

Numbers 28:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Ye shall offer these beside the burnt offering in the morning,
which is for a continual burnt offering.

Analysis

Ye shall offer these beside the burnt offering in the morning (מִלְבָּד עֲלֵת הַבֹּקֶר, milevad olat haboqer)—the festival offerings were additional to, not replacements for, the daily tamid (תָּמִיד, "continual") offerings prescribed in Exodus 29:38-42. Each morning and evening, one lamb was offered perpetually on Israel's behalf, representing unceasing intercession and consecration. The festivals added to this baseline but never suspended it.

This layering—daily + monthly + annual offerings—created a richly textured worship life where every day was sacred, some days more solemn. The continual burnt offering prefigures Christ's ongoing high priestly ministry (Hebrews 7:25: he ever lives to make intercession), while the special offerings point to His once-for-all death. The Christian life similarly combines regular rhythms (daily devotion) with special observances (Lord's Supper, Christian calendar).

Historical Context

The tamid offerings continued twice daily throughout Israel's history until the Temple's destruction in AD 70. Jesus's crucifixion occurred at the time of the evening tamid (approximately 3 PM), and the veil tore from top to bottom (Matthew 27:51), symbolizing direct access replacing the sacrificial system. Early Christians prayed at these same hours (Acts 3:1; 10:9), maintaining continuity while recognizing fulfillment.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does the principle of regular (daily) plus special (festival) worship inform Christian practice today?
2. What would it look like to maintain continual devotion to Christ amid life's changing seasons and celebrations?
3. How does Christ's ongoing intercession (Hebrews 7:25) fulfill the perpetual morning and evening offerings?

Interlinear Text

מִלְבֹּד	לְעֹלָת	בַּבֹּקֶר	אֲשֶׁר	לְעֹלָת
H905	burnt offering	in the morning	H834	burnt offering
	H5930	H1242		H5930
הַתָּמִיד	תַּעֲשֶׂה וְ	אֶת	אֱלֹהֶיךָ:	
which is for a continual	Ye shall offer	H853	H428	
H8548	H6213			

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 28:3 (Sacrifice): And thou shalt say unto them, This is the offering made by fire which ye shall offer unto the LORD; two lambs of the first year without spot day by day, for a continual burnt offering.