

Numbers 29:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But ye shall offer a burnt offering unto the LORD for a sweet savour; one young bullock, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year; they shall be unto you without blemish:

Analysis

A burnt offering unto the LORD for a sweet savour—(עֹלָה לְכִים נִיחָן) The olah completely consumed on the altar signified total dedication to God. Reach nichoach (sweet savour) depicts God's pleasure in willing sacrifice, language used of Noah's altar (Genesis 8:21) and foreshadowing Christ's self-offering (Ephesians 5:2).

Without blemish (תְּמִימָם, temimim) demanded perfect animals, pointing to Christ the spotless Lamb. This Day of Atonement offering combined with those of Leviticus 16, layering priestly intercession with covenant worship before Sukkot began.

Historical Context

Numbers 29:8-11 prescribes additional offerings for Yom Kippur (10th day, 7th month) beyond Leviticus 16's ritual. Written during Israel's wilderness period (1445-1405 BC), these regulations prepared the nation for temple worship in Canaan. The sacrifices preceded the joyous Feast of Tabernacles by five days.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does the 'sweet savour' language challenge modern worship that prioritizes personal satisfaction over God's pleasure?
2. What does the demand for unblemished animals teach about God's holiness and the necessity of Christ's perfection?

Interlinear Text

פָּר	נִיחָרֶת	כִּי	לִיהְיוֹת	עַל	הָ	וְקָרְבַּת	מִ
bullock	for a sweet	is	to be	on	the	burnt offering	you shall offer
H6499	H5207	H7381	H3068	H5930	H7126	But ye shall offer	a burnt offering
שָׁנָה	בָּנִי	קָבֵשׂ	יָמִם	אֶת	אֶת	בָּקָר	בָּנִי
year	of the first	lambs	one	ram	one	young	of the first
H8141	H1121	H3532	H259	H352	H259	H1241	H1121
לְכָמָן	וְיָמִים	תְּמִימִם	מִ	שְׁבַע	הָ		
				and seven	they shall be unto you without blemish	H1961	H0
				H7651	H8549		

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 29:13 (Sacrifice): 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:

Numbers 28:19 (Sacrifice): But ye shall offer a sacrifice made by fire for a burnt offering unto the LORD; two young bullocks, and one ram, and seven lambs of the first year: they shall be unto you without blemish:

