

Numbers 29:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And ye shall offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD; thirteen young bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year; they shall be without blemish:

Analysis

Thirteen young bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs—The fifteenth day of the seventh month inaugurated Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles), the harvest thanksgiving festival. The staggering number of animals (29 total) surpassed all other festivals, reflecting agricultural abundance and joy in God's provision.

A sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour (אֲשֶׁר נִיחַח, isheh reach nichoach)—'Made by fire' emphasizes the consuming flame transforming the offering into fragrant smoke ascending to heaven. This festival celebrated dwelling in temporary booths (sukkot), commemorating wilderness wanderings when God was Israel's shelter (Leviticus 23:42-43).

Historical Context

Sukkot, one of three mandatory pilgrimage feasts (Deuteronomy 16:16), occurred post-harvest (September/October). Instituted in Leviticus 23, it prefigured millennial glory when all nations will celebrate it (Zechariah 14:16). The seven-day feast plus eighth day assembly totaled eight days.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does Sukkot's emphasis on temporary dwellings challenge modern attachment to material security?
2. What prophetic significance does Zechariah 14:16's vision of Gentile nations keeping Sukkot hold for Christ's kingdom?

Interlinear Text

נִיחַת	מִן	בְּיִם	אֲשֶׁר	עַל	הַקְרְבָתִ מִ	וְקָרְבָתִ מִ
And ye shall offer	a burnt offering	a sacrifice made by fire	savour	of a sweet		
H7126	H5930	H801	H7381	H5207		
עַל	שְׁלֹשָׁה	בְּקָרְבָתִ מִ	שְׁלֹשָׁה	בְּקָרְבָתִ מִ	עַל	נִיחַת
unto the LORD	bullocks	of the first	young	thirteen	rams	
H3068	H6499	H1121	H1241	H7969	H352	
שְׁנָה	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	שְׁנָה	בְּנֵי	שְׁנָה	שְׁנָה
year	and fourteen	and fourteen	year	and fourteen	and fourteen	year
H8147	H1961	H702	H8141	H6240		
בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי
without	blemish	blemish	without	blemish	blemish	without
they shall be	they shall be	they shall be	they shall be	they shall be	they shall be	they shall be
H8549						

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 28:11 (Sacrifice): And in the beginnings of your months ye shall offer a burnt offering unto the LORD; two young bullocks, and one ram, seven lambs of the first year without spot;

Ezra 3:4 (Sacrifice): They kept also the feast of tabernacles, as it is written, and offered the daily burnt offerings by number, according to the custom, as the duty of every day required;

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org