

Leviticus 14:49

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he shall take to cleanse the house two birds, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop:

Analysis

And he shall take to cleanse the house two birds, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop:

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.

Ritual purity laws taught Israel to distinguish between clean and unclean, holy and common, training them in discernment and reverence for God's presence.

The access to God's presence that Leviticus carefully regulated is now freely available through Christ's blood, tearing the veil and opening the way to God.

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. The tabernacle's design parallels ancient Near Eastern temple architecture, yet its portable nature and absence of divine images distinguished it from pagan temples.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How can you develop greater spiritual discernment in distinguishing what honors God from what defiles?
2. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
3. How can you use this verse to worship God more fully, obey Him more faithfully, or love others more sacrificially?

Interlinear Text

וְיַלְקַח	אֶת	לְמִטָּה	אֶת	הַבַּיִת	שְׁתִּים	אַפְרִים	עַץ	אַפְרִים	יַמְשִׁיכְתָּם
And he shall take	to cleanse	H853	the house	two	birds	wood			
H3947	H2398		H1004	H8147	H6833	H6086			
וְתַל	עַת	וְשָׁנִים	אֶת	כָּרֶב					
and cedar	and scarlet	H8438	and hyssop						
H730	H8144		H231						

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 14:4 (Parallel theme): Then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed two birds alive and clean, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop:

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org