

Leviticus 9:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they presented the burnt offering unto him, with the pieces thereof, and the head: and he burnt them upon the altar.

Analysis

And they presented the burnt offering unto him, with the pieces thereof, and the head: and he burnt them upon the altar.

This verse falls within the section on **Priests Begin Their Ministry**. Aaron's first official sacrifices as high priest, culminating in God's glory appearing and fire consuming the offerings.

The five main offerings (burnt, grain, peace, sin, and guilt) addressed different aspects of relationship with God, all fulfilled in Christ's comprehensive sacrifice. Hebrews 9-10 explains how Christ's once-for-all sacrifice supersedes the repeated Levitical offerings, providing permanent cleansing from sin.

Historical Context

Aaron's first official sacrifices as high priest, culminating in God's glory appearing and fire consuming the offerings. 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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

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. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

וְאַתָּה בְּעַל הַמִּזְבֵּחַ יְאֹוָה אֶל יְהוָה לְנַתְּחַ יְפָנֵן
H853 the burnt offering H4672 And they presented H413 unto him with the pieces H5409

וְאַתָּה בְּרַאשׁ תְּקַרְבֵּן רְאַל כְּפָנֵי אֱלֹהִים
H853 thereof and the head H7218 and he burnt H6999 H5921 them upon the altar H4196