

Exodus 34:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou shalt not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leaven; neither shall the sacrifice of the feast of the passover be left unto the morning.

Analysis

Firstfruits (בְּכָרִים רֵאשִׁית, bikkurim reishit) of the land must be brought to God's house, acknowledging Him as source of all blessing and giving Him priority. The command not to 'seethe a kid in his mother's milk' prohibits a Canaanite fertility ritual that perverted natural relationships. This command separates Israel's worship from pagan practice and later becomes the basis for kosher laws separating meat and dairy.

Historical Context

Archaeological discoveries at Ugarit (ancient Syria) reference boiling kids in milk as a Canaanite religious practice meant to ensure fertility. The command repeated three times in Torah (also Ex 23:19, Deut 14:21) emphasizes its importance.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How do you honor God with the 'firstfruits' of your income, time, and talents?
2. What seemingly small practices or habits might subtly compromise your distinct identity as God's people?

Interlinear Text

לֹא תִשְׁתַּחַט עַל קְרֵם זֶבַח בְּכָבֵד

H3808 Thou shalt not offer H5921 with leaven H2557 the blood H1818 neither shall the sacrifice H2077

לֹא יִלְיָל עַל לְבַקְר בְּכָבֵד קָרְבָּן כְּבָשׂ

H3808 be left H3885 unto the morning H1242 neither shall the sacrifice H2077 of the feast H2282

בְּפָסָחָן
of the passover
H6453

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 23:18 (Blood): Thou shalt not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leavened bread; neither shall the fat of my sacrifice remain until the morning.

Exodus 12:10 (Parallel theme): And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.