

Leviticus 2:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if thou offer a meat offering of thy firstfruits unto the LORD, thou shalt offer for the meat offering of thy firstfruits green ears of corn dried by the fire, even corn beaten out of full ears.

Analysis

And if thou offer a meat offering of thy firstfruits unto the LORD, thou shalt offer for the meat offering of thy firstfruits green ears of corn dried by the fire, even corn beaten out of full ears.

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. Hebrews 9-10 explains how Christ's once-for-all sacrifice supersedes the repeated Levitical offerings, providing permanent cleansing from sin.

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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

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. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?
3. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?

Interlinear Text

אֵב יְבֵשׂ	לִיהְיוֹן הַ	בְּכֹרִיבָה	מִתְּמַתֵּת	תְּקֵרֶב יְבֵשׂ	אֵב יְבֵשׂ
H518 And if thou offer	H7126	H4503 a meat offering	H1061 of thy firstfruits	H3068 unto the LORD	H24 green ears
קָלְלָה	בְּאֵשׁ	בְּרֵשֶׁת	פְּרַטְתָּלָה	תְּקֵרֶב יְבֵשׂ	אֵב יְבֵשׂ
of corn dried	by the fire	even corn beaten	out of full ears	And if thou offer	H853
H7033	H784	H1643	H3759	H7126	
מִתְּמַתֵּת	בְּכֹרִיבָה				
H4503 a meat offering	H1061 of thy firstfruits				

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 23:10 (Parallel theme): Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:

Revelation 14:4 (Parallel theme): These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

1 Corinthians 15:20 (Parallel theme): But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

Malachi 1:11 (Sacrifice): For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts.

Numbers 28:2 (Sacrifice): Command the children of Israel, and say unto them, My offering, and my bread for my sacrifices made by fire, for a sweet savour unto me, shall ye observe to offer unto me in their due season.

