

God's Sacrifice or Yours? (John 2:13-22)

Introduction: *The practice of human sacrifice...*

- I. TO BE HUMAN IS TO BE RELIGIOUS
 - A. So say anthropologists
 - B. So says St. Paul (Romans 2:15)
 - C. So says Martin Luther: *What is a 'god'?*
- II. TO BE HUMAN IS TO BE SEPARATED FROM GOD
 - A. We have broken His laws and are separated from Him
 - B. We feel it is up to us to do something about it: *a human sacrifice*
 - C. People in Jesus' day felt this need (John 2:13-14)
 - D. Jesus rejected human sacrifices (John 2:15-17)
- III. TO BE HUMAN IS TO NEED A SAVIOUR
 - A. Many people today, in & out of the Church, practice human sacrifice (Proverbs 14:12; Romans 3:23)
 - B. The good news: Jesus is the end of human sacrifice (John 2:18-20)
 - C. More good news: Jesus is the sacrifice for us (John 2:21-22)
 - D. The days of human sacrifice are over!

Conclusion: Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*: a story of sacrificial love