

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

לָקַחְתִּי	הַתְּרוֹמָה	שׁ וְקַ	וְאֵת	הַתְּנוּפֶה	הַחֵזֶה	אֶת	כִּי
H3947	H8641	H7785	H853	H8573	H2373	H853	H3588
have I taken	and the heave	shoulder		For the wave	breast		
שְׁלֵמֵיהֶם	מִזְבְּחֵי	יִשְׂרָאֵל:	בְּנֵי	יְמֵאֵת			
H8002	H2077	H3478	H1121	H853			
of their peace offerings	from off the sacrifices	of Israel	and unto his sons				
בְּנֵי	הַכֹּהֵן	לְאַהֲרֹן	אֹתָם	וְאֶת			
H1121	H3548	H175	H853	H5414			
and unto his sons	the priest	them unto Aaron		and have given			
יִשְׂרָאֵל:	בְּנֵי	יְמֵאֵת	תְּעוֹלָם	לְחֹק			
H3478	H1121	H853	H5769	H2706			
of Israel	and unto his sons		for ever	by a statute			

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