"Dedication Offering"

"This was the dedication offering for the altar on the day when it was anointed, from the chiefs of Israel: twelve silver plates, twelve silver basins, twelve golden dishes..."

(Numbers 7:84)

Presentation

<u>Luke 2:22-24</u> – (22) "And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought [*Jesus*] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (23) (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord') (24) and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

Matthew 2:1-2, 11 - (1) "Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, (2) saying, 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.'

(11) And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and <u>they fell</u> <u>down and worshiped him</u>. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh."

Abdication

1 Samuel 1:26-28 — (26) "And [Hannah] said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. (27) For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to him. (28) Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD.' And he worshiped the LORD there."

<u>Luke 23:46</u> – "Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!' And having said this he breathed his last."

Key Point: Dedication involves Presentation and Abdication

For God's Children:

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." (Romans 12:1)

For the Rest:

"And [Jesus] told them a parable, saying, 'The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God." (Luke 12:16-21)