

# Leviticus 6:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the fire upon the altar shall be burning in it; it shall not be put out: and the priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and lay the burnt offering in order upon it; and he shall burn thereon the fat of the peace offerings.

## Analysis

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**And the fire upon the altar shall be burning in it; it shall not be put out: and the priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and lay the burnt offering in order upon it; and he shall burn thereon the fat of the peace offerings.**

This verse falls within the section on **Priestly Instructions for Offerings**. Detailed regulations for priests administering the sacrificial system, emphasizing holiness and proper handling of sacred things.

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

## Historical Context

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Detailed regulations for priests administering the sacrificial system, emphasizing holiness and proper handling of sacred things. 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

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does Christ's superior priesthood, prefigured in this verse, assure you of access to God and effective intercession?
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

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וְהָאֵשׁ And the fire H784	עַל H5921	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ upon the altar H4196	תִּזְקַד shall be burning H3344	בּוֹ H0	לֹא H3808
תִּכְבֶּה in it it shall not be put out H3518	וְיִבַּעַר shall burn H1197	עַל יְהוָה H5921	הַכֹּהֵן and the priest H3548	עֵצִים wood H6086	
בְּכָל יוֹם on it every morning H1242	בְּכָל יוֹם on it every morning H1242	וְעַבְדְּךָ in order H6186	עַל יְהוָה H5921		
וְהֵעִלָּהּ and lay the burnt offering H5930	וְהִקְטִיבָהּ upon it and he shall burn H6999	עַל יְהוָה H5921	חֵלְבֵי יְהוָה thereon the fat H2459		
הַשְּׁלָמִים: of the peace offerings H8002					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Leviticus 9:24** (Sacrifice): And there came a fire out from before the LORD, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat: which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces.

**Nehemiah 13:31** (Sacrifice): And for the wood offering, at times appointed, and for the firstfruits. Remember me, O my God, for good.

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