

Leviticus 17:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

To the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices, which they offer in the open field, even that they may bring them unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest, and offer them for peace offerings unto the LORD.

Analysis

To the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices, which they offer in the open field, even that they may bring them unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest, and offer them for peace offerings unto the LORD.

This verse falls within the section on **Sanctity of Blood**. Regulations prohibiting consumption of blood and requiring proper slaughter, emphasizing blood's sacred role in atonement.

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.

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

Regulations prohibiting consumption of blood and requiring proper slaughter, emphasizing blood's sacred role in atonement. Chapters 17-27, often called the 'Holiness Code,' expand covenant obligations beyond ritual to encompass all of life —sexuality, economics, justice, and relationships. The repeated refrain 'I am the LORD' grounds these laws in God's character and covenant relationship with Israel. 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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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 does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?

Interlinear Text

ישׁׁרָאֵל לִמְעָן יְהִבְיאָ מִן־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל

H4616 H834 even that they may bring To the end that the children of Israel

H935 H1121 H3478

עַל פָּנֶיךָ תַּזְבִּיחַ אֲשֶׁר־זָבֵחַ תַּזְבִּיחַ אֲתָּה

H853 offerings H834 and offer H1992 in the open field

H2077 H2076 H5921 H6440 H7704

אֶל פִּתְחָה אֶל לְיִהְיֶה הַלְּבָנָה מִן־

even that they may bring them unto the LORD of the tabernacle

H935 H3068 H413 H6607 H168

זָבֵחַ יְמִינְךָ אֲלֵיכָם שְׁלָמָם יְמִינְךָ

of the congregation unto the priest and offer offerings them for peace

H4150 H413 H3548 H2076 H2077 H8002

לְיִהְיֶה אָזְמָנָה

them unto the LORD

H3068 H853

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