

# Numbers 28:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And a several tenth deal of flour mingled with oil for a meat offering unto one lamb; for a burnt offering of a sweet savour, a sacrifice made by fire unto the LORD.

## Analysis

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**A several tenth deal** (עֶשְׂרֹן, issaron)—literally "a tenth part" of an ephah, roughly 2 quarts of flour for each lamb. The term "several" (בַּד, bad) means "separate" or "individual," emphasizing that each lamb received its own grain offering, not a collective portion. This individualized provision mirrors God's personal care.

**A sweet savour** (רֵיחַ נִיחֹחַ, reach nichoach)—"a soothing aroma" or "a fragrance of rest." This anthropomorphic language depicts sacrifices as pleasing to God, not because He needs food (Psalm 50:12-13), but because they represented obedience and devotion. Paul applies this same phrase to Christ's self-offering (Ephesians 5:2), revealing that these ancient rituals foreshadowed the ultimately pleasing sacrifice.

## Historical Context

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The monthly new moon festivals (Numbers 28:11-15) were less solemn than Sabbaths but still required cessation of ordinary work and assembly for worship. Archaeological evidence shows that ancient Near Eastern cultures also marked lunar cycles, but Israel's new moons uniquely pointed to the Creator who "appointed the moon for seasons" (Psalm 104:19).

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does the "separate" portion for each lamb reflect God's attention to individual worshipers within corporate gatherings?
2. What does it mean for a life to be a "sweet savour" to God today, according to Ephesians 5:2 and Philippians 4:18?
3. Why would God use sensory language (fragrance, savour) to describe spiritual realities?

## Interlinear Text

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עֶשֶׂר וֶון		עֶשֶׂר וֶון		סֵ לֵת		מִנְחָה	
And a several tenth deal		And a several tenth deal		of flour		for a meat offering	
H6241		H6241		H5560		H4503	
בְּלוּלָה		בֶּשֶׂן מֶן		לֶכֶּ בָּשׂ		הָאֶחָד	
mingled		with oil		lamb		unto one	
H1101		H8081		H3532		H259	
						עֹלָה	
						for a burnt offering	
						H5930	
						יֵיחֹ	
						savour	
						H7381	
						יֵיחֹ	
						of a sweet	
						H5207	
אֶשׁ ה		לִיהוָה:					
a sacrifice made by fire		unto the LORD					
H801		H3068					