

# 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

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

וְמֵאָה	שְׁלֹשׁ	יָם	אֶחָד	כֹּסֶף	קָרְבָּן	וְקָרְבָּן
<b>His offering</b>	<b>charger</b>	<b>silver</b>	<b>shekels one</b>	<b>and thirty</b>	<b>of an hundred</b>	
H7133	H7086	H3701	H259	H7970	H3967	
מִשְׁקָלָה	מִזְבֵּחַ	אֶחָד	מִזְבֵּחַ	שְׁבַע	יָם	בְּשֶׁלֶת
of the weight	bowl	shekels one	silver	of seventy	after the shekel	
H4948	H4219	H259	H3701	H7657	H8255	
בְּשֶׁלֶת	בְּשֶׁלֶת	שְׁנִיתָה	שְׁנִיתָה	מַלְאָה	סְלָת	בְּלֹול
after the shekel	of the sanctuary	both	both	of them full	of fine flour	mingled
H8255	H6944	H8147	H8147	H4392	H5560	H1101
בְּשֶׁלֶת	לְמַנְחָה	מִן	מִן	מִן	מִן	מִן
with oil	for a meat offering					
H8081	H4503					

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