

The image features a textured, mottled background in shades of green, blue, and brown. A horizontal, semi-transparent white band runs across the middle, containing the main text. The text is in a bold, dark green font. The top and bottom of the image are solid dark red.

**Go and learn the meaning of the words
“I desire mercy, not sacrifice.”**

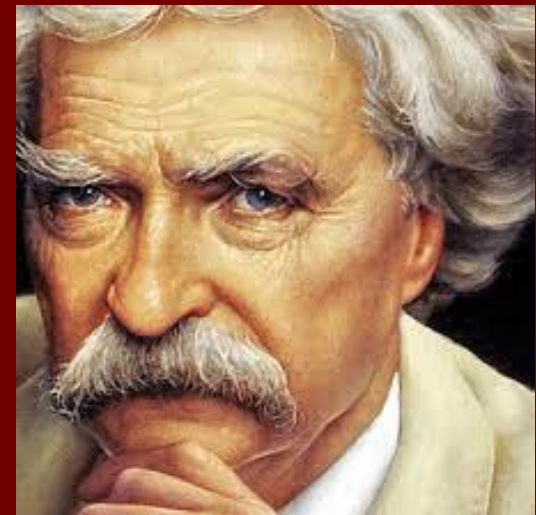
Matthew 9:13

Neal Parker

Emerging Christian Profession

- **The Christian's Bible is a drug store. Its contents remain the same, but the medical practice changes.**

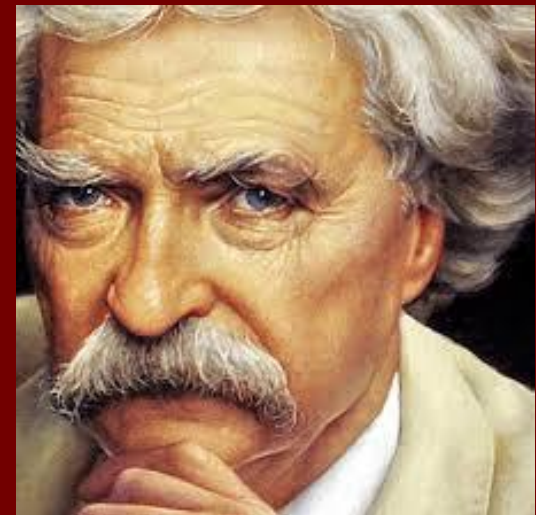
Mark Twain



Emerging Christian Profession

- **Man is a Religious Animal. He is the only Religious Animal. He is the only animal that has the True Religion -- several of them. He is the only animal that loves his neighbor as himself and cuts his throat if his theology isn't straight.**

Mark Twain



"Signs of Contradiction"

■ Matthew 9:10-13

- Mercy – Compassion (Human / Divine)
- Sacrifice – The act or victim of sacrifice

■ Matthew 12:1-8

- Provision of *Necessity*
- David and the showbread / I
Samuel 21:6
- Ceremonial Observances give way to Moral Duties

The 2 Tables of The Law

■ Hosea 6:1-6

- “Mercy” refers to the 2nd table of The Law / Our Duty to our fellow man
- “Knowledge of God” refers to the 1st table of The Law / Our Duty to God

Hosea 6:6 NLT

I want you to show love,
not offer sacrifices.
I want you to know me
more than I want burnt offerings.

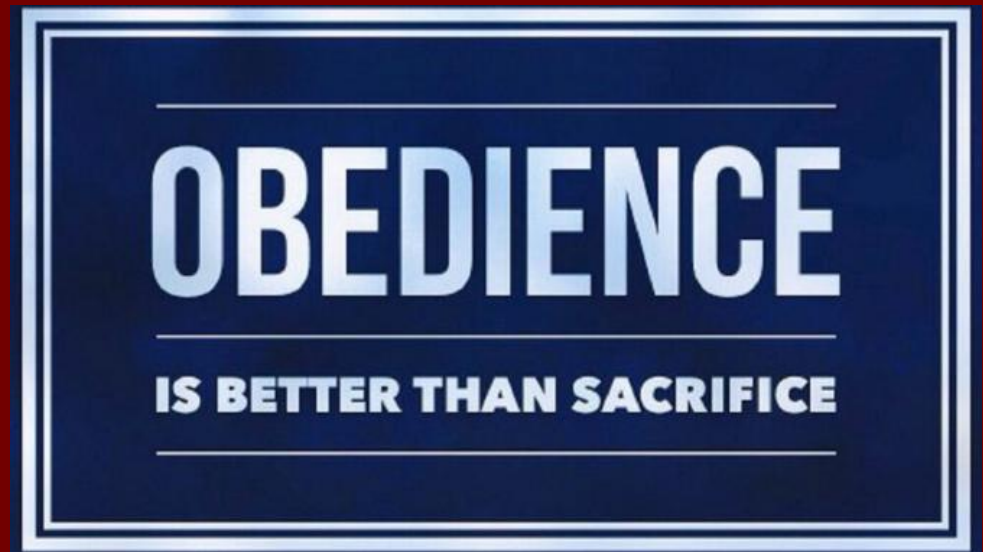
Obedience Is Better Than Sacrifice

■ 1 Samuel 15:22

- Sacrifice – Obedience to God is a moral duty, constantly and indispensably necessary

■ Psalm 40:6

- Understand the spiritual meaning of the sacrifices



Obedience Is Better Than Sacrifice

■ Psalm 51:16-19

- Reason God will not despise a broken/contrite/humble heart; wounded hearts seek God's mercy?

■ Proverbs 15:8 / 21:3

- What is an abomination to God?
- What is acceptable to God?



Considerations Before The Spring Holy Days

■ Ecclesiastes 5:1

- Walk Prudently/ Go to worship with considerate, circumspect and reverent feeling. (**Ecclesiastes 5:1**)
- Hear Rather... / Warning against mere ceremonial self-righteousness (**Ecclesiastes 7:12**)



Considerations Before The Spring Holy Days

■ Jeremiah 7:21-24

– Obey The Voice (Words) and Walk (Live) in all the ways.

■ Micah 6:6-8

– Do Justly (Justice)
– Love Mercy (Seek & Give)
– Walk Humbly With God



Our Responsibility Before The Spring Holy Days

■ Romans 12:1

- Conversion and sanctification are the renewing of the mind; a change, not of the substance, but of the qualities of our mind**
- Progress of Sanctification: Dying to sin more and more and living to righteousness more and more, is the carrying on the renewing of the work.**