

Numbers 15:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt bring for a drink offering half an hin of wine, for an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

Analysis

And thou shalt bring for a drink offering half an hin of wine (נֵסֶךְ nesek, 'libation')—The wine offering, poured out at the altar's base, completed the sacrificial triad: flesh (animal), grain (bread of life), and wine (joy/celebration). Wine symbolized covenant fellowship and eschatological blessing (Isaiah 25:6).

This nesek was 'poured out' (same root as Isaiah 53:12, describing Messiah's self-sacrifice), foreshadowing Christ's blood 'poured out for many' (Mark 14:24). The half-hin (\approx 1.8 liters) was substantial—true worship is generous, not calculating. The phrase **for a sweet savour unto the LORD** (רִיחֵן נִיחּוֹךְ reach nichoach) indicates God's pleasure in obedient, costly worship.

Historical Context

Wine was a luxury in the ancient Near East, associated with celebration and abundance (Psalm 104:15). By including it in offerings, God invited worshipers to share their joy and prosperity with Him, acknowledging that all gladness is His gift.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does the wine offering's symbolism of joy challenge the notion that authentic worship must be somber or severe?
2. In what ways does the 'pouring out' of wine prefigure both Christ's sacrifice and our call to be 'poured out' in service (Philippians 2:17)?
3. What does God's designation of obedient offerings as a 'sweet savour' reveal about His relational desire for our worship?

Interlinear Text

וְיַיְלַכְתָּ בְּשֵׁנָה לְעֵדָה כִּי־יָמָן
of wine And thou shalt bring for a drink offering half an hin

H3196

H7126

H5262

H2677

H1969

אֲשֶׁר־הַמִּזְבֵּחַ אֲשֶׁר־הַמִּזְבֵּחַ לְיְהוָה:
for an offering made by fire savour of a sweet unto the LORD

H801

H7381

H5207

H3068

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 15:5 (Sacrifice): And the fourth part of an hin of wine for a drink offering shalt thou prepare with the burnt offering or sacrifice, for one lamb.

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