

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

פָּר	אֶחָד	בֶּן	בֶּקָר	אֶל	אֶחָד	כֶּבֶשׂ	אֶחָד
bullock	One	of the first	young	ram	One	lamb	One
H6499	H259	H1121	H1241	H352	H259	H3532	H259
בֶּן	שָׁנָה	לְעֹלָה:					
of the first	year	for a burnt offering					
H1121	H8141	H5930					

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