

Day 47 – Apr. 4

“No, I insist on buying it, for I will not present burnt offerings to the Lord my God that have cost me nothing.”

The story is told of the little girl who asks her Mommy for \$20. “Why do you need so much?” her Mommy asked. “Because your birthday is tomorrow and I want to buy you something really special. Come to think of it, let’s make it \$30.”

In our reading today, David refuses to accept a gift that will be his offering to the Lord. I don’t think this is a fear that the offering won’t be enough to turn God’s wrath in terms of the plague. I think this is David’s heart throughout his life. David knows that God is worth our very best – our best offering, our best trust, our best courage, our best energy, our best everything.

How often do we give God less than our best? Maybe we haven’t borrowed money from a friend to give in the offering plate, but have we ever scrimped on our giving out of fear for the other lines of our budget? Have we ever given God out of our leftovers rather than our Firstfruits? Have we ever given to God only after we’ve paid our own bills and been sure we have a comfortable cushion before giving?

God doesn’t require us to give all we have to Him under threat of death. Those who give less than their all are still loved by God. But God offers us the blessed gift of learning to trust Him by giving Him our best and our all. That is the only way we can truly learn to trust Him so that we can live without fear of want or need. Once we have seen Him provide when we have nothing, we can live a much less worried life, a much less stressed life, and a life filled with trust (“faith”) in God’s provision.