

# Numbers 7:54

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

On the eighth day offered Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur,  
prince of the children of Manasseh:

## Analysis

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**On the eighth day offered Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur, prince of the children of Manasseh**—The eighth day transcends the seven-day creation week, symbolizing new creation and resurrection (Jesus rose on the eighth day counting from Palm Sunday). Manasseh, Joseph's firstborn, received the secondary blessing (Genesis 48:14), yet remained prominent among the tribes. **Gamaliel** ('reward of God,' גָּמְלֵיאֵל, Gamliel) appears as a theophoric name acknowledging divine blessing.

The son of **Pedahzur** ('the Rock has ransomed') connects offering to redemption theology. Names in Numbers 7 aren't incidental but carry theological freight. Gamaliel later appears in the census (1:10, 2:20) as Manasseh's representative. His eighth-day offering begins the second week of dedication, suggesting renewal and fresh consecration beyond Sabbath completion.

## Historical Context

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Manasseh and Ephraim (Joseph's sons) received full tribal status when Jacob adopted them (Genesis 48:5), replacing Joseph's single portion. This created thirteen tribes, necessitating Levi's non-territorial status (serving at the tabernacle). Manasseh later split into half-tribes (east and west of Jordan), fulfilling Jacob's blessing that Ephraim's younger brother would 'also become great' (Genesis 48:19).

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. What significance do you see in Manasseh offering on the 'eighth day'— moving beyond Sabbath rest into new beginnings?
2. How does Gamaliel's name ('reward of God') and patronym ('the Rock has ransomed') shape your understanding of worship as responding to divine initiative?
3. In what ways does Joseph's double portion through Ephraim and Manasseh reflect New Testament themes of abundance and inheritance (Ephesians 1:3-14)?

## Interlinear Text

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בַּיּוֹם	יְהוָה	בֶּן	מִנְשָׁה	לְגִמְלִיא
day	On the eighth	prince	of the children	offered Gamaliel
H3117	H8066	H5387	H1121	H1583
בֶּן	פֶּדַחְצּוּר			
of the children	of Pedahzur			
H1121	H6301			

## Additional Cross-References

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**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 2:20** (Parallel theme): And by him shall be the tribe of Manasseh: and the captain of the children of Manasseh shall be Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur.

