

Leviticus 8:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore shall ye abide at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation day and night seven days, and keep the charge of the LORD, that ye die not: for so I am commanded.

Analysis

Therefore shall ye abide at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation day and night seven days, and keep the charge of the LORD, that ye die not: for so I am commanded.

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.

Hebrews 9-10 explains how Christ's once-for-all sacrifice supersedes the repeated Levitical offerings, providing permanent cleansing from sin.

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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does understanding the purpose behind God's laws help you obey Him from the heart rather than mere duty?
2. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
3. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?

Interlinear Text

וְפִתְחָה	אֶל	מִזְבֵּחַ	תְּשִׁבְתֶּה	וּמְמֻמָּד
at the door	of the tabernacle	of the congregation	Therefore shall ye abide	day
H6607	H168	H4150	H3427	H3119
וְלֹא יְהִי	מִשְׁמַת רְתָבֵן אֶת שְׁמַרְתָּה מִן יָמִים שְׁבֻעָה תְּלַבֵּל לְהִיא			
and night	seven	days	and keep	the charge of the LORD
H3915	H7651	H3117	H8104	H4931
אֶל אֶת צוֹתָרִים תִּמְמֹן וְתוֹךְ	כִּי כִּי תְּמֹמֵן וְתוֹךְ אֶל			
H3808	that ye die	H3588	H3651	not for so I am commanded
	H4191			H6680

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 11:1 (References Lord): Therefore thou shalt love the LORD thy God, and keep his charge, and his statutes, and his judgments, and his commandments, alway.

1 Kings 2:3 (References Lord): And keep the charge of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself:

Numbers 3:7 (Temple): And they shall keep his charge, and the charge of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of the congregation, to do the service of the tabernacle.

Numbers 9:19 (Temple): And when the cloud tarried long upon the tabernacle many days, then the children of Israel kept the charge of the LORD, and journeyed not.

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