The Poem as Offering in Gregory of Nazianzus' Poetry

1. Carm. II.1.34.77-8, 83
I sing the great God who rules on high and the splendor of my shining Trinity gathered into one . . . and the undying glory of Christ’s sufferings.1

2. 1 Samuel (1 Kings LXX) 15:22
Are burnt offerings and sacrifices as wanted to the Lord as hearkening to the voice of the Lord? Behold, hearing is better than sacrifice and listening than the fat of rams.2

3. Psalm 51:16-17 (50:18-19 LXX)
Because if you had wanted sacrifice, I would have given it; with whole burnt offerings you will not be pleased; sacrifice to God is a broken spirit; a broken and humbled heart God will not despise.3

4. Carm. II.1.1.414-17, 419
I beseech you, if ever my father and reverend mother made repayment with tears and groans and prayers, or allotted to you something of their possessions from their small portion, or honored you with pure and undefiled sacrifices . . . remember them.

5. Carm. I.1.30.36-39, 42
Father, be propitious to me.
Grant that I may forever
Offer you this act of worship.
Cast away my sins
That I may praise the divine.

---

1 Translations are my own unless otherwise noted.
2 NETS (Pietersma & Wright 2009).
3 NETS (Pietersma & Wright 2009).
Selected Bibliography


