

Leviticus 23:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the LORD your God.

Analysis

And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the LORD your God.

This verse falls within the section on **Appointed Feasts**. God's sacred calendar including Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles, marking redemption and agricultural blessings.

The Hebrew word kaphar (כִּפּוּר) means 'to cover' or 'to make atonement.' The sacrificial system provided temporary covering for sin, pointing forward to Christ's perfect, once-for-all sacrifice.

The access to God's presence that Leviticus carefully regulated is now freely available through Christ's blood, tearing the veil and opening the way to God.

Historical Context

God's sacred calendar including Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles, marking redemption and agricultural blessings. 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. The tabernacle's design parallels ancient Near Eastern temple architecture, yet its portable nature and absence of divine images distinguished it from pagan temples.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. In what ways does this verse deepen your appreciation for Christ's atoning sacrifice and the seriousness of sin?
2. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
3. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?

Interlinear Text

בְּ	יְ	מִ	יְ	וּ	מִ	בְּ	צָמֵ	תַּעֲשֵׂ	וְ	לֹא	מְלָאכָה	וְכָל
H2088	H3588	H3117	H6106	H6213	H3808	no work	H4399	And ye shall do	H1931	H3725	H3605	

לִפְנֵ	עַלְיָ	כְּ	רְ	לִכְפֵּ	הַ	וְאַ	כְּפָרִים	וּ	לִפְנֵ	עַלְיָ	כְּ
H3117	H6440	H5921	H3722	H1931	H3725	H3605	to make an atonement	for you before	day of atonement	no work	H2088

אֱלֹהֵיכֶם	וְהַ	הָ	יְהָ	תְּ	אֱלֹהֵיכֶם	וְהַ	הָ	יְהָ	תְּ	אֱלֹהֵיכֶם	וְהַ	
the LORD	your God	H3068	H430	H3605	the LORD	your God	H3068	H430	H3605	the LORD	your God	H3068

Additional Cross-References

Zechariah 3:9 (References Lord): For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone shall be seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.

Leviticus 16:34 (References Lord): And this shall be an everlasting statute unto you, to make an atonement for the children of Israel for all their sins once a year. And he did as the LORD commanded Moses.

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