

Numbers 18:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD spake unto Aaron, Behold, I also have given thee the charge of mine heave offerings of all the hallowed things of the children of Israel; unto thee have I given them by reason of the anointing, and to thy sons, by an ordinance for ever.

Analysis

God gave priests portions of offerings 'for an anointing'—priestly compensation came from holy things. This established principle of supporting ministers through God's people's gifts. Those who serve the altar share in the altar's provisions (1 Corinthians 9:13-14). God's design includes material support for those devoted to spiritual service.

Historical Context

The priests' portions included parts of sacrifices, firstfruits, and offerings (detailed in verses 9-19). Having no land inheritance, they depended entirely on these provisions. This arrangement required faith in God's provision through the people's obedience and reinforced the community's responsibility to support spiritual leadership.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How do you support those in spiritual ministry as God has prospered you?
2. What does it mean to honor spiritual leaders through material provision?

Interlinear Text

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|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------|
| וַיִּדְבֹּר | יְהוָה | אֶל | אַהֲרֹן | וְאֶנִּי | הֵן הֵ |
| spake | And the LORD | H413 | unto Aaron | H589 | H2009 |
| H1696 | H3068 | | H175 | | |
| נָתַתִּי יָם | לְךָ | אֶת | מִשְׁמַחַת | תְּרוֹמֹתַי | לְכֹל |
| Behold I also have given | H0 | H853 | thee the charge | of mine heave offerings | H3605 |
| H5414 | | | H4931 | H8641 | |
| קִדְּשֵׁי יְ | וּלְבָנֶיךָ | יִשְׂרָאֵל | לְךָ | נָתַתִּי יָם | |
| of all the hallowed things | and to thy sons | of Israel | H0 | Behold I also have given | |
| H6944 | H1121 | H3478 | | H5414 | |
| לְמִשְׁחָה | וּלְבָנֶיךָ | לְחֹק | עוֹלָם: | | |
| them by reason of the anointing | and to thy sons | by an ordinance | for ever | | |
| H4888 | H1121 | H2706 | H5769 | | |

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 6:16 (Parallel theme): And the remainder thereof shall Aaron and his sons eat: with unleavened bread shall it be eaten in the holy place; in the court of the tabernacle of the congregation they shall eat it.

Exodus 29:29 (Parallel theme): And the holy garments of Aaron shall be his sons' after him, to be anointed therein, and to be consecrated in them.

Exodus 40:15 (Parallel theme): And thou shalt anoint them, as thou didst anoint their father, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office: for their anointing shall surely be an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations.

Exodus 40:13 (Parallel theme): And thou shalt put upon Aaron the holy garments, and anoint him, and sanctify him; that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

Leviticus 6:18 (Sacrifice): All the males among the children of Aaron shall eat of it. It shall be a statute for ever in your generations concerning the offerings of the LORD made by fire: every one that toucheth them shall be holy.

Leviticus 7:6 (Parallel theme): Every male among the priests shall eat thereof: it shall be eaten in the holy place: it is most holy.