

Leviticus 17:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they shall no more offer their sacrifices unto devils, after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations.

Analysis

And they shall no more offer their sacrifices unto devils, after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations.

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 five main offerings (burnt, grain, peace, sin, and guilt) addressed different aspects of relationship with God, all fulfilled in Christ's comprehensive sacrifice. Hebrews 9-10 explains how Christ's once-for-all sacrifice supersedes the repeated Levitical offerings, providing permanent cleansing from sin.

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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about the costliness of true worship and dedication to God?
2. How does understanding the purpose behind God's laws help you obey Him from the heart rather than mere duty?
3. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?

Interlinear Text

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|-------------------------------|------------|--------|--|-------------------------|-------------|
| וְלֹא | וְזָבַח וְ | עוֹד | אֶת | זְבָחֵיהֶם | לְשֹׁעִירִם |
| H3808 | | H5750 | H853 | | |
| And they shall no more offer | | | | their sacrifices | unto devils |
| | H2076 | | | H2077 | H8163 |
| וְאֵשׁ רַ | הֶם | זָנִים | אַחֲרֵיהֶם | וְ | חֻקֵּת |
| H834 | H1992 | | | | |
| whom they have gone a whoring | | | after | This shall be a statute | |
| | H2181 | | H310 | H2708 | |
| לְעוֹלָם | תָּהִי | זֶאת | לָהֶם | לְדֹרֹתָם: | |
| H5769 | H1961 | H2063 | H1992 | | |
| for ever | | | unto them throughout their generations | | |
| | | | H1755 | | |

Additional Cross-References

1 Corinthians 10:20 (Sacrifice): But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.

Exodus 34:15 (Sacrifice): Lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they go a whoring after their gods, and do sacrifice unto their gods, and one call thee, and thou eat of his sacrifice;

Deuteronomy 32:17 (Sacrifice): They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not, to new gods that came newly up, whom your fathers feared not.

2 Chronicles 11:15 (Evil): And he ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, and for the calves which he had made.

Psalms 106:37 (Sacrifice): Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils,

Revelation 9:20 (Evil): And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

Exodus 32:8 (Sacrifice): They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

Exodus 22:20 (Sacrifice): He that sacrificeth unto any god, save unto the LORD only, he shall be utterly destroyed.

Deuteronomy 31:16 (Parallel theme): And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them.

Leviticus 20:5 (Parallel theme): Then I will set my face against that man, and against his family, and will cut him off, and all that go a whoring after him, to commit whoredom with Molech, from among their people.

