

# Ezekiel 45:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Concerning the ordinance of oil, the bath of oil, ye shall offer the tenth part of a bath out of the cor, which is an homer of ten baths; for ten baths are an homer:

## Analysis

**Concerning the ordinance of oil, the bath of oil, ye shall offer the tenth part of a bath out of the cor**—The oil contribution rate is 1/100th (since a cor (כָּר) = 10 baths, the tenth of a bath per cor = 1%). The chok (חֻקָּה, "ordinance" or "statute") for oil parallels the grain offering but at a lighter rate. Oil (שְׁמֵן, shemen) —from olives, Israel's agricultural wealth—fueled the menorah (Exodus 27:20), anointed priests (Exodus 29:7), and accompanied grain offerings (Leviticus 2:1).

The meticulous measurement—**which is an homer of ten baths; for ten baths are an homer**—ensures no confusion between different measurement systems. Oil symbolizes the Holy Spirit's anointing (1 Samuel 16:13, Acts 10:38) and the Spirit's sanctifying work (Zechariah 4:1-6). That Israel contributes oil for temple service acknowledges that spiritual vitality comes from God yet requires human participation in maintaining worship. The light oil tax (1%) combined with light grain tax (1.67%) totals approximately 2.67%—far below the tithe, suggesting grace-motivated giving rather than legal obligation.

## Historical Context

Olive oil production was labor-intensive, requiring cultivation, harvesting, pressing, and refining. As a valuable commodity traded internationally, oil represented concentrated wealth. By requiring only 1% for temple use, Ezekiel's

vision ensures adequate provision without burdening the people, contrasting with kings who hoarded resources (1 Kings 10:27-29).

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does oil as a symbol of the Holy Spirit connect to our responsibility to 'fuel' corporate worship?
2. What does the light taxation rate reveal about God's generosity and trust in His people's willing participation?

## Interlinear Text

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וְחַדְשֵׁנָה	מִן	בְּבִתְּ יִם	בְּשָׂמֵחַ	בְּבִתְּ יִם	בְּשָׂמֵחַ	מִן	בְּבִתְּ יִם	בְּשָׂמֵחַ	מִן	בְּבִתְּ יִם	בְּשָׂמֵחַ
<b>Concerning the ordinance</b>		<b>of oil</b>		<b>baths</b>		<b>of oil</b>		<b>baths</b>		<b>out of the cor-</b>	<b>for ten</b>
H2706		H8081		H1324		H8081		H1324		H3734	H6235
מְעַשֵּׂר	רָתָה	בְּבִתְּ יִם	מִן	בְּבִתְּ יִם	מִן	בְּבִתְּ יִם	מִן	בְּבִתְּ יִם	מִן	בְּבִתְּ יִם	מִן
<b>ye shall offer the tenth part</b>		<b>baths</b>		<b>baths</b>		<b>baths</b>		<b>baths</b>		<b>for ten</b>	<b>baths</b>
H4643		H1324		H4480		H1324		H1324		H3734	H6235
חָמָר:	רָתָה	בְּבִתְּ יִם	מִן	בְּבִתְּ יִם	מִן	בְּבִתְּ יִם	מִן	בְּבִתְּ יִם	מִן	בְּבִתְּ יִם	מִן
<b>are an homer</b>		<b>for ten</b>		<b>baths</b>		<b>baths</b>		<b>baths</b>		<b>are an homer</b>	
H2563		H3588		H6235		H1324		H1324		H2563	

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