

Leviticus 22: Giving God Our Best

In Leviticus 22, God focuses on the priests and how they handled sacrifices. These weren't just leftovers tossed God's way—they were special offerings, and God laid down clear guidelines to make sure they reflected honor and respect. The rules weren't just random—they taught people to approach God with reverence and give Him their best.

Key Takeaways:

1. Who Could Eat the Sacrifices?

The priests and their immediate families could eat the food from sacrifices, but not just anyone. Even hired workers couldn't share it, but slaves or family members who were part of the priest's household could. This emphasized the sacredness of what was given to God—it wasn't casual.

2. No Blemished Offerings:

God didn't want damaged or second-rate sacrifices—no blind, sick, or broken animals. Why? Because sacrifices symbolized giving God your very best, not what you didn't want or couldn't use. Giving something subpar would have shown a lack of respect for God.

What Does This Mean for Us?

You might not be offering animals on an altar, but the heart behind these rules still applies. God isn't interested in the “leftovers” of your time, energy, or resources. When you give—whether it's your talent, money, or focus—do it wholeheartedly. Don't just toss God what's easy or convenient.

- **Quality Over Quantity:** It's not about how much you give but how meaningful your gift is. Even small acts of generosity can honor God if they come from your heart.
- **Check Your Attitude:** Are you giving out of love, or are you just going through the motions? God cares more about your intentions than the size of your offering.

Personal Application:

1. Give God Your Firsts, Not Your Leftovers:

Whether it's spending time with Him in prayer, using your skills to serve others, or giving financially, make it intentional. Start your day with God or set aside time to focus on Him before anything else.

2. Examine Your Heart:

Think about how you give—whether it's your time, money, or energy. Are you giving God the “best lamb” or the “blemished one” that costs you nothing?

3. Sacrifice with Joy:

Giving isn't just about duty—it's about worship. When you give your best to God, you're showing Him that He's worth it.

Something to Think About

Remember the widow Jesus talked about in Mark 12:41-44? She dropped two tiny coins into the offering—basically pocket change—but Jesus said her gift was worth more than the big donations from the rich. Why? Because she gave everything she had, while they gave what they wouldn't even miss.

Here's the takeaway: God isn't impressed by the size of your gift. He cares about your heart. It's not about how much you give—it's about what it costs you and the trust you show when you give. Generosity isn't about the leftover—it's about the sacrifice.

This week, find a way to give God your "best." Whether it's being extra generous with your time, helping someone in need, or putting more effort into your relationship with Him, do it with intention.

Final Thought

God doesn't need what we give Him—He owns it all anyway. But when we give Him our best, we're saying, "You're worth it, God." It's about showing love, gratitude, and trust in the One who's given us everything.