

Numbers 29:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering.

Analysis

One goat for a sin offering—Day three's chatat uses sa'ir (שֶׁאִיר, male goat) rather than se'ir, though meaning is identical. The goat, commonly used for sin offerings (Leviticus 4:23, 9:3, 16:9), symbolized sin-bearing, contrasted with lambs representing innocence.

The goat/lamb distinction illuminated Christ's dual typology: the lamb led to slaughter (Isaiah 53:7, John 1:29) and the scapegoat bearing iniquity into wilderness (Leviticus 16:21-22). Each day's single goat reminded Israel that atonement was always necessary, even during joyful celebration.

Historical Context

Goats, hardier than sheep, thrived in Judea's rocky terrain. Their use in sin offerings may reflect their association with wilderness (scapegoat sent to Azazel) versus sheep's pastoral domesticity. Priestly manuals specified age, gender, and type of animal for each offering category.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. Why did God designate goats rather than lambs for most sin offerings, and what does this teach about atonement's nature?
2. How does the daily sin offering's regularity challenge the presumption that spiritual maturity eliminates the need for confession?

Interlinear Text

וּשְׁעִיר	חֹטֵאת	אֶחָד	מִלֵּבֶד	עַל־ת	הַתָּמִיד
goat	for a sin offering	And one	H905	burnt offering	beside the continual
H8163	H2403	H259		H5930	H8548
וּמִנְחָתוֹ	וּמִסֵּכָתוֹ:				
and his meat offering	and his drink offering				
H4503	H5262				