

Leviticus 5:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But if he be not able to bring two turtledoves, or two young pigeons, then he that sinned shall bring for his offering the tenth part of an ephah of fine flour for a sin offering; he shall put no oil upon it, neither shall he put any frankincense thereon: for it is a sin offering.

Analysis

But if he be not able to bring two turtledoves, or two young pigeons, then he that sinned shall bring for his offering the tenth part of an ephah of fine flour for a sin offering; he shall put no oil upon it, neither shall he put any frankincense thereon: for it is a sin offering.

This verse falls within the section on **Guilt Offerings**. The guilt offering (אֲשָׁם, *asham*) addressed specific trespasses requiring both sacrifice and restitution, emphasizing sin's relational damage.

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 guilt offering (אֲשָׁם, *asham*) addressed specific trespasses requiring both sacrifice and restitution, emphasizing sin's relational damage. 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. Archaeological discoveries at sites like Ugarit reveal Canaanite religious practices Israel's laws explicitly rejected, confirming the Bible's historical reliability and the distinctiveness of Israelite worship.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

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 costliness of true worship and dedication to God?
3. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?

Interlinear Text

וְאִם H518	לֹא H3808	תֵּשֶׁן יָג H5381	יָד וְ H3027	לְשֵׁנֵי י H8147	תֵּר יָם H8449	אוֹ H176	לְשֵׁנֵי י H8147
		be not able to bring	But if he	or two	turtledoves		or two
בְּנֵי H1121	יוֹנָה H3123	וְהֵב יֵא H935	אֶת H853	קֶרְבֶּנּוֹ וְ H7133	אֲשֶׁר H834	חָטָא H2398	
young	pigeons	shall bring		for his offering		then he that sinned	
עֲשִׂיר ת H6224	הָאֶפָה H374	סֵלָת H5560	חָטָא אֶת H2403	לֹא H3808	יֵשׁ יָם H7760		
		the tenth	part of an ephah	of fine flour	for a sin offering	he shall put	
עַל יָהּ H5921	שֶׁן מִן H8081	וְלֹא H3808	יֵת וְ H5414	עַל יָהּ H5921	לִבְנֵה H3828		
		no oil	upon it neither shall he put		any frankincense		
כִּי H3588	חָטָא אֶת H2403	הוא: H1931					
		for a sin offering					

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 5:15 (Sin): Then shall the man bring his wife unto the priest, and he shall bring her offering for her, the tenth part of an ephah of barley meal; he shall pour no oil upon it, nor put frankincense thereon; for it is an offering of jealousy, an offering of memorial, bringing iniquity to remembrance.