

1 Samuel 2:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to offer upon mine altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me? and did I give unto the house of thy father all the offerings made by fire of the children of Israel?

Analysis

The prophetic indictment continues recounting divine election and provision. God chose Aaron's line from all Israel for priestly service - an extraordinary privilege. The duties listed (offering on altar, burning incense, wearing ephod) represent the full range of priestly ministry. Additionally, God gave the fire offerings as priestly provision. Everything the priestly family enjoyed came from divine choice and provision. Yet they responded to grace with greed, to privilege with presumption. The greater the gift, the greater the offense when it is abused.

Historical Context

The threefold description of priestly duties corresponds to the major functions: altar service (sacrifice), incense (intercession), and ephod (seeking divine guidance). These comprehensive duties positioned priests as mediators between God and people in every aspect of religious life.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How has God chosen and equipped you for service, and how do you steward those gifts?
2. What is the relationship between divine generosity and human responsibility?

Interlinear Text

וַבַּחֵר	אֶתְּ	מִכָּל	שִׁבְטֵי	יִשְׂרָאֵל:	לִי
And did I choose	H853	H3605	him out of all the tribes	of Israel	H0
H977			H7626	H3478	
לְכֹהֵן	לְעֹלֹת	עַל	מִזְבְּחִי	לִהְקֹטֵר	קֹטֶרֶת
to be my priest	to offer	H5921	upon mine altar	to burn	incense
H3548	H5927		H4196	H6999	H7004
לִישׁ	אֶפֶד	לִפְנֵי	וָאֲנִי	לְבֵית	אָבִיךָ
to wear	an ephod	before	me and did I give	unto the house	of thy father
H5375	H646	H6440	H5414	H1004	H853
כָּל	אֲשֶׁר	בְּנֵי	יִשְׂרָאֵל:		
H3605	all the offerings made by fire	of the children	of Israel		
	H801	H1121	H3478		

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 28:1 (References Israel): And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.

Exodus 28:4 (Parallel theme): And these are the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a brodered coat, a mitre, and a

girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

Leviticus 2:10 (Creation): And that which is left of the meat offering shall be Aaron's and his sons': it is a thing most holy of the offerings of the LORD made by fire.

Leviticus 2:3 (Creation): And the remnant of the meat offering shall be Aaron's and his sons': it is a thing most holy of the offerings of the LORD made by fire.

Leviticus 6:16 (Parallel theme): And the remainder thereof shall Aaron and his sons eat: with unleavened bread shall it be eaten in the holy place; in the court of the tabernacle of the congregation they shall eat it.

Numbers 18:19 (Sacrifice): All the heave offerings of the holy things, which the children of Israel offer unto the LORD, have I given thee, and thy sons and thy daughters with thee, by a statute for ever: it is a covenant of salt for ever before the LORD unto thee and to thy seed with thee.