

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

עַלְתָּה יְכָלְתָּה
H5930 of thy burnt offerings

לֹא
H3808 Thou hast not brought

לְבָנָה
H935 the small cattle

שְׁהָרָה
H7716 of thy burnt offerings

לֹא
H3808 me with thy sacrifices

כִּבְדָּת
H3808 neither hast thou honoured

לֹא
H3808 neither hast thou honoured

הַזְּגַעַת יְכָלְתָּה
H3021 nor wearied

לֹא
H3808 I have not caused thee to serve

בְּמַנְצָה
H4503 with an offering

בְּלֹבֶןְהָה:
H3828 thee with incense

Additional Cross-References

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