

Numbers 29:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner:

Analysis

According to their number, after the manner—The refrain returns, hammering home covenant consistency. Day three's grain and drink offerings followed the same proportions as days one and two: 3 esronim per bullock, 2 per ram, 1 per lamb. The drink offering (nesek, נֶסֶק) of wine accompanied each animal (Numbers 15:1-12).

Wine symbolized joy (Psalm 104:15) but also covenant blood (Matthew 26:28). Poured out at the altar's base, it couldn't be consumed—a picture of Christ's blood poured out irrecoverably for sin (Isaiah 53:12). The repetitive phrase 'after the manner' reinforces that worship isn't creativity but obedience.

Historical Context

Wine production in ancient Israel occurred during harvest season, making Sukkot an ideal time for wine libations. Archaeological discoveries of ancient wine presses in Judean highlands confirm viticulture's centrality. Tithes included wine (Deuteronomy 14:23), integrating it into covenant worship.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does the wine libation's irretrievable pouring out illuminate Christ's words 'my blood poured out for many' (Mark 14:24)?
2. What does the festival's joy-infused worship teach about the compatibility of reverence and gladness in approaching God?

Interlinear Text

וּמִנְחָתָם	וְנִסְכֵּיהֶם	לִפְרִים	לְאֵילִם
And their meat offering	and their drink offerings	for the bullocks	for the rams
H4503	H5262	H6499	H352
וּלְכֶבֶשׂ יִם	בְּמִסְפָּרָם	כַּמִּשְׁפָּט:	
and for the lambs	shall be according to their number	after the manner	
H3532	H4557	H4941	

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