

Leviticus 8:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses took them from off their hands, and burnt them on the altar upon the burnt offering: they were consecrations for a sweet savour: it is an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

Analysis

And Moses took them from off their hands, and burnt them on the altar upon the burnt offering: they were consecrations for a sweet savour: it is an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

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 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 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 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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. What does this verse teach about the costliness of true worship and dedication to God?
2. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
3. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?

Interlinear Text

וְלֹא יָקַר כְּפִירָה מִעַל אֶתְּמָנָה מִשְׁהָ וְלֹא יָקַר כְּפִירָה מִעַל אֶתְּמָנָה
took And Moses H853 H5921 them from off their hands and burnt
H3947 H4872 H3709 H6999

מִלְאָה יְמִינָה הַמְּלֵאָה כְּפִירָה עַל הַמְּזֹבֵב
they were consecrations upon the burnt offering on the altar
H1992 H4394 H5921 H4196

לְיְהִינָה: הַא אֲשֶׁר בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
unto the LORD it is an offering made by fire for a sweet savour
H3068 H1931 H801 H5207 H7381

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 29:25 (Creation): And thou shalt receive them of their hands, and burn them upon the altar for a burnt offering, for a sweet savour before the LORD: it is an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

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