

# Leviticus 1:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But he shall wash the inwards and the legs with water: and the priest shall bring it all, and burn it upon the altar: it is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

## Analysis

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**But he shall wash the inwards and the legs with water: and the priest shall bring it all, and burn it upon the altar: it is a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.**

This verse falls within the section on **Burnt Offerings**. The burnt offering (עֹלָה, olah) represents complete consecration to God. Unlike other offerings, it was entirely consumed on the altar, symbolizing total dedication.

The Aaronic priesthood mediated between God and Israel, offering sacrifices and maintaining the tabernacle. This prefigured Christ's superior priesthood after the order of Melchizedek. The five main offerings (burnt, grain, peace, sin, and guilt) addressed different aspects of relationship with God, all fulfilled in Christ's comprehensive sacrifice.

What Leviticus portrayed through types and shadows, Christ fulfilled in reality through His incarnation, perfect life, atoning death, and resurrection.

## Historical Context

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Leviticus was given to Israel at Mount Sinai, shortly after the tabernacle's construction described in Exodus. The name 'Leviticus' (from Latin Leviticus, referring to the Levites) reflects its focus on priestly duties, though the Hebrew title Wayyiqra ('And He called') emphasizes God's initiative in revealing these laws. The first seven chapters detail the five main offerings, providing both worshiper instructions and priestly procedures. Ancient Near Eastern cultures had various sacrificial systems, but Israel's sacrificial worship was unique in its ethical foundation, monotheistic framework, and emphasis on atonement rather than appeasement. Unlike pagan rituals focused on manipulating deities, Israel's sacrifices acknowledged God's sovereignty and sought reconciliation based on His gracious provision. The Israelite dietary laws in Leviticus 11 have no exact parallel in surrounding cultures, though some ancient cultures had food taboos, suggesting unique revelation rather than borrowed customs.

## **Related Passages**

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## **Study Questions**

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1. How does Christ's superior priesthood, prefigured in this verse, assure you of access to God and effective intercession?
2. What does this verse teach about the costliness of true worship and dedication to God?
3. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?

## Interlinear Text

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הַכֹּהֵן	וְהִקְרִיב יָדָיו	בַּמַּיִם	וְהָסִיךְ יָדָיו	וְהִקְרִיב יָדָיו	וְהִקְרִיב יָדָיו
and the priest	shall bring	with water	But he shall wash	and the legs	the inwards
H3548	H7126	H4325	H7364	H3767	H7130
הָיָא	עַל הַ	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ	וְהִקְטִיב יָדָיו	הַכֹּל	אֶת
H1931	H5930	H4196	H6999	H3605	H853
it is a burnt sacrifice	it upon the altar	it all and burn	and the legs	the inwards	the inwards
לַיהוָה:	נִיחַ	רֵיחַ	אֵשׁ		
unto the LORD	of a sweet	savour	an offering made by fire		
H3068	H5207	H7381	H801		

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