

Leviticus 1:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man of you bring an offering unto the LORD, ye shall bring your offering of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock.

Analysis

Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man of you bring an offering unto the LORD, ye shall bring your offering of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock.

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. The holiness demanded in Leviticus becomes possible through Christ, who both satisfies God's righteous requirements and transforms believers by His Spirit.

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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about the costliness of true worship and dedication to God?
2. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
3. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?

Interlinear Text

אֵל יָדֶיךָ	אֵל	בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל	וְאָמַרְתָּ	אֵלֶּה				
Speak	H413	unto the children	of Israel	and say				
H1696		H1121	H3478	H559				
אֵלֶּה	אֵלֶּה	כִּי	תָקַר יָבוֹ	מִכָּה	קָרְבַּנְכֶם:	לַיהוָה		
unto them	If any man	H3588	of you bring	H4480	an offering	unto the LORD		
H120			H7126		H7133	H3068		
מִן	הַבְּהֵמָה	הַ	מִן	הַבָּקָר	וּמִן	הַצֹּאן	תָקַר יָבוֹ	אֵת
H4480	of the cattle	H929	H4480	even of the herd	H1241	H4480	and of the flock	of you bring
							H6629	H7126
קָרְבַּנְכֶם:								
an offering								
H7133								

Additional Cross-References

Romans 12:6 (Parallel theme): Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;