

Leviticus 3:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

If he offer a lamb for his offering, then shall he offer it before the LORD.

Analysis

If he offer a lamb for his offering, then shall he offer it before the LORD.

This verse falls within the section on **Peace Offerings**. The peace offering (שְׁלָמִים, 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 (שְׁלָמִים, 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

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
3. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?

Interlinear Text

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|-------|-------------|------|------------------|-------------|------|
| אֵם | כֶּשֶׁב | הוא | וְהִקְרִיב | אֶת | קֶרְבָּנוֹ | וְהִקְרִיב | אֶת |
| H518 | a lamb | H1931 | If he offer | H853 | for his offering | If he offer | H853 |
| | H3775 | | H7126 | | H7133 | H7126 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| לִפְנֵי | יְהוָה: | | | | | | |
| it before | the LORD | | | | | | |
| H6440 | H3068 | | | | | | |

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 8:62 (Sacrifice): And the king, and all Israel with him, offered sacrifice before the LORD.

