

Exodus 40:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he put the altar of burnt offering by the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation, and offered upon it the burnt offering and the meat offering; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Analysis

The bronze altar's placement 'by the door of the tabernacle' ensures that sacrifice precedes all worship. The phrase 'burnt the burnt offering and the meat offering' (וַיַּעַל אֶלָּאֵל עַל־הָעֹלָה, vaya'al alav et-haOlah, caused to ascend upon it the burnt offering) emphasizes upward motion—sacrifice ascends to God. The burnt offering (עֹלָה, olah, that which ascends) symbolizes complete consecration; the meat offering (מִנְחָה, minchah, grain offering) represents thanksgiving. The 7th 'as the LORD commanded Moses' approaches covenant perfection (seven = complete). Christ's sacrifice, once offered, satisfies completely (Hebrews 10:10, 12, 14).

Historical Context

The burnt offering, entirely consumed by fire (Leviticus

1. , symbolized complete dedication to God—nothing held back. The grain offering (Leviticus
2. accompanied it, representing gratitude and fellowship.

The bronze altar's size (7.5 feet square, 4.5 feet high) enabled multiple simultaneous offerings during festivals.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does the bronze altar's position (first/before entry) teach that atonement is worship's foundation?
2. What does Christ's once-for-all sacrifice replacing continual offerings reveal about His sufficient atonement?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵת	מִזְבֵּחַ	הָעֹלָה	וַיִּשֶׂם	פֶּתַח	מִשְׁכַּן
H853	the altar	of burnt offering	And he put	by the door	of the tabernacle
	H4196	H5930	H7760	H6607	H4908
אֹהֶל	מוֹעֵד	וַיַּעֲלֶה	עַל יוֹ	אֶת	הָעֹלָה
of the tent	of the congregation	and offered	H5921	H853	of burnt offering
H168	H4150	H5927			H5930
וְהַמִּנְחָה	כֶּבֶדֶשׁ	צִוָּה	יְהוָה	אֶת	מֹשֶׁה׃
and the meat offering	H834	commanded	as the LORD	H853	Moses
H4503		H6680	H3068		H4872

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 40:6 (Sacrifice): And thou shalt set the altar of the burnt offering before the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation.