

Numbers 7:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

One spoon of ten shekels of gold, full of incense:

Analysis

The golden spoon weighing ten shekels, full of incense, represents prayer ascending to God. Incense consistently symbolizes prayer throughout Scripture. The gold vessel emphasizes the preciousness of prayer—we approach God not through ordinary means but through channels refined and precious. The specific weight indicates standardization; each prince brought the same amount, showing that God receives all His people's prayers equally, regardless of tribal size or prominence. The fullness of the spoon teaches that prayer should be wholehearted, not perfunctory.

Historical Context

Incense was burned on the golden altar inside the holy place, creating fragrant smoke that filled the sanctuary. The incense formula was prescribed by God and could not be replicated for common use. Only the priests could offer it, though in this dedication the princes' offerings were mediated through the priesthood.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does the golden spoon full of incense challenge us to see prayer as precious and valuable to God?
2. What does the standardized amount of incense teach about equality in prayer access regardless of status?
3. In what ways should the wholehearted fullness of the spoon inform the quality of our prayer life?

Interlinear Text

כָּלְבָתָה מְלָא הַמִּזְבֵּחַ בְּשֶׁבֶךְ הַעֲשֵׂה אֶת כָּל־
spoon One of ten shekels of gold full of incense

H3709 H259 H6235 H2091 H4392 H7004

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org