

Numbers 5:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And every man's hallowed things shall be his: whatsoever any man giveth the priest, it shall be his.

Analysis

The phrase 'every man's hallowed things shall be his' clarifies ownership rights within the sacrificial system. What a worshiper sanctified (set apart as holy) belonged to him to offer, though it ultimately went to the priest or altar. The Hebrew *kodesh* (hallowed/holy) indicates separation unto God. This teaches that dedication to God does not erase stewardship responsibility—we remain accountable for how we use what we have consecrated. It also establishes that priests could not coerce offerings; gifts must be voluntary.

Historical Context

This law protected against priestly abuse where religious leaders might claim anything they desired as sanctified to God. Jesus later condemned Pharisees who used the 'Corban' principle to avoid supporting parents (Mark 7:11-13), showing that dedication to God must not violate other scriptural obligations. True hallowing serves God's purposes, not human manipulation.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How can religious language be misused to avoid legitimate obligations?
2. What does it mean to truly consecrate something to God versus using dedication as a pretext?
3. How do we maintain voluntary, joyful giving while supporting ministry needs?

Interlinear Text

אֲשֶׁר	אַתָּה	אֲשֶׁר	אַתָּה	לְזִבְחַת	לְזִבְחַת	יְהִי	אַתָּה	אַתָּה	אַשְׁר	אַשְׁר
And every man's	H853	hallowed things	H0	H1961	And every man's	H834				
H376		H6944			H376					
giveth	the priest	H0	H1961							
H5414	H3548									

| תְּהִלָּה | לְזִבְחַת | יְהִי :

giveth the priest H0 H1961

H5414 H3548

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 10:13 (Parallel theme): And ye shall eat it in the holy place, because it is thy due, and thy sons' due, of the sacrifices of the LORD made by fire: for so I am commanded.

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