

Numbers 7:44

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

One golden spoon of ten shekels, full of incense:

Analysis

The golden spoon of ten shekels full of incense represents prayer that is both precious (gold) and abundant (full). This combination teaches that our prayers should reflect both the value we place on communion with God and the completeness with which we engage in it. Prayer is not a last resort or perfunctory duty but a precious privilege exercised fully and regularly. The Reformed emphasis on prayer as a means of grace is reflected—through prayer we receive what God has already purposed to give.

Historical Context

The incense burning on the golden altar created a barrier of fragrant smoke between the holy place and the Most Holy Place. This smoke symbolized both the ascending prayers of the people and the glory cloud that represented God's presence. The priests' intercession connected the people's prayers with God's presence.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does viewing prayer as precious change our approach to personal and corporate prayer?
2. What does fullness in prayer look like beyond simply asking for what we want?
3. In what ways does Christ's ongoing intercession inform and encourage our own prayer lives?

Interlinear Text

קְרִבָּה: מְלָא הַיּוֹם בְּעֵשֶׂב הַעֲשֵׂב הַמְּלָאכָה
spoon One of ten golden shekels full of incense
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