

Leviticus 23:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

Analysis

These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

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.

What Leviticus portrayed through types and shadows, Christ fulfilled in reality through His incarnation, perfect life, atoning death, and resurrection.

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. 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

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does God's holiness, as revealed in this verse, shape your understanding of worship, obedience, and daily living?
2. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?
3. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?

Interlinear Text

אָשֶׁר לֹא בְּמִזְבֵּחַ מִקְרָא יְהוָה בְּמִזְבֵּחַ

H428

These are the feasts

of the LORD

convocations

even holy

H834

H4150

H3068

H4744

H6944

אַתָּה תְּקַרְאֵ בְּמִזְבֵּחַ

H853

אַתָּה בְּמִזְבֵּחַ

These are the feasts

which ye shall proclaim

H7121

H4150

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 23:14 (Parallel theme): Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year.

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 23:37 (Holy): 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:

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