

Leviticus 14:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And of the rest of the oil that is in his hand shall the priest put upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot, upon the blood of the trespass offering:

Analysis

And of the rest of the oil that is in his hand shall the priest put upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot, upon the blood of the trespass offering:

This verse falls within the section on **Cleansing from Skin Diseases**. Elaborate cleansing ritual for healed lepers, involving birds, blood, and multiple offerings, symbolizing restoration.

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. Ritual purity laws taught Israel to distinguish between clean and unclean, holy and common, training them in discernment and reverence for God's presence. Leviticus 17:11 declares 'the life of the flesh is in the blood,' establishing blood's sacred role in atonement, pointing to Christ's blood shed for redemption.

Every sacrifice and ritual in Leviticus points forward to Jesus Christ, who fulfills the entire sacrificial system as both perfect sacrifice and eternal high priest.

Historical Context

Elaborate cleansing ritual for healed lepers, involving birds, blood, and multiple offerings, symbolizing restoration. Chapters 11-15 address ritual purity, teaching Israel to distinguish clean from unclean. These laws served multiple purposes: promoting health, teaching spiritual lessons about sin's defilement, and separating Israel from pagan practices. Archaeological evidence shows Canaanite worship involved practices Israel's laws explicitly prohibited. Israel received these laws while encamped at Sinai, before entering Canaan. The laws prepared them for life in the promised land, distinguishing them from Canaanite practices and establishing their identity as God's holy nation. The portable tabernacle, central to Levitical worship, accompanied them through wilderness wanderings and eventually found permanent form in Solomon's temple. Archaeological discoveries at sites like Ugarit reveal Canaanite religious practices Israel's laws explicitly rejected, confirming the Bible's historical reliability and the distinctiveness of Israelite worship.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

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. How can you develop greater spiritual discernment in distinguishing what honors God from what defiles?

Interlinear Text

וּמִי תֵר	הַשֶּׁמֶן	אֲשֶׁר	עַל	כַּף	יָתִיד	הַכֹּהֵן
And of the rest	of the oil	H834	H5921	that is in his hand	put	shall the priest
H3499	H8081			H3709	H5414	H3548
עַל	תַּנּוּךְ	אָזֶן	הַמִּטֶּה	הַיְּמִנִי	יָתִיד	עַל
H5921	upon the tip	ear	of him that is to be cleansed	of his right		H5921
	H8571	H241	H2891	H3233		
בְּהֵן	יָדוֹ	הַיְּמִנִי	עַל	בְּהֵן	רַגְלוֹ	
and upon the great toe	hand	of his right	H5921	and upon the great toe	foot	
H931	H3027	H3233		H931	H7272	
הַיְּמִנִי	עַל	דָּם	הָאֲשָׁם:			
of his right	H5921	upon the blood	of the trespass offering			
H3233		H1818	H817			

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