

# Ezekiel 43:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Seven days shall they purge the altar and purify it; and they shall consecrate themselves.

## Analysis

**Seven days shall they purge the altar and purify it; and they shall consecrate themselves**—After seven days, the altar is fully purged (יכְפֹרְוּ, yēkhappērū, 'they shall atone for/purge') and purified (וְתִהְרָוּ, wětihārū, 'and they shall purify/cleanse'). **And they shall consecrate themselves**—(עַמְלָאוּ יְדֵיכֶם, ûmil'û yādāyw, 'and fill his hands')—idiom for priestly consecration (Exodus 28:41, 29:9).

The verse concludes altar consecration, transitioning to regular worship (v. 27). The completion of purification enables ongoing sacrifices. Similarly, Christ's finished work ('It is finished'—John 19:30) consecrated believers as royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9), enabling continual worship. Ezekiel's vision demonstrates that worship requires thorough preparation, pointing to Christ's comprehensive atonement that makes perpetual access to God possible.

## Historical Context

Altar/priestly consecration was essential before worship could begin—seen in tabernacle (Exodus 29), Solomonic temple (1 Kings 8), and post-exilic restoration (Ezra 3:2-3). Ezekiel's vision (573 BC), given to exiles whose temple was destroyed, promised worship would resume. This was partially fulfilled in 516 BC (second temple) and awaits ultimate fulfillment in Messiah's kingdom, whether millennial temple or new creation.

## Related Passages

## **Romans 2:1 – Judging others**

## **Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment**

## Study Questions

1. What does 'filling hands' (consecration) teach about priesthood requirements?
2. How does altar purification enabling worship parallel Christ's atonement enabling prayer?
3. What is the relationship between Old Testament consecration and New Testament 'sanctification'?

## Interlinear Text

שְׁבֻעָת	יְמִים	יְכֻפָּרֹת	אֶת	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ	וְיִטְבְּרֵר	אֶת
<b>Seven</b>	<b>days</b>	<b>shall they purge</b>	H853	<b>the altar</b>	<b>and purify</b>	H853
H7651	H3117	H3722		H4196	H2891	

וְמִלְאָה וְדָלִין  
it and they shall consecrate themselves H3027  
H4390

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