

Numbers 7:48

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

On the seventh day Elishama the son of Ammihud, prince of the children of Ephraim, offered:

Analysis

On the seventh day Elishama the son of Ammihud, prince of the children of Ephraim, offered—The seventh day holds symbolic significance: creation rest (Genesis 2:2), Sabbath observance, and completion. Ephraim's prominence (Joseph's younger son who received Jacob's primary blessing, Genesis 48:17-20) is reflected in Elishama leading the tribe. The title **prince** (נָשִׂיא, nasi, 'lifted one/leader') appears 60 times in Numbers 7 alone.

The phrase **son of Ammihud** ('my kinsman is majesty') preserves genealogical identity. Every offering in Numbers 7 includes the prince's full lineage, emphasizing that worship flows from covenant family identity, not anonymous individuals. Elishama later appears in the census (1:10, 2:18) and as Ephraim's representative.

Historical Context

Elishama led Ephraim during the wilderness wanderings and was an ancestor of Joshua (1 Chronicles 7:26-27). Ephraim's central position in Israel's camp (west of tabernacle, Numbers 2:18-24) corresponded to their prominence. The tribe fulfilled Jacob's prophecy that Ephraim would become greater than Manasseh (Genesis 48:19).

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. What does the inclusion of each prince's full genealogy teach about the importance of knowing your spiritual heritage and family identity?
2. How might Ephraim's offering on the 'seventh day' connect to themes of rest, completion, and Sabbath in worship?
3. In what ways does the repetitive naming of each tribal leader challenge the modern desire for anonymity or minimal recognition in giving?

Interlinear Text

בַּיּוֹם	וְשָׁבֵעַ	יְהוָה	בְּנֵי	אֶלְישָׁמָא	אֶפְרַיִם	וְאֶפְרַיִם
day	On the seventh	prince	of the children	of Ephraim	Elishama	
H3117	H7637	H5387	H1121	H669	H476	

בְּנֵי	עַמִּיחָדָה
of the children	of Ammihud
H1121	H5989

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 1:10 (Parallel theme): Of the children of Joseph: of Ephraim; Elishama the son of Ammihud: of Manasseh; Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

Numbers 2:18 (Parallel theme): On the west side shall be the standard of the camp of Ephraim according to their armies: and the captain of the sons of Ephraim shall be Elishama the son of Ammihud.