

# Numbers 15:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when thou preparest a bullock for a burnt offering, or for a sacrifice in performing a vow, or peace offerings unto the LORD:

## Analysis

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**When thou preparest a bullock for a burnt offering** (עֹלָה olah, 'that which ascends')—The burnt offering was wholly consumed on the altar, representing complete consecration to God. The bullock, most valuable of domestic animals, required the largest grain offering (3/10 ephah) and drink offering (1/2 hin of wine).

The olah typologically points to Christ's perfect self-offering (Hebrews 10:5-10). The ascending smoke symbolized prayers and devotion rising to God (Psalm 141:2). Unlike peace offerings where the worshiper ate portions, the burnt offering belonged entirely to Yahweh—a picture of unreserved surrender.

## Historical Context

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The bullock was costly (worth approximately 30-50 days' wages), making it the sacrifice of significant commitment. In agrarian Israel, livestock represented stored labor and wealth, so offering a bullock was substantial economic worship.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

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