

Leviticus 22:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when the sun is down, he shall be clean, and shall afterward eat of the holy things; because it is his food.

Analysis

And when the sun is down, he shall be clean, and shall afterward eat of the holy things; because it is his food.

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

The central theme of Leviticus is God's holiness and the call for His people to be holy. The Hebrew word qadosh (קָדוֹשׁ) means 'set apart' or 'sacred,' emphasizing both separation from sin and consecration to God's purposes. Ritual purity laws taught Israel to distinguish between clean and unclean, holy and common, training them in discernment and reverence for God's presence.

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

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. 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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does God's holiness, as revealed in this verse, shape your understanding of worship, obedience, and daily living?
2. How can you develop greater spiritual discernment in distinguishing what honors God from what defiles?
3. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?

Interlinear Text

וְבָא	בַּשְׂמַךְ	רָא	וְאַמְרָה	לִזְבְּחָה	וְאַכְלָה
is down	And when the sun	he shall be clean	and shall afterward		eat
H935	H8121	H2891	H310		H4480

וְאַכְלָה	לִזְבְּחָה	רָא	בַּשְׂמַךְ	וְבָא
eat	his food	clean	when the sun	is down

וְאַכְלָה	לִזְבְּחָה	רָא	בַּשְׂמַךְ	וְבָא
eat	his food	clean	when the sun	is down

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 21:22 (Holy): He shall eat the bread of his God, both of the most holy, and of the holy.

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