

Numbers 28:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But ye shall offer the burnt offering for a sweet savour unto the LORD; two young bullocks, one ram, seven lambs of the first year;

Analysis

But ye shall offer the burnt offering for a sweet savour unto the LORD; two young bullocks, one ram, seven lambs of the first year—The Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) burnt offering (עֹלָה לְרִיחַ בְּיַחֹדֶחַ olah lere'ach nichoach, ascension-offering for pleasing aroma) required **two young bullocks** (פָּרִים בְּנֵי־בָקָר parim benei-vaqar), symbolizing strength and agricultural prosperity. The sevenfold lambs (שִׁבְעָה כֶּבֶשִׂים shiv'ah kevasim) represented completeness in gratitude for harvest blessing.

This offering accompanied Pentecost's grain offering—the only feast where leavened bread was presented (Leviticus 23:17), celebrating wheat harvest. Acts 2's Holy Spirit outpouring at Pentecost transformed the feast from agricultural thanksgiving to celebration of spiritual harvest—3,000 souls saved (Acts 2:41). Paul calls converts 'the firstfruits unto God' (James 1:18), fulfilling Pentecost's harvest symbolism.

Historical Context

The Feast of Weeks (Shavuot/Pentecost) occurred seven weeks after Passover (Leviticus 23:15-16), celebrating spring wheat harvest (May-June). Unlike other pilgrimage feasts focused on historical events, Pentecost centered on agricultural bounty, though later Judaism connected it to Sinai's law-giving.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does Pentecost's burnt offering (symbolizing complete consecration) challenge believers to offer harvest blessings back to God rather than hoarding them?
2. What does the transformation of agricultural Pentecost into spiritual harvest day (Acts 2) teach about Old Testament festivals finding fulfillment in Christ?
3. How can you practice 'firstfruits giving' that consecrates all subsequent blessings to God?

Interlinear Text

וְהִקְרַבְתָּם	עֹלָה	לֶךְ יָם	נִיחַם	לִיהוָה	פָּרִים		
But ye shall offer	the burnt offering	savour	for a sweet	unto the LORD	bullocks		
H7126	H5930	H7381	H5207	H3068	H6499		
בְּנֵי י	בָּקָר	שְׁנַיִם	אֶחָד	שִׁבְעָה	כִּבְשִׂים	בְּנֵי י	
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H1121	H1241	H8147	H352	H259	H7651	H3532	H1121

שָׁנָה:

year

H8141