

Leviticus 23:37

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

These are the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD, a burnt offering, and a meat offering, a sacrifice, and drink offerings, every thing upon his day:

Analysis

These are the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD, a burnt offering, and a meat offering, a sacrifice, and drink offerings, every thing upon his day:

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

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. 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

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 Israelite dietary laws in Leviticus 11 have no exact parallel in surrounding cultures, though some ancient cultures had food taboos, suggesting unique revelation rather than borrowed customs.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does God's holiness, as revealed in this verse, shape your understanding of worship, obedience, and daily living?
2. What does this verse teach about the costliness of true worship and dedication to God?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

אֶלָּא	מּוֹעֵד	לִיהְיוֹת	אֲשֶׁר	תִּקְרָא	אַתָּה
H428	H4150	H3068	H834	H7121	H853
These are the feasts	of the LORD		which ye shall proclaim		
convocations	to be holy	to offer	an offering made by fire	of the LORD	
H4744	H6944	H7126	H801	H3068	
עַל	וְמִנְחָה	זִבְחָה	וְתְּמִימָה	דְּבָר	
a burnt offering	and a meat offering	a sacrifice	and drink offerings	every thing	
H5930	H4503	H2077	H5262	H1697	
בַּיּוֹם	בַּיּוֹם				
day	day				
H3117	H3117				

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 23:2 (Holy): Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts.

Leviticus 23:4 (Holy): These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (Parallel theme): To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: