

# Numbers 7:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

His offering was one silver charger of the weight of an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

## Analysis

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The repeated offering specifications—silver charger of 130 shekels, bowl of 70, golden spoon of 10—establish that God's requirements don't vary based on personal history or tribal status. Reuben's past sin didn't result in a diminished expectation or offering. This teaches that God's standard for worship is consistent, not adjusting down for the weak or up for the strong. The Reformed understanding of God's justice means He judges all by the same righteous standard, while His grace means Christ met that standard for all who believe.

## Historical Context

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The specific shekel weights were standardized measurements ensuring fairness and consistency. The sanctuary shekel was the official weight standard, preventing manipulation or variation. This standardization meant that rich and poor, prominent and marginalized tribes alike could know exactly what God expected.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's unchanging standard challenge both legalism and antinomianism?
2. What comfort comes from knowing God's expectations don't fluctuate based on our performance?
3. In what ways does Christ meeting the standard on our behalf free us to serve without fear?

## Interlinear Text

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וּמֵאָה וְשָׁלֹשׁ יָמִים אֶחָד כֶּסֶף קַעֲבֹת קֹרְבָנוֹ  
**His offering charger silver shekels one and thirty of an hundred**  
H7133 H7086 H3701 H259 H7970 H3967

בֶּשֶׁל קֶלֶב שִׁבְעֵי יָמִים כֶּסֶף אֶחָד מִזְבֵּחַ קֶלֶב מִשְׁקָלָהּ  
**of the weight bowl shekels one silver of seventy after the shekel**  
H4948 H4219 H259 H3701 H7657 H8255

בָּלוּלָהּ סֵלֶת מְלֵא יָמִים שְׁנֵיָּהֶם הָקֵן דֶּשׁ בֶּשֶׁל קֶלֶב  
**after the shekel of the sanctuary both of them full of fine flour mingled**  
H8255 H6944 H8147 H4392 H5560 H1101

לְמִנְחָה: בֶּשֶׁל מֶן  
**with oil for a meat offering**  
H8081 H4503

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