

Leviticus 2:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

No meat offering, which ye shall bring unto the LORD, shall be made with leaven: for ye shall burn no leaven, nor any honey, in any offering of the LORD made by fire.

Analysis

No meat offering, which ye shall bring unto the LORD, shall be made with leaven: for ye shall burn no leaven, nor any honey, in any offering of the LORD made by fire.

This verse falls within the section on **Grain Offerings**. The grain offering (מִנְחָה, minchah) was a tribute offering acknowledging God's provision and expressing devotion through the fruits of human labor.

The five main offerings (burnt, grain, peace, sin, and guilt) addressed different aspects of relationship with God, all fulfilled in Christ's comprehensive sacrifice. The holiness demanded in Leviticus becomes possible through Christ, who both satisfies God's righteous requirements and transforms believers by His Spirit.

Historical Context

The grain offering (מִנְחָה, minchah) was a tribute offering acknowledging God's provision and expressing devotion through the fruits of human labor. Leviticus was given to Israel at Mount Sinai, shortly after the tabernacle's construction described in Exodus. The name 'Leviticus' (from Latin Leviticus, referring to the Levites) reflects its focus on priestly duties, though the Hebrew title Wayyiqra ('And He called') emphasizes God's initiative in revealing these laws. The first seven chapters detail the five main offerings, providing both worshiper

instructions and priestly procedures. Ancient Near Eastern cultures had various sacrificial systems, but Israel's sacrificial worship was unique in its ethical foundation, monotheistic framework, and emphasis on atonement rather than appeasement. Unlike pagan rituals focused on manipulating deities, Israel's sacrifices acknowledged God's sovereignty and sought reconciliation based on His gracious provision. Archaeological discoveries at sites like Ugarit reveal Canaanite religious practices Israel's laws explicitly rejected, confirming the Bible's historical reliability and the distinctiveness of Israelite worship.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about the costliness of true worship and dedication to God?
2. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
3. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?

Interlinear Text

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| כָּל | הַמִּנְחָה | אֲשֶׁר | תִּקְרֶיבוּ | לַיהוָה: | לֹא | | |
| H3605 | No meat offering | H834 | which ye shall bring | of the LORD | H3808 | | |
| | H4503 | | H7126 | H3068 | | | |
| תַּעֲשֶׂה | חֶמֶץ | כִּי | כָל | שָׂאֵר | וְכָל | דָּבַשׁ | לֹא |
| shall be made | with leaven | H3588 | H3605 | no leaven | H3605 | nor any honey | H3808 |
| H6213 | H2557 | | | H7603 | | H1706 | |
| תִּקְטְבוּ | מִמֶּנּוּ | אֲשֶׁר | לַיהוָה: | | | | |
| for ye shall burn | H4480 | in any offering | of the LORD | | | | |
| H6999 | | H801 | H3068 | | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Luke 12:1 (Parallel theme): In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.

Galatians 5:9 (Parallel theme): A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.

Exodus 23:18 (Sacrifice): Thou shalt not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leavened bread; neither shall the fat of my sacrifice remain until the morning.

Proverbs 25:16 (Parallel theme): Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it.

Proverbs 24:13 (Parallel theme): My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste:

Proverbs 25:27 (Parallel theme): It is not good to eat much honey: so for men to search their own glory is not glory.

Mark 8:15 (Parallel theme): And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod.

Luke 21:34 (Parallel theme): And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.

1 Peter 4:2 (Parallel theme): That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

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