

Leviticus 8:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he took all the fat that was upon the inwards, and the caul above the liver, and the two kidneys, and their fat, and Moses burned it upon the altar.

Analysis

And he took all the fat that was upon the inwards, and the caul above the liver, and the two kidneys, and their fat, and Moses burned it upon the altar.

This verse falls within the section on **Consecration of Aaron and Sons**. The ordination ceremony established the Aaronic priesthood, involving washing, anointing, and sacrifice—prefiguring Christ's priesthood.

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

The ordination ceremony established the Aaronic priesthood, involving washing, anointing, and sacrifice—prefiguring Christ's priesthood. Chapters 8-10 describe the priesthood's consecration and early ministry. Aaron and his sons received special anointing for their mediatorial role between God and Israel. The tragic account of Nadab and Abihu (ch. 10) demonstrates that approaching God requires reverence and obedience. 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 tabernacle's design parallels ancient Near Eastern temple architecture, yet its portable nature and absence of divine images distinguished it from pagan temples.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about the costliness of true worship and dedication to God?
2. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
3. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?

Interlinear Text

וָקַח	אֶת	כָּל	חֵלְבֵהּ	אֲשֶׁר	עַל	הַקֶּרֶב
And he took			all the fat			that was upon the inwards
H3947	H853	H3605	H2459	H834	H5921	H7130
וְאֵת	יֵתֶרֶת	הַכֶּבֶד	וְאֵת	שְׁתֵּי	הַכִּלְיֹת	וְאֵת
	and the caul	above the liver		and the two	kidneys	
H853	H3508	H3516	H853	H8147	H3629	H853
חֵלְבֵהּ	וְקִטְרָהּ	מֹשֶׁה	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ:			
all the fat	burned	and Moses	it upon the altar			
H2459	H6999	H4872	H4196			

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 29:13 (Sacrifice): And thou shalt take all the fat that covereth the inwards, and the caul that is above the liver, and the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, and burn them upon the altar.

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