

Leviticus 22:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When a bullock, or a sheep, or a goat, is brought forth, then it shall be seven days under the dam; and from the eighth day and thenceforth it shall be accepted for an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

Analysis

When a bullock, or a sheep, or a goat, is brought forth, then it shall be seven days under the dam; and from the eighth day and thenceforth it shall be accepted for an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

This verse falls within the section on **Acceptable Sacrifices**. Requirements for acceptable sacrifices and those who may eat sacred offerings, maintaining sacrifice quality.

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 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

Requirements for acceptable sacrifices and those who may eat sacred offerings, maintaining sacrifice quality. 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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

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 point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?

Interlinear Text

וְכִי הַיּוֹלֶד	אֲוֹזֶן	שְׁבַע	אֲוֹזֶן	כִּי עַז	כִּי שְׁבַע	אֲוֹזֶן	וְרֹא	וְרֹא
When a bullock	H176	or a sheep	H176	or a goat	H3588	is brought forth	H1961	
	H7794		H3775		H5795		H3205	
וְמִי זָמֵן	אֶת	זָמֵן	וְמִי זָמֵן	זָמֵן	תְּשִׁבַּע	תְּשִׁבַּע	וְ	
then it shall be seven	day	H8478	under the dam	day				
H7651	H3117		H517	H3117				
לִקְרָב	וְשְׁמִינִית	לְאֵת	וְיָצָא הַ	לִקְרָב				
and from the eighth	and thenceforth	H1973	it shall be accepted	for an offering				
H8066			H7521	H7133				
לְיְהוָה:	אֲשֶׁר הָ							
made by fire	unto the LORD							
H801	H3068							

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 22:30 (Parallel theme): Likewise shalt thou do with thine oxen, and with thy sheep: seven days it shall be with his dam; on the eighth day thou shalt give it me.

Leviticus 22:25 (Parallel theme): Neither from a stranger's hand shall ye offer the bread of your God of any of these; because their corruption is in them, and blemishes be in them: they shall not be accepted for you.