

Numbers 28:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And three tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, for one bullock; and two tenth deals of flour for a meat offering, mingled with oil, for one ram;

Analysis

Three tenth deals of flour (שְׁלֹשָׁה עַשְׂרָנִים, sheloshah esronim)—precise grain measurements that accompanied animal sacrifices, demonstrating that worship required both costly blood sacrifice and daily sustenance offered back to God. The minchah (מִנְחָה, grain offering) mixed with oil symbolized consecration of ordinary provision. The graduated amounts—three for a bullock, two for a ram—reflected the animals' relative value and the worshiper's economic capacity.

These feast offerings at new moons (Rosh Chodesh) sanctified time itself, marking months by the lunar calendar. Hebrews 10:1-4 declares such offerings were "shadows" pointing to Christ's once-for-all sacrifice—yet their meticulous detail reveals God's desire that all of life, from grandest festivals to daily bread, be offered in worship.

Historical Context

Numbers 28-29 provides the liturgical calendar given at Moab just before entering Canaan (c. 1406 BC). These regulations supplemented Leviticus, ensuring the sacrificial system would continue in the Promised Land with monthly, seasonal, and annual festivals marking Israel's sacred rhythm.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How do the grain and drink offerings alongside blood sacrifices challenge a purely "spiritual" view of worship divorced from material life?
2. What does the precision of these measurements teach about approaching God with carefulness rather than casualness?
3. In light of Hebrews 10:1-4, how do these detailed shadows deepen appreciation for Christ's sufficient sacrifice?

Interlinear Text

בָשָׂר מִן בְּלֹל הַמְנֻקָּה
And three tenth deals of flour for a meat offering mingled with oil
H7969 H6241 H5560 H4503 H1101 H8081

מְנֻקָּה ס. לְתָה שְׁרֵנִים וְשֵׁנִים בְּלֹל הַמְנֻקָּה
bullock for one and two tenth deals of flour for a meat offering
H6499 H259 H8147 H6241 H5560 H4503

בְּלֹל הַמְנֻקָּה לֹא יָל בָשָׂר מִן
mingled with oil ram for one
H1101 H8081 H352 H259

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