

Leviticus 16:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he shall sprinkle of the blood upon it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it, and hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

Analysis

And he shall sprinkle of the blood upon it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it, and hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

This verse falls within the section on **Day of Atonement**. The most sacred day in Israel's calendar, when the high priest entered the Holy of Holies to make atonement for all Israel's sins.

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.

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

The most sacred day in Israel's calendar, when the high priest entered the Holy of Holies to make atonement for all Israel's sins. The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) described in chapter 16 became Israel's most sacred day. Only on this annual day could the high priest enter the Holy of Holies, making atonement for the entire nation. This ceremony, still observed in Judaism, found ultimate fulfillment in

Christ's entrance into heaven itself (Hebrews 9:11-12). 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. 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. How can you develop greater spiritual discernment in distinguishing what honors God from what defiles?
2. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
3. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?

Interlinear Text

וְיַהֲיֵה	נַעֲלֵם	בְּעֵשֶׂב	שְׁבַע
And he shall sprinkle	מִן־עַל־יְדֵךְ	בְּאַצְבָּעִים	seven
H5137	H4480	H1818	H7651
times	וְיִרְבֶּרֶת־וְיִרְקַּדְשֶׁת־	מִטְמָאָת	בְּנֵי
H6471	H2891	H6942	H1121
of Israel	וְיִרְבֶּרֶת־וְיִרְקַּדְשֶׁת־	מִטְמָאָת	בְּנֵי
H3478			
ישָׁרָאֵל:			

Additional Cross-References

Zechariah 13:1 (Parallel theme): In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

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