

Leviticus 1:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he shall pluck away his crop with his feathers, and cast it beside the altar on the east part, by the place of the ashes:

Analysis

And he shall pluck away his crop with his feathers, and cast it beside the altar on the east part, by the place of the ashes:

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 five main offerings (burnt, grain, peace, sin, and guilt) addressed different aspects of relationship with God, all fulfilled in Christ's comprehensive sacrifice. Hebrews 9-10 explains how Christ's once-for-all sacrifice supersedes the repeated Levitical offerings, providing permanent cleansing from sin.

Historical Context

The burnt offering (עֹלָה, olah) represents complete consecration to God. Unlike other offerings, it was entirely consumed on the altar, symbolizing total dedication. 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. Ancient sacrificial texts from cultures surrounding Israel demonstrate the widespread practice of animal sacrifice, but Israel's system uniquely emphasized moral atonement over magical efficacy.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about the costliness of true worship and dedication to God?
2. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
3. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?

Interlinear Text

וְהִס יָרֵךְ	אֶת	מִרְאֵת וְ	בְּנִצֵּת הִ	וְהִשָּׁל יָרֵךְ	אֶת הִ
And he shall pluck away	H853	his crop	with his feathers	and cast	H853
H5493		H4760	H5133	H7993	
אֵל צֶלַע	הַמִּזְבֵּי הַ	קֵדְמָה	אֵל	מִקְוֶה וּ	הַדָּשָׁן:
it beside	the altar	on the east part	H413	by the place	of the ashes
H681	H4196	H6924		H4725	H1880
