

# Numbers 7:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

## Analysis

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The kid of the goats for a sin offering addresses the reality that even in dedication, atonement is needed. Before communion with God (peace offering) or dedication (burnt offering), sin must be addressed. The sin offering blood was sprinkled on the altar's horns and poured at its base, signifying that sin's penalty is death and only blood can atone. The Reformed doctrine of substitutionary atonement is central—an innocent victim dies in place of the guilty. This prefigures Christ, our sin offering, who bore our guilt on the cross.

## Historical Context

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Sin offerings dealt with unintentional sins and ritual defilement. The blood application to the altar made atonement, allowing the offerer to approach God with other offerings. The goat, a common animal, made sin offerings accessible across economic levels, though here the princes used young goats as appropriate to their status.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. Why must the sin offering always precede fellowship offerings in our approach to God?
2. How does the substitutionary nature of the sin offering prefigure Christ's work on the cross?
3. In what ways does the necessity of blood atonement challenge modern sensibilities about approaching God?

## Interlinear Text

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שְׂעִיר	עֵז יִם	אֶחָד	לְחַטָּאת:
<b>kid</b>	<b>of the goats</b>	<b>One</b>	<b>for a sin offering</b>
H8163	H5795	H259	H2403

## Additional Cross-References

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**Leviticus 4:23** (Sin): Or if his sin, wherein he hath sinned, come to his knowledge; he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a male without blemish: