

*As a new Christian I am trying to learn and understand the word of God. But there are some things in the bible that make me a little angry and sometimes sceptic. Therefore, I have a question for you. Why does God accept slavery? What about animal sacrifice? What about Abraham having a child with his slave when he was married? All of these things go against my beliefs about how I should live my life. I am an animals lover and I am trying to accept God's word; but, how can I accept that our loving God welcome animals' sacrifices?*

God is not pro-slavery. In fact, he rescued the Hebrew children out of slavery (Ex 20:2). Just because something is mentioned in scripture, it does not mean that God had endorses it.

God required an animal sacrifice for his people; so that they would know that something innocent must die for their sin: without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness (Heb 9:22). In the bible salvation is bought by blood—but not just any blood. It is bought by *innocent* blood (Heb 4:15, 1 Pet. 1:18, 19). Jesus died for men to be free them from the captivity (Jn 8:36) of sin (Jn 8:34) and to make a way for them to go to heaven (1 Pet. 1:18, 19).

Abraham committed adultery with Hagar, Sarah's Egyptian handmaiden (Gen. 16:1), and that sin (Ex 20:14) still causes trouble between people groups in the world today (Ge 16:12).

Men's consciences are God-given (Jer 31:33). Man can be like God, having been made in his image (Ge 9:6); but, he cannot be *more* than God—he is not nicer than God. God loves his creation (Ge 1:31, Mt 10:28).

Zipporah called Moses a bloody man (Ex. 4:24–26). His religion was bloody and not acceptable to her. God almost killed Moses for listening to his wife (Ex 4:24).

The apostle Paul lived to know God (Phil 3:10). He can be known though the scriptures (Ps. 119:160). He is: living, personal, relational, good and loving. The apostle John wrote, "God is light; in him there is no darkness at all." 1 Jn 1:5.