

Exodus 12:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb.

Analysis

The proportional allocation ('according to his eating') demonstrates God's concern for practical provision—neither waste nor want. The Hebrew 'mikhsat' (מִקְשָׁת) means a reckoning or counting, requiring families to calculate their needs. This communal sharing prefigures both the church's fellowship meals and the Lord's Supper where all partake equally.

Historical Context

Small families in ancient Israel would naturally join with neighbors for major meals. This provision ensured no household was excluded from Passover due to size.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does the principle of 'according to eating' guard against both excess and exclusion in Christian fellowship?
2. In what ways can you share spiritual blessings with those whose 'households are too small' to partake alone?

Interlinear Text

ה וְאֵלֹק חַדְשָׁה: מִקְרֵי וְתַחַת בֵּית וְ

H518 **too little** H1004 **And if the household** H1961 **be** H7716 **for the lamb** H1931 **take**

H4591

H1004

H1961

H7716

H3947

וְשָׁכֵן וְבֵית וְאֶל בְּקָר בְּ

let him and his neighbour H7934 **next** H7138 **And if the household** H1004

H7934

H7138

H1004

אֶכְל וְלֹפֶת נְפָשָׁת בְּמִכְסָת

it according to the number H4373 **of the souls** H5315 **every man** H376 **according** H6310 **to his eating** H400

H4373

H5315

H376

H6310

H400

עַל תִּפְאַר טָהָרָה:

shall make your count H3699 **for the lamb** H5921 **for the lamb** H7716

H3699

H5921

H7716

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