

Ezra 7:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That thou mayest buy speedily with this money bullocks, rams, lambs, with their meat offerings and their drink offerings, and offer them upon the altar of the house of your God which is in Jerusalem.

Analysis

The expenditure guidance—"That thou mayest buy speedily with this money bullocks, rams, lambs, with their meat offerings and their drink offerings, and offer them upon the altar of the house of your God which is in Jerusalem"—specifies proper use of funds. The word 'speedily' suggests urgency in establishing proper worship. The detailed list (bullocks, rams, lambs, grain and drink offerings) corresponds to Mosaic sacrificial requirements, showing Artaxerxes understood Torah prescriptions. Whether from Jewish advisors or his own study, his knowledge demonstrates divine influence on a pagan mind.

Historical Context

The sacrifices specified correspond to various Mosaic offerings: burnt offerings (Leviticus

1. , grain offerings (Leviticus
2. , and drink offerings (Numbers 15).

The complete list shows comprehensive provision for prescribed worship. Artaxerxes' knowledge of these details suggests significant Jewish influence at court. The phrase 'altar of the house of your God' recognizes temple's unique

function as legitimate worship site. Persian funding enabled immediate resumption of full sacrificial calendar.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does pagan king's provision of sacrifice materials demonstrate God's ability to incline hearts toward supporting proper worship?
2. What does Artaxerxes' knowledge of sacrificial requirements teach about God's influence extending to unexpected places?

Interlinear Text

כָּל	קָבַל	לְ	דָּנָה	אֶסְפֵּה	רָנָא	תִּקְנֵה	אֶ	בְּכֶסֶף	אֶ	דָּנָה
That	H6903		with this	speedily		thou mayest buy		money		with this
H3606			H1836	H629		H7066		H3702		H1836

תֹּרֵי	יִן	דְּכָרִין	אֶמְרֵי	וּמִנְחָתָהּ	וְ	יְנִסְכֶּיהָ
bulllocks		rams	lambs	with their meat offerings		and their drink offerings
H8450		H1798	H563	H4504		H5261

וּתְקַרְבֵּה	וְ	הֵמָּה	עַל	מִדְבַּחַהּ	דֵּי	בֵּית	אֱלֹהֶיךָ	וְ	דֵּי
and offer		them	upon	the altar	H1768	of the house	of your God		H1768
H7127		H1994	H5922	H4056		H1005	H426		

בִּירוּשָׁלַם:

which is in Jerusalem
H3390

Additional Cross-References

John 2:14 (Parallel theme): And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting:

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org