

# Ezekiel 45:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All the people of the land shall give this oblation for the prince in Israel.

## Analysis

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**All the people of the land shall give this oblation for the prince in Israel—**

The Hebrew kol-am ha'aretz (כָּל-עַם הָאֶרֶץ, "all the people of the land") emphasizes universal participation in supporting the prince's liturgical function. Unlike ancient Near Eastern systems where kings taxed subjects for personal enrichment, here the people voluntarily contribute (יִהְיֶה, yihyu, "shall be/give") to enable their representative to offer on their behalf.

The prince (נָשִׂיא, nasi, literally "one lifted up") mediates between people and priesthood—he's not a priest himself but provides the sacrifices priests offer. This arrangement prevents both royal usurpation of priestly duties (Uzziah's error, 2 Chronicles 26:16-21) and priestly poverty. The people's gifts to the prince create a chain of worship: people → prince → priests → God. This foreshadows Christ as our ultimate mediator (1 Timothy 2:5) who both represents us before God and provides the sacrifice (Himself) that reconciles us.

## Historical Context

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Israel's monarchy often treated subjects as resources to exploit (1 Kings 12:1-15). By making the prince dependent on the people's voluntary contribution, Ezekiel's vision restructures power—the ruler serves the people's worship rather than the people serving the ruler's ambition. This revolutionary model influenced later Jewish understanding of righteous governance.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does the people provisioning the prince's offerings invert typical power structures?
2. In what ways does Christ as our Prince and Mediator fulfill this vision of representative worship?

## Interlinear Text

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כָּל	הָעָם	הָאֶרֶץ	יְהוָה	אֵל	הַתְּרוּמָה	הַזֹּאת
H3605	<b>All the people</b>	<b>of the land</b>	H1961	H413	<b>shall give this oblation</b>	H2063
	H5971	H776			H8641	
לְנֹשֶׁא	בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל					
<b>for the prince</b>	<b>in Israel</b>					
H5387	H3478					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 16:1** (Parallel theme): Send ye the lamb to the ruler of the land from Sela to the wilderness, unto the mount of the daughter of Zion.