

Leviticus 14:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water:

Analysis

As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water:

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.

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.

The New Testament reveals that Christ's sacrifice accomplishes what the Levitical system could only symbolize—complete forgiveness and restoration of relationship with 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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
2. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

אֶת	הַצֵּפֶרֶת	הַחַיִּים:	יִקַּח	אֶת־הָ	וְאֶת־	עֵץ
H853	bird	As for the living	he shall take	H853	H853	wood
	H6833	H2416	H3947			H6086
	וְהָאֶרֶז	וְאֶת־	שָׁנִי	וְאֶת־	הַתּוֹלַע־עֵת	וְהַיֶּזֶבֶט
	it and the cedar	H853	and the scarlet	H8438	H853	and the hyssop
	H730		H8144			H231
	וְטָבַל	אֹתָם	וְאֶת־	הַצֵּפֶרֶת	הַחַיִּים:	בַּדָּם
	and shall dip	H853	H853	bird	As for the living	in the blood
	H2881			H6833	H2416	H1818
	וְהַצֵּפֶרֶת	הַשְּׁחָטָה	עַל־	הַמַּיִם	הַחַיִּים:	
	bird	that was killed	H5921	water	As for the living	
	H6833	H7819		H4325	H2416	

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