

# “Ready to Be Offered”

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## Introduction

1. “For I am now \_\_\_\_\_ to be \_\_\_\_\_, and the time of my \_\_\_\_\_ is at hand” (**II Timothy 4:6**).
2. Paul was vividly aware his end was nearing --- he was going to die on behalf of the Lord, something with which he was completely fine.
3. Could it be we are called upon to “offer” ourselves? Possibly. Consider the following.

## Discussion

### I. Ready to Be Offered --- Husbands for Wives

- A. Marriage is a serious relationship. Far too serious to be entered into lightly, yet many do each day.
- B. There is, of course, to be a mutual love in marriage. But the love the husband is to have for his wife is the same love Jesus had for the Church.
- C. “\_\_\_\_\_, love your \_\_\_\_\_, even \_\_\_\_\_ Christ also loved the church, and \_\_\_\_\_ himself for it” (**Ephesians 5:25**).
- D. This expectation of husbands illustrates the need to understand marriage before being married. List below five important things to consider before the vows are exchanged (providing Biblical support for each one).
  1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. \_\_\_\_\_
- E. The advice for “would-be-husbands” is simple. If you are not ready to die for your wife, then you are not ready to be married.

### II. Ready to Be Offered --- Brethren for Brethren

- A. The relationship between brother and sisters in Christ is a special one. There is to be a love which exists between God’s people that exists nowhere else!
- B. John wrote a lot about love, especially in his books of **I, II,** and **III John**. He knew the importance of this type of love.

- C. He went so far as to write this --- “Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we \_\_\_\_\_ to lay \_\_\_\_\_ our lives \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_” (**I John 3:16**).
- D. The Bible is full of those who were willing to die for their fellow person of God. Locate these verses and make a note of what it says regarding being willing to sacrifice for brethren.
1. **Romans 16:3,4** \_\_\_\_\_
  2. **John 13:34** \_\_\_\_\_
  3. **John 15:12,13** \_\_\_\_\_
  4. **Philippians 2:17** \_\_\_\_\_
- E. This command of God illustrates the need to cultivate and grow brotherly love. List below five ways this can happen here.
1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. \_\_\_\_\_

### III. Ready to Be Offered --- Saints for God

- A. Just like it is a serious step in becoming a husband or wife, it is also a solemn undertaking in becoming a child of God.
- B. This is why it is important to document the confession one makes is more than just words. What is one really saying when he makes the confession of Jesus the Son of God?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- C. When one is a true child of God, he then becomes willing to die for Him. Paul clearly was when he said this --- “What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am \_\_\_\_\_ not to be \_\_\_\_\_ only, but also to \_\_\_\_\_ at Jerusalem \_\_\_\_\_ the name of the Lord Jesus” (**Acts 21:13**).
- D. The Bible is filled with those who were willing to die for the Lord, and in fact some did. In these verses, who were they?
1. **Revelation 2:13** \_\_\_\_\_
  2. **Acts 7:54-60** \_\_\_\_\_
  3. **Acts 12:2** \_\_\_\_\_
  4. **Matthew 14:10** \_\_\_\_\_
- E. The larger question is this: are we actually willing to die for the Lord? We should be, but are we? Can you think of three things that will help in being prepared to do so?
1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion**

1. It is a hard thing to think of --- dying for someone else (**Romans 5:7**). Of course, Jesus did this for all (**John 3:16**).
2. Half the battle in “being ready to be offered” to study, think and pray about it before it should ever occur. Hopefully this lesson has helped in doing just that.