

Numbers 29:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

On the eighth day ye shall have a solemn assembly: ye shall do no servile work therein:

Analysis

The eighth day after Tabernacles was 'a solemn assembly; ye shall do no servile work therein.' The Hebrew 'atseret' (solemn assembly/conclusion) marked sacred conclusion to festival season. After Tabernacles' joyful seven days, this eighth day provided sacred closure. The number eight in Scripture often represents new beginning beyond completion (seven). This eighth day foreshadows the eternal rest in new creation - the ultimate Sabbath beyond time. Jesus chose this day to make His living water proclamation (John 7:37-39), identifying Himself as fulfillment of festival's spiritual meaning. The prohibition on work emphasized sacred rest, pointing to eternal rest in God's presence.

Historical Context

This assembly concluded the seventh month's festivals: Trumpets (day 1), Atonement (day 10), and Tabernacles (days 15-21), with this assembly on day 22. The intensive month of sacred observances ended with solemn gathering, smaller than Tabernacles proper, focusing hearts on closure and anticipation. Offerings decreased from Tabernacles' lavish amounts to modest conclusion (v.36-38), symbolizing movement from joyful celebration to quiet reflection. Solomon's temple dedication concluded on this eighth day (2 Chr 7:8-10). Nehemiah's revival included this observance (Neh 8:18). The day typologically points to eternal state beyond millennial kingdom - eternal eighth day of unending worship and rest.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. Do you incorporate sacred pauses to reflect and conclude seasons before rushing to next activities?
2. How does the eighth day pointing to eternal rest encourage your hope for final consummation with Christ?

Interlinear Text

בַּיּוֹם	הַשְּׁמִינִי י	שָׂעָרֶת	תִּהְיֶה	לָכֶם	כָּל
day	On the eighth	ye shall have a solemn assembly			
H3117	H8066	H6116	H1961	H0	H3605
מְלָאכָה	עֲבֹדָה	לֹא	תַעֲשׂוּ:		
work	no servile		ye shall do		
H4399	H5656	H3808	H6213		

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 23:36 (Parallel theme): Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein.