

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

וָקַח	מֹשֶׁה	אֹתָם	מֵעַל	כַּפֵּיהֶם	וְקָטַר
took	And Moses			them from off their hands	and burnt
H3947	H4872	H853	H5921	H3709	H6999
הֵם	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ	עַל	הָעֹלָה	מִלֵּא יָם	הֵם
	them on the altar		upon the burnt offering	they were consecrations	
	H4196	H5921	H5930	H4394	H1992
לִיהוָה	הָאֵשׁ	נִיחַ	לְרֵי	וְאֵל	
unto the LORD	it is an offering made by fire	for a sweet	savour		
H3068	H801	H5207	H7381	H1931	

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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