

# Numbers 7:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

## Analysis

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The golden spoon full of incense represents prayer that is both precious (gold vessel) and complete (full). This combination teaches that prayer should be both valued and wholehearted. Incomplete, half-hearted prayer dishonors the God we approach. The fullness suggests fervent, comprehensive prayer—thanksgiving, confession, petition, intercession—all aspects of communion with God. The Reformed tradition's emphasis on structured, comprehensive prayer finds support in this full spoon of incense.

## Historical Context

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The incense was compounded according to a specific divine formula that could not be replicated for personal use under penalty of death. This exclusivity emphasized that approaching God requires following His prescribed means. The fragrance filling the tabernacle created an atmosphere of prayer pervading the worship space.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. What does a full prayer life include beyond simple petition for personal needs?
2. How does the exclusive formula for incense relate to Christ as the only way to the Father?
3. In what ways can prayer become more comprehensive and balanced in our lives?

## Interlinear Text

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קְרִבָּה מְלָא הַיּוֹב עַשְׁבָּה אֶת הַמְּלָאָה  
spoon One of ten golden shekels full of incense

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