

Numbers 7:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they brought their offering before the LORD, six covered wagons, and twelve oxen; a wagon for two of the princes, and for each one an ox: and they brought them before the tabernacle.

Analysis

The princes' offering of six covered wagons and twelve oxen demonstrates generous, coordinated giving for God's work. These were not token gifts but substantial, practical resources for transporting the tabernacle. The covered wagons protected the sacred items from weather and dust. The Reformed principle of proportionate giving is evident—these were leaders giving according to their capacity. Two princes per wagon shows partnership in service, reflecting that God's work is often best accomplished through cooperation rather than individual heroism.

Historical Context

These princes (tribal leaders) brought offerings on the day Moses finished erecting the tabernacle and anointing it. Their gifts met a real need—the Levites required transportation for the heavy tabernacle components during Israel's wilderness wanderings. The wagons would be distributed according to the weight of each Levitical clan's burden.

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 princes' practical giving challenge us to meet real needs in God's work, not just symbolic gestures?
2. What does their coordinated generosity teach about unified giving in the church?
3. In what ways should church leaders model sacrificial generosity for their congregations?

Interlinear Text

וָּבָאוּ	אֶת	קֹרְבָּנָם	לִפְנֵי	יְהוָה	שֵׁשׁ	עֲגֹלָה
And they brought	H853	their offering	before	the LORD	six	a wagon
H935		H7133	H6440	H3068	H8337	H5699
צָב	שְׁנֵי	עֶשְׂרִים	בָּקָר	עֲגֹלָה	עַל	הַנָּשִׂאִים
covered	for two	and twelve	oxen	a wagon	H5921	of the princes
H6632	H8147	H6240	H1241	H5699	H8147	H5387
וְשֹׂרֶ	לְאֶחָד	וַיָּבִיאוּ	אֹתָם	לִפְנֵי	הַמִּשְׁכָּן:	
an ox	and for each one	and they brought	H853	before	the tabernacle	
H7794	H259	H7126		H6440	H4908	