

# Numbers 7:55

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

His offering was one silver charger of the weight of an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:

## Analysis

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**His offering was one silver charger of the weight of an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary**—Gamaliel's offering mirrors Elishama's (7:49) and every other tribe's—identical weights, vessels, and contents. The repetition isn't tedious but theologically intentional: God values each tribe equally. The **shekel of the sanctuary** maintains standards of honesty, preventing the wealthy from gaining advantage through manipulated weights (Proverbs 11:1).

**Both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering**—The grain offering (minchah) accompanied burnt and peace offerings, never appearing alone. The fine flour (solet) required laborious grinding and sifting, representing consecrated human labor. Oil (shemen) symbolized the Holy Spirit's anointing (1 Samuel 16:13). Together they picture Spirit-empowered human effort offered to God.

## Historical Context

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The sanctuary shekel originated at Sinai (Exodus 30:13) as the standard for the half-shekel temple tax. By maintaining this standard throughout Israel's history, God prevented economic inflation from corrupting worship. The 'fine flour mingled

with oil' recipe appears throughout Leviticus (2:1-16), creating consistency in grain offerings for four decades of wilderness worship.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does the identical offering from all tribes challenge worldly systems that privilege wealth, status, or influence in religious contexts?
2. What does the laborious preparation of 'fine flour' (repeated grinding and sifting) teach about the value of careful, consecrated work in worship?
3. In what ways does oil symbolizing the Spirit's anointing challenge attempts at human achievement apart from divine empowerment?

## Interlinear Text

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וּמֵאָה	שְׁלֹשׁ יָמִים	אֶחָד	כֶּסֶף	קַעֲכֵת	קֹרְבַּנּוֹ
of an hundred	and thirty	shekels one	silver	charger	His offering
H3967	H7970	H259	H3701	H7086	H7133
בֶּשֶׁל קֶל	שִׁבְעֵים יָמִים	כֶּסֶף	אֶחָד	מִזְבֵּחַ קֹ	מִשְׁקָלָהּ
after the shekel	of seventy	silver	shekels one	bowl	of the weight
H8255	H7657	H3701	H259	H4219	H4948
בָּלוּלָהּ	סֵלֶת	מְלֵא יָמִים	שְׁנֵיהֶם	הַקֹּדֶשׁ	בֶּשֶׁל קֶל
mingled	of fine flour	of them full	both	of the sanctuary	after the shekel
H1101	H5560	H4392	H8147	H6944	H8255
לְמִנְחָה:	בֶּשֶׁל מֶן				
for a meat offering	with oil				
H4503	H8081				

