

Leviticus 4:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When the sin, which they have sinned against it, is known, then the congregation shall offer a young bullock for the sin, and bring him before the tabernacle of the congregation.

Analysis

When the sin, which they have sinned against it, is known, then the congregation shall offer a young bullock for the sin, and bring him before the tabernacle of the congregation.

This verse falls within the section on **Sin Offerings**. The sin offering (חַטָּאת, chattat) provided atonement for unintentional sins, addressing the defilement sin causes in God's holy presence.

The holiness demanded in Leviticus becomes possible through Christ, who both satisfies God's righteous requirements and transforms believers by His Spirit.

Historical Context

The sin offering (חַטָּאת, chattat) provided atonement for unintentional sins, addressing the defilement sin causes in God's holy presence. 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 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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. In what ways does this verse deepen your appreciation for Christ's atoning sacrifice and the seriousness of sin?
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 help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?

Interlinear Text

וְיֹדַעַת	לִמְטָה	אֶת	עַל	יְה
against it is known	When the sin	H834	which they have sinned	H5921
H3045	H2403		H2398	
וְיֹדַעַת	לִמְטָה	אֶת	עַל	יְה
shall offer	then the congregation	בָּקָר	בָּקָר	When the sin
H7126	H6951	H6499	H1121	H2403
וְיֹדַעַת	לִמְטָה	אֶת	מָוֹעֵד:	
and bring	him before	the tabernacle	of the congregation	
H935	H853	H6440	H168	H4150

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 4:23 (Sin): Or if his sin, wherein he hath sinned, come to his knowledge; he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a male without blemish:

Leviticus 4:3 (Sin): If the priest that is anointed do sin according to the sin of the people; then let him bring for his sin, which he hath sinned, a young bullock without blemish unto the LORD for a sin offering.

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