

Numbers 7:45

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:

Analysis

The burnt offering animals—young bullock, ram, lamb—each in its prime and without defect, represent offering God our best rather than our leftovers. The young bullock in strength, the ram in maturity, the lamb in innocence—together they symbolize comprehensive devotion of our entire being. This completeness of offering prefigures Christ's perfect sacrifice and calls us to give ourselves wholly to God. The Reformed doctrine of consecration involves all of life, not compartmentalized spirituality.

Historical Context

The examination for blemishes was thorough—animals had to be physically perfect to be acceptable. This requirement taught that God deserves our best and that worship should never be casual or careless. The priests' inspection ensured compliance, protecting the sanctity of worship and the integrity of sacrifice.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. In what ways are we tempted to offer God our 'blemished' gifts rather than our best?
2. How does the requirement for unblemished sacrifices prefigure Christ's perfection?
3. What does comprehensive dedication look like in contemporary Christian living?

Interlinear Text

רֵגֶל אֶתְנָא בְּנֵי רְבָקָה בְּנֵי אֵל כְּרָבֵשׂ אֶתְנָא

bullock **One** **of the first** **young** **ram** **One** **lamb** **One**

H6499

H259

H1121

H1241

H352

H259

H3532

H259

לְעַלְהָ שְׁנַת וּבְנֵי

of the first **year** **for a burnt offering**

H1121

H8141

H5930

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