks you to give yourself to him, to deny self and put him first in your life.
- Well, it does start with saying, I've done wrong. I'm going to repent. I'm going to confess my fault. I'm going to turn back to God.
- Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.
- But if we confess our sins, he's faithful and just to forgive us our sins.

5 The Need for Restoration

Luke 22:31–32; Colossians 4:2; Psalm 122:1

- But in the process, there's also the need for restoration. Restoring in your own heart what you've left and what you've lost.
- And when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.
- First of all, pray regularly. Colossians 4 and verse 2 says, continue in prayer.
- But not only in prayer, how about study life? Just taking time with the book.
- I was glad when they said, Let us go to the house of the Lord. Let it be a time I'm looking forward to, not something I drag in because I have to be there.
- When you start thinking about the others and encouraging them and teaching others, you'll be finding for yourself how much strength it gives you.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **My beloved, repair the altar if it's broken down in your heart.**

MY NOTES