

# Numbers 29:36

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But ye shall offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD: one bullock, one ram, seven lambs of the first year without blemish:

## Analysis

**One bullock, one ram, seven lambs**—The eighth day (Shemini Atzeret, שְׁמִינִי עַצְרֶת, Eighth Assembly) breaks the descending pattern dramatically: from seven bulls on day seven to just one. This singular offering marks a qualitative shift from the quantitative progression, pointing to the one sufficient sacrifice of Christ.

**A sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD** (isheh, re'ach nichoach, אֲשֶׁה רֵאשׁוֹת נִיחָר—)the "aroma of satisfaction" language appears throughout Leviticus (1:9, 13, 17), depicting God's acceptance of substitutionary offerings. The eighth day's single bull beautifully foreshadows "one sacrifice for sins for ever" (Hebrews 10:12).

## Historical Context

Shemini Atzeret (Leviticus 23:36, 39) was a distinct convocation, separate from but attached to Sukkot. Later Jewish tradition saw it as God's intimate farewell to Israel after the seven-day festival, like a king asking his children to stay one more day. Its unique one-bull offering distinguished it from the preceding week.

## Related Passages

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does the shift from seventy bulls (days 1-7) to one bull (day 8) illustrate the movement from old covenant multiplicity to new covenant singularity in Christ?
2. What does the "sweet savour" language teach about God's pleasure in acceptable sacrifice, culminating in Christ's offering (Ephesians 5:2)?
3. In what ways does the eighth day (beyond the seven-day completeness) point to resurrection, new creation, and eternal realities beyond the temporal week?

## Interlinear Text

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נִיחַת	בְּ	יִמְ	בְּ	יִמְ	וְקָרְבָּת	מִ
But ye shall offer	a burnt offering	a sacrifice made by fire		savour	of a sweet	
H7126	H5930	H801	H7381	H5207		
שְׁנִית	בְּ	יִמְ	כְּבָשָׂ	יִמְ	שְׁנִית	בְּ
unto the LORD	bullock	one	ram	one	lambs	of the first
H3068	H6499	H259	H352	H259	H3532	H1121
שְׁבַע	הַ	תְּמִימָם	לִיהְתָּ	רְ	פָּ	שְׁנִית
seven		without blemish	to be	one	of	year
H7651		H8549	H1121	H259	H3532	H8141

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