

Isaiah 43:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou hast not brought me the small cattle of thy burnt offerings; neither hast thou honoured me with thy sacrifices. I have not caused thee to serve with an offering, nor wearied thee with incense.

Analysis

God lists Israel's failures: not bringing burnt offerings, not honoring with sacrifices. Yet God didn't burden them with offerings or weary them with incense requirements. The Hebrew 'abad' (serve/labor) with negative shows God didn't impose excessive demands—their failure was voluntary neglect.

Historical Context

This addresses potential excuse that ceremonial law was too burdensome. God shows He made worship manageable, requiring heart engagement, not grudging compliance. Their failure was willful, not compelled.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How do you turn worship and service to God into burdensome obligation rather than joyful response?
2. What excuses do you make for neglecting spiritual disciplines God designed to bless you?

Interlinear Text

לֹא	יְהִי יָאֵת	לִי	שׁ הַ	עֹלֹתַי יְיָ
H3808	Thou hast not brought	H0	me the small cattle	of thy burnt offerings
	H935		H7716	H5930
	וְזִבְחֵי יְיָ	לֹא	כִבְדָּתָיִי	לֹא
	me with thy sacrifices	H3808	neither hast thou honoured	H3808
	H2077		H3513	
	הָעֹבְדֹתַי יְיָ	בְּמִנְחָה	וְלֹא	הוֹגְעָתַי יְיָ
	I have not caused thee to serve	with an offering	H3808	nor wearied
	H5647	H4503		H3021
	בְּלִבְנוֹנָה:			
	thee with incense			
	H3828			

Additional Cross-References

Amos 5:25 (Sacrifice): Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel?