

Leviticus 4:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the priest shall dip his finger in the blood, and sprinkle of the blood seven times before the LORD, before the vail of the sanctuary.

Analysis

And the priest shall dip his finger in the blood, and sprinkle of the blood seven times before the LORD, before the vail of the sanctuary.

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

The Aaronic priesthood mediated between God and Israel, offering sacrifices and maintaining the tabernacle. This prefigured Christ's superior priesthood after the order of Melchizedek. Leviticus 17:11 declares 'the life of the flesh is in the blood,' establishing blood's sacred role in atonement, pointing to Christ's blood shed for redemption.

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 (**תְּחִזְבָּן**, 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. Ancient texts like the Code of Hammurabi show that law codes were common in the ancient Near East, but biblical law uniquely grounded ethics in God's character rather than merely social convention.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's superior priesthood, prefigured in this verse, assure you of access to God and effective intercession?
2. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
3. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?

Interlinear Text

מִן־יְהוָה־הַכֹּה־וְיַטְבַּל־אַצְבָּע־וְאַת־הַכֹּה־|
shall dip And the priest his finger in the blood and sprinkle H4480
H2881 H3548 H853 H676 H1818 H5137

פָּרֶךְ־כָּתָפְנִי־אַת־יְהוָה־הַכֹּה־מִן־בַּעַשְׁמִים־שְׁבַע־
in the blood seven times before the LORD before the veil H6532
H1818 H7651 H6471 H6440 H3068 H853 H6440

בְּקָרְבָּן־שׁוֹבֵת:
of the sanctuary H6944

Additional Cross-References

Joshua 6:4 (Parallel theme): And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

Joshua 6:8 (References Lord): And it came to pass, when Joshua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the LORD, and blew with the trumpets: and the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them.

Leviticus 26:28 (Parallel theme): Then I will walk contrary unto you also in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins.

Leviticus 14:18 (References Lord): And the remnant of the oil that is in the priest's hand he shall pour upon the head of him that is to be cleansed: and the priest shall make an atonement for him before the LORD.

Leviticus 16:14 (Blood): And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times.

Leviticus 26:24 (Parallel theme): Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet seven times for your sins.

Leviticus 16:19 (Blood): And he shall sprinkle of the blood upon it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it, and hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

Leviticus 26:18 (Parallel theme): And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.

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