

Numbers 6:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he shall offer his offering unto the LORD, one he lamb of the first year without blemish for a burnt offering, and one ewe lamb of the first year without blemish for a sin offering, and one ram without blemish for peace offerings,

Analysis

The threefold offering pattern (burnt offering, sin offering, peace offering) represents comprehensive worship—total dedication (burnt offering), atonement for sin (sin offering), and fellowship with God (peace offering). Even voluntary consecration required sin offering, demonstrating that human holiness is always incomplete and needs atonement. The specifications (male lamb, ewe lamb without blemish) anticipated Christ, the perfect Lamb who fulfills all types of offerings through His sacrifice. No human devotion, however sincere, merits salvation apart from substitutionary atonement.

Historical Context

The requirement for animals 'without blemish' meant careful selection, often involving significant expense. These perfect animals symbolized the perfect sacrifice of Christ. The sin offering's inclusion shows that even during a period of special consecration, atonement for sin remained necessary. This taught Israel that their best efforts at holiness could not earn salvation—redemption required blood sacrifice pointing to the coming Messiah.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does the requirement for sin offering even after faithful Nazirite service teach about salvation by grace?
2. How do the three types of offerings help you understand Christ's comprehensive work on the cross?

Interlinear Text

בְּנֵי	כְּבָשָׂ	לִיהְיוֹן	קָרְבָּן	וְ	אֶת	וְהַקְרֵב	יְבָ	וְ
And he shall offer	H853	his offering	unto the LORD		the lamb	of the first		
H7126		H7133	H3068		H3532	H1121		
שָׁנְתַת	לְעֵל	תְּמִימָם	אֶת	דָּם	לְעֵל	וְכָבֵשׂ	הַ	אֶת
year	without blemish	and one	for a burnt offering		ewe lamb	and one		and one
H8141	H8549	H259	H5930		H3535	H259		
בַּת	לְחַטָּאת	תְּמִימָם	שָׁנְתַת	הַ	אֶת	וְאַיִל		אֶת
of the first	year	without blemish	for a sin offering		ram	and one		
H1323	H8141	H8549	H2403		H352	H259		
תְּמִימָם:	לְשַׁלְמִים:	תְּמִימָם						
without blemish	for peace offerings							
H8549	H8002							

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 3:6 (Sacrifice): And if his offering for a sacrifice of peace offering unto the LORD be of the flock; male or female, he shall offer it without blemish.

Leviticus 4:32 (Sin): And if he bring a lamb for a sin offering, he shall bring it a female without blemish.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org