

Numbers 28:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil:
three tenth deals shall ye offer for a bullock, and two tenth
deals for a ram;

Analysis

Their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil (מִנְחָתָם סֵלֶת בְּלוּלָה בַשֶּׁמֶן, minchatam solet belulah bashemen)—the grain offering always accompanied burnt offerings, never standing alone. Solet (סֵלֶת) was fine flour, not coarse meal—the best grain, finely ground. The oil (שֶׁמֶן, shemen) represents the Holy Spirit's anointing, necessary for acceptable worship (Zechariah 4:6).

Three tenth deals for a bullock, and two tenth deals for a ram—the repetition from verse 12 emphasizes consistency: whether at new moons or Passover, the proportions remained constant. This reliability in worship reflects God's unchanging character. The grain offering sanctified daily labor (agriculture) and recognized that even bread comes ultimately from God's hand (Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4).

Historical Context

The Passover/Unleavened Bread feast occurred during the barley harvest, when fresh grain was available. The omer offering of firstfruits (Leviticus 23:10-14) during this week acknowledged God as the source of the harvest. Jesus rose from the dead during this feast, becoming "the firstfruits of them that slept" (1 Corinthians 15:20)—resurrection harvest prefigured by barley sheaves.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does mingling oil with flour illustrate the necessity of the Spirit's presence in worship and service?
2. What does offering fine flour (not leftovers) teach about the quality of devotion God desires?
3. In what ways can you consecrate ordinary labor (like growing and grinding grain) as worship to God?

Interlinear Text

וּמִנְחָתָם	סֵלֶת	בְּלוּלָהָ	בַּשֶּׁמֶן	שְׁלֹשָׁה
And their meat offering	shall be of flour	mingled	with oil	three
H4503	H5560	H1101	H8081	H7969
עֲשֶׂרֶת יָם	לֶפָרָה	וּשְׁנֵי י	עֲשֶׂרֶת יָם	לֹא יֵל
tenth deals	for a bullock	and two	tenth deals	for a ram
H6241	H6499	H8147	H6241	H352
				תַּעֲשֶׂהוּ:
				shall ye offer
				H6213

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