

Hebrews 10:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;

Analysis

The author summarizes the quotation: Christ said, 'Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them' (which are offered according to the law). This emphasizes that even law-commanded sacrifices weren't God's ultimate pleasure or purpose. They were temporary provisions pointing to Christ. The parenthetical note 'offered according to the law' shows these weren't human innovations but divinely ordained - yet still not the final answer.

Historical Context

The sacrificial system detailed in Leviticus was comprehensive and divinely mandated, yet the psalms and prophets repeatedly emphasized its insufficiency. This internal Old Testament critique prepared for Christ's supersession of the system.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How could God command sacrifices yet have no ultimate pleasure in them?
2. What does this teach about the relationship between the Old Testament law and Christ?

Interlinear Text

ἀνώτερον λέγων ὅτι θυσίαν καὶ προσφορὰν καὶ
Above **when he said** ^{G3754} **Sacrifice** **and** **offering** **and**
G511 G3004 G2378 G2532 G4376 G2532

ὄλοκαυτώματα καὶ περὶ ἁμαρτίας οὐκ ἠθέλησας
burnt offerings **and** **offering for** **sin** **not** **thou wouldst**
G3646 G2532 G4012 G266 G3756 G2309

οὐδὲ εὐδόκησας αἵτινες κατὰ τὸν νόμον
neither **hadst pleasure** **therein which** **by** ^{G3588} **the law**
G3761 G2106 G3748 G2596 G3551

προσφέρονται
are offered
G4374

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 10:5 (Sacrifice): Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldst not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

Mark 12:33 (Sacrifice): And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.