

Leviticus 7:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the wave breast and the heave shoulder have I taken of the children of Israel from off the sacrifices of their peace offerings, and have given them unto Aaron the priest and unto his sons by a statute for ever from among the children of Israel.

Analysis

For the wave breast and the heave shoulder have I taken of the children of Israel from off the sacrifices of their peace offerings, and have given them unto Aaron the priest and unto his sons by a statute for ever from among the children of Israel.

This verse falls within the section on **Further Offering Regulations**. Additional laws concerning offerings, including prohibitions on eating fat and blood, establishing boundaries for holy 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 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

Additional laws concerning offerings, including prohibitions on eating fat and blood, establishing boundaries for holy 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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

1 John 4:8 — God is 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. What does this verse teach about the costliness of true worship and dedication to God?
3. How does understanding the purpose behind God's laws help you obey Him from the heart rather than mere duty?

Interlinear Text

לְקַרְבָּנִים
H3588 H853 **breast** **For the wave** H853 **shoulder** **and the heave** **have I taken**
H2373 H8573 H7785 H8641 H3947

מִזְבֵּחַ | **ישָׁבָאֵל:** מִזְבֵּחַ | **שְׁלָמִים** מִזְבֵּחַ |
H853 **and unto his sons** H1121 H3478 H2077 H8002

בְּנֵי | **לְאַבְרָהָם** | **בְּנֵי |** **בְּנֵי |** **בְּנֵי |**
and have given H853 **them unto Aaron** the priest and unto his sons
H5414 H175 H3548 H1121

יִשְׁרָאֵל: **בְּנֵי |** **מִאֵת עַזְלָם** **לְקַרְבָּנִים**
by a statute **for ever** H853 **and unto his sons** **of Israel**
H2706 H5769 H1121 H3478

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org