

Leviticus 3:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if his offering for a sacrifice of peace offering unto the LORD be of the flock; male or female, he shall offer it without blemish.

Analysis

And if his offering for a sacrifice of peace offering unto the LORD be of the flock; male or female, he shall offer it without blemish.

This verse falls within the section on **Peace Offerings**. The peace offering (שלמים, shelamim) celebrated fellowship with God and community, with portions shared between God, priests, and worshipers.

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 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

The peace offering (שלמים, shelamim) celebrated fellowship with God and community, with portions shared between God, priests, and worshipers. Leviticus was given to Israel at Mount Sinai, shortly after the tabernacle's construction described in Exodus. The name 'Leviticus' (from Latin Leviticus, referring to the Levites) reflects its focus on priestly duties, though the Hebrew title Wayyiqra ('And He called') emphasizes God's initiative in revealing these laws. The first seven chapters detail the five main offerings, providing both worshiper instructions and priestly procedures. Ancient Near Eastern cultures had various

sacrificial systems, but Israel's sacrificial worship was unique in its ethical foundation, monotheistic framework, and emphasis on atonement rather than appeasement. Unlike pagan rituals focused on manipulating deities, Israel's sacrifices acknowledged God's sovereignty and sought reconciliation based on His gracious provision. 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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about the costliness of true worship and dedication to God?
2. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
3. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵם	מִן	הַצֹּאֵן	קָרְבַּן	לְזֶבַח	שְׁלָמִים
H518	H4480	H6629	H7133	H2077	H8002
		be of the flock	And if his offering	for a sacrifice	of peace offering
לִיהוָה	זָכָר	אִם	נִקְיָה	תָּמִים	יִקְרִיבנוּ
H3068	H2145	H176	H5347	H8549	H7126
unto the LORD	male	or female	it without blemish	he shall offer	