

Deuteronomy 12:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings, the flesh and the blood, upon the altar of the LORD thy God: and the blood of thy sacrifices shall be poured out upon the altar of the LORD thy God, and thou shalt eat the flesh.

Analysis

Sacrificial procedure: 'And thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings, the flesh and the blood, upon the altar of the LORD thy God: and the blood of thy sacrifices shall be poured out upon the altar of the LORD thy God, and thou shalt eat the flesh.' This prescribes central sanctuary sacrifice. Burnt offerings (olah, הָלֶל) were wholly consumed on altar; worshipers ate none. But peace offerings allowed worshipers to eat portions after blood was poured and fat burned. The altar location ('altar of the LORD thy God') emphasizes that sacrifice occurs at authorized location. Blood poured on altar atones (Leviticus 17:11); consuming flesh celebrates fellowship with God.

Historical Context

Leviticus 1-7 details sacrificial procedures. The altar, first at Tabernacle then Temple, was the exclusive location for covenant sacrifice. Jeroboam's rival altars at Dan/Bethel (1 Kings 12:28-33) violated this, earning divine condemnation. Hebrews 13:10 declares Christians 'have an altar'—Christ's cross—from which we feast spiritually. Christ's sacrifice supersedes animal offerings, being perfect and final (Hebrews 10:1-18). The Lord's Supper enacts this spiritual feast on Christ's atoning sacrifice.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does blood poured out on the altar prefigure Christ's blood poured out for atonement?
2. What does eating the flesh of sacrifice teach about participating in Christ's benefits through faith?
3. How does the Lord's Supper continue the pattern of sacred meal celebrating covenant relationship?

Interlinear Text

עַל יְדֵיכֶם וּבְשֶׂרֶת יְבָשָׂת יְתַעַשׂ
And thou shalt offer thy burnt offerings the flesh and the blood H5921
H6213 H5930 H1320 H1818

מִזְבֵּחַ הָיְהֵת לְאֱלֹהִים יְבָשָׂת יְתַעַשׂ
upon the altar of the LORD thy God and the blood of thy sacrifices H2077
H4196 H3068 H430 H1818 H2077

עַל מִזְבֵּחַ הָיְהֵת לְאֱלֹהִים יְבָשָׂת יְתַעַשׂ
shall be poured out upon the altar of the LORD thy God the flesh H1320
H8210 H4196 H3068 H430 H1320

תְּאַכֵּל:
and thou shalt eat H398

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 1:9 (Sacrifice): But his inwards and his legs shall he wash in water: and the priest shall burn all on the altar, to be a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

Leviticus 1:13 (Sacrifice): But he shall wash the inwards and the legs with water: and the priest shall bring it all, and burn it upon the altar: it is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

Leviticus 17:11 (Blood): For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

Leviticus 1:5 (Blood): And he shall kill the bullock before the LORD: and the priests, Aaron's sons, shall bring the blood, and sprinkle the blood round about upon the altar that is by the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org