

Exodus 30:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Every one that passeth among them that are numbered, from twenty years old and above, shall give an offering unto the LORD.

Analysis

The half-shekel atonement money (ransom for souls) demonstrates that all are equally valued before God—rich and poor pay the same. No one can pay more or less for their soul; redemption has fixed price. This prefigures how Christ's atonement has equal value for all—not more for the worthy, not less for the unworthy. The silver (redemption metal) collected supported tabernacle service, showing that redeemed people fund God's ongoing work.

Historical Context

The half-shekel (approximately 0.2 ounces of silver) was collected during census-taking, serving both as atonement money and practical support for the tabernacle. This became an annual temple tax in later periods.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does equal payment (rich and poor) teach about the equality of Christ's redemption?
2. How do redeemed people support God's ongoing work in the world?

Interlinear Text

כֹּל	בָּעֵבֶר	עַל	כִּפְרְקִיד	בְּ	מֵת
H3605	Every one that passeth	H5921	among them that are numbered		old
	H5674			H6485	H1121
מֵתְרָם	שָׁנָה	עַלְתָּה	תְּרֻוָּם	לְ	יְהֹוָה:
from twenty	years	and above	shall give	an offering	unto the LORD
H6242	H8141	H4605	H5414	H8641	H3068

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 1:20 (Parallel theme): And the children of Reuben, Israel's eldest son, by their generations, after their families, by the house of their fathers, according to the number of the names, by their polls, every male from twenty years old and upward, all that were able to go forth to war;

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