

Deuteronomy 27:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt offer peace offerings, and shalt eat there, and rejoice before the LORD thy God.

Analysis

And thou shalt offer peace offerings, and shalt eat there, and rejoice before the LORD thy God. Peace offerings (fellowship offerings) followed burnt offerings, demonstrating the pattern of worship - first atonement and consecration, then communion and celebration. Access to joyful fellowship requires prior sacrificial atonement.

The permission to eat there distinguishes peace offerings from burnt offerings. While burnt offerings were entirely consumed on the altar, peace offerings included communal meal where worshipers ate portions, symbolizing fellowship with God and each other.

The command rejoice before the LORD makes joy a religious duty, not mere emotional preference. Worship includes celebration of God's goodness, expressing gratitude for His provision and covenant relationship. Joy is appropriate response to divine blessing.

This pattern foreshadows gospel order - Christ's complete sacrifice (burnt offering) enables believers' fellowship with God and each other (peace offering), producing joy in His presence.

Historical Context

Peace offerings provided most of Israel's meat consumption, as daily diet consisted primarily of grains, vegetables, and dairy. These sacrificial meals became occasions for family and community celebration.

Eating in God's presence symbolized covenant fellowship - the shared meal represented mutual commitment between God and His people.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does the order (burnt offerings then peace offerings) teach about worship progression?
2. How do peace offerings symbolize fellowship with God and community?
3. Why is rejoicing commanded as religious duty rather than optional emotion?
4. How does Christ's sacrifice enable both atonement and fellowship?
5. What role should celebration and joy have in Christian worship?

Interlinear Text

וְתַעֲשֵׂה	שְׁלָמִים	וְאָכַלְתָּ	שְׁמַרְתָּ	וְשִׁמְחַת
And thou shalt offer	peace offerings	and shalt eat	H8033	there and rejoice
H2076	H8002	H398		H8055
לְפָנָי	יְהָוָה	אֶל-יְהָוָה		
before	the LORD	thy God		
H6440	H3068	H430		

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 12:3 (Parallel theme): Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

Acts 10:36 (Peace): The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

Deuteronomy 12:7 (References God): And there ye shall eat before the LORD your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the LORD thy God hath blessed thee.

Habakkuk 3:18 (References God): Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

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