

2 Chronicles 29:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So they killed the bullocks, and the priests received the blood, and sprinkled it on the altar: likewise, when they had killed the rams, they sprinkled the blood upon the altar: they killed also the lambs, and they sprinkled the blood upon the altar.

Analysis

So they killed the bullocks, and the priests received the blood, and sprinkled it on the altar: likewise, when they had killed the rams, they sprinkled the blood upon the altar: they killed also the lambs, and they sprinkled the blood upon the altar.

This verse is part of the narrative of Judah's kings, specifically addressing Comprehensive restoration of worship beginning immediately. The Chronicler's theological perspective emphasizes immediate divine retribution—kings who seek God prosper, while those who forsake Him face judgment. This pattern provides instruction for the post-exilic community on the conditions for God's blessing.

The account demonstrates God's covenant faithfulness despite human unfaithfulness. Even in judgment, God preserves a remnant and offers restoration through repentance. The repeated cycle of apostasy, judgment, and restoration reveals both human sinfulness and divine mercy. References to the temple, proper worship, and priestly service emphasize the Chronicler's concern for correct religious observance.

Theologically, these accounts point beyond immediate history to God's ultimate purposes through the Davidic line. Despite repeated failures, God preserves David's dynasty, anticipating the perfect King who will reign in righteousness. The

pattern of judgment for sin and restoration through repentance prefigures the gospel message of salvation through Christ.

Historical Context

This passage occurs during the divided monarchy period when Judah existed separately from northern Israel. The Chronicler writes from a post-exilic perspective, addressing the restored community in Jerusalem after the Babylonian exile (539 BCE onward). His emphasis on temple worship, proper religious observance, and God's covenant faithfulness speaks directly to the needs of his audience who had just rebuilt the temple and were reestablishing their identity as God's people.

The historical context demonstrates both God's judgment on persistent sin and His readiness to restore those who genuinely repent. The Chronicler omits most northern kingdom material, focusing on Judah and the Davidic line to emphasize God's faithfulness to His covenant promises. Archaeological discoveries from sites like Lachish, Beersheba, and Jerusalem corroborate the biblical accounts of various kings' reigns and building projects.

Understanding the Chronicler's post-exilic perspective is crucial—he's not merely recording history but applying past lessons to his contemporary audience, showing that the same principles of seeking God, maintaining proper worship, and covenant faithfulness that determined blessing or judgment in the past still apply.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does this verse illustrate the principle of divine retribution (blessing for obedience, judgment for sin)?

2. What specific applications does this passage have for maintaining spiritual faithfulness in contemporary Christian life?
3. How does this account point to God's ultimate purposes through the Davidic line and the coming Messiah?

Interlinear Text

<p>וַשְׁחֲטוּ So they killed H7819</p>	<p>הַבָּקָר the bullocks H1241</p>	<p>וַיִּקְבְּלוּ received H6901</p>	<p>הַכֹּהֲנִים and the priests H3548</p>	<p>אֶת H853</p>	<p>הַדָּם the blood H1818</p>
<p>וַיִּזְרְקוּ and sprinkled H2236</p>	<p>הַמִּזְבֵּחַ: it on the altar H4196</p>	<p>וַשְׁחֲטוּ So they killed H7819</p>	<p>הָאֵלִים the rams H352</p>	<p>וַיִּזְרְקוּ and sprinkled H2236</p>	<p>הַדָּם the blood H1818</p>
<p>הַמִּזְבֵּחַ: it on the altar H4196</p>	<p>וַשְׁחֲטוּ So they killed H7819</p>	<p>הַכֹּבֵשׂ יָם also the lambs H3532</p>	<p>וַיִּזְרְקוּ and sprinkled H2236</p>	<p>הַדָּם the blood H1818</p>	
<p>הַמִּזְבֵּחַ: it on the altar H4196</p>					

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 4:18 (Blood): And he shall put some of the blood upon the horns of the altar which is before the LORD, that is in the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall pour out all the blood at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering, which is at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Leviticus 8:19 (Blood): And he killed it; and Moses sprinkled the blood upon the altar round about.

Leviticus 8:24 (Blood): And he brought Aaron's sons, and Moses put of the blood upon the tip of their right ear, and upon the thumbs of their right hands, and upon the great toes of their right feet: and Moses sprinkled the blood upon the altar round about.

