

Numbers 7:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass on the day that Moses had fully set up the tabernacle, and had anointed it, and sanctified it, and all the instruments thereof, both the altar and all the vessels thereof, and had anointed them, and sanctified them;

Analysis

On the tabernacle's dedication day, 'Moses had fully set it up, and had anointed it, and sanctified it, and all the instruments thereof.' The Hebrew 'kalah' (fully/completely) emphasizes thorough completion according to God's exact pattern (Ex 25:9). The anointing oil consecrated the tabernacle for God's exclusive use, separating it from common use. This dedication occurred on the first day of the first month in the second year after the Exodus (Ex 40:17), making it a new beginning for Israel as a worshiping community. Christ is the ultimate tabernacle - God dwelling with humanity (John 1:14) - anointed with the Spirit and fully consecrated for redemptive ministry (Luke 4:18).

Historical Context

This chapter records the twelve tribal leaders' offerings over twelve days, each bringing identical gifts demonstrating equality before God. The total offerings were substantial: silver platters and bowls, gold spoons filled with incense, animals for sacrifices - all voluntarily given. The repetitive structure (each tribe's offering described identically) emphasizes that God values each tribe equally and records each contribution individually. This lavish dedication followed the enormous expense of building the tabernacle itself, showing Israel's priorities - worship before warfare or commerce.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does your giving to God's house and work reflect your worship priorities?
2. In what ways are you dedicating yourself as a living temple consecrated for God's exclusive use?

Interlinear Text

וַיְהִי	בַּיּוֹם	כִּלְוָת	מֵשֶׁה	לִפְקָד	אֶת
H1961	And it came to pass on the day	had fully	that Moses	set up	H853
	H3117	H3615	H4872	H6965	
כָּל	וְאֶת	וְאֶת	וְיִקְרָא	כָּל	
the tabernacle	and had anointed	H853	it and sanctified	H853	H3605
H4908	H4886		H6942	H853	
כָּל	וְאֶת	כָּל	וְיִקְרָא	כָּל	
and all the vessels	H853	thereof both the altar	H853	H3605	and all the vessels
H3627		H4196			H3627
כָּל	וְאֶת	כָּל	וְיִקְרָא	כָּל	
and had anointed	it and sanctified	H853			
H4886	H6942				

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 7:84 (Sacrifice): This was the dedication of the altar, in the day when it was anointed, by the princes of Israel: twelve chargers of silver, twelve silver bowls, twelve spoons of gold:

Matthew 23:19 (Sacrifice): Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift?

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