

# Ezekiel 46:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said he unto me, This is the place where the priests shall boil the trespass offering and the sin offering, where they shall bake the meat offering; that they bear them not out into the utter court, to sanctify the people.

## Analysis

**Then said he unto me, This is the place where the priests shall boil the trespass offering and the sin offering, where they shall bake the meat offering; that they bear them not out into the utter court, to sanctify the people**—This location for cooking מֵשָׁמֶן ('āshām, 'guilt offering'), תְּאַפֵּן (haṭṭā'at, 'sin offering'), and baking מִנְחָה (minhāh, 'grain offering') prevents carrying them into the outer court, הַחַיצְנָה (heḥāshēr hahîshōnāh, 'the outer court').

לְקַדְּשׁ אֶת-בָּעֵם (lēqaddēsh 'et-hā'ām, 'to sanctify the people')—concern is preventing unintended consecration. Holy things transferred holiness by contact (Exodus 29:37, Ezekiel 44:19), which could endanger unprepared people (2 Samuel 6:6-7—Uzzah). Separating holy food preparation from public areas protected people from dangerous holiness. This demonstrates that God's holiness, while desirable, can harm the unprepared—a principle fulfilled in Christ, who makes believers holy without danger through His mediating work (Hebrews 10:10, 14).

## Historical Context

Levitical law required priests to eat sin/guilt offerings in holy places (Leviticus 6:26, 7:6). Grain offerings were similarly consumed by priests (Leviticus 2:3, 10). Ezekiel specifies preparation locations to prevent contaminating outer court or

endangering laity through holiness transfer. This careful regulation demonstrates that approaching God requires proper boundaries—fulfilled in Christ who mediates access safely.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. What does holiness transferring by contact teach about God's dangerous holiness?
2. How do boundaries protecting people from holiness relate to Christ's mediating work?
3. Why can holiness be dangerous to unprepared people?

## Interlinear Text

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Then said	H559	אָמַר	וְיֹאמֶר	אֵלֶּה	זֶה	אֵלָי	וְאֵלָי	הַמְלָאָה	וְמִן	שְׁמָךְ	שְׁמָךְ	יְבָשְׁלֹה	אָשָׁר	שְׁמָךְ
	H413		H2088					H4725		H834		H1310	H8033	
where the priests	H3548	אֲמַת	אֲמַת	הַכְּבָדָה	הַכְּבָדָה	בְּאָשָׁר	בְּאָשָׁר	וְאַתָּה	וְאַתָּה	הַמְתַטֵּת	הַמְתַטֵּת	אָשָׁר		
	H853		H853					H817		H853		H2403	H834	
where they shall bake	H644	וְאַפֵּי	וְאַפֵּי	אֲמַת	אֲמַת	בְּמִנְחָה	בְּמִנְחָה	לְבָלָת	לְבָלָת	אַל	אַל			
	H853		H4503					H1115		H853		H3318	H413	
court	H2691	בַּעֲדָה	בַּעֲדָה	בְּחִיצֹּונָה	בְּחִיצֹּונָה	לְקַדֵּשׁ	לְקַדֵּשׁ	אֲתָה	אֲתָה	בְּעַמְךָ	בְּעַמְךָ	the people		
			H2435					H6942		H853		H5971		

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Chronicles 35:13** (Sacrifice): And they roasted the passover with fire according to the ordinance: but the other holy offerings sod they in pots, and in caldrons, and in pans, and divided them speedily among all the people.

**Ezekiel 44:29** (Sin): They shall eat the meat offering, and the sin offering, and the trespass offering; and every dedicated thing in Israel shall be their's.

**Ezekiel 44:19** (Parallel theme): And when they go forth into the utter court, even into the utter court to the people, they shall put off their garments wherein they ministered, and lay them in the holy chambers, and they shall put on other garments; and they shall not sanctify the people with their garments.

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