Numbers 7:58

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

> One kid of the goats for a sin offering:

Analysis

One kid of the goats for a sin offering—Gamaliel's chatat matches the pattern: a single male goat atoning for tribal guilt. The sin offering's necessity before peace offerings establishes theological order—reconciliation must precede fellowship. God cannot feast with un-atoned sinners. The goat's blood sprinkled on the altar satisfied divine justice, removing the barrier between holy God and guilty Israel.

The singular 'one kid' throughout Numbers 7 (repeated 12 times) anticipates the singular, sufficient sacrifice of Christ. Hebrews 10:11-14 contrasts the repeated daily sacrifices ('which can never take away sins') with Christ who 'offered one sacrifice for sins forever.' Each tribal goat testified to sin's seriousness while pointing beyond itself to the ultimate substitutionary atonement.

Historical Context

The sin offering distinguished Israel from surrounding nations, where sacrifices primarily involved gift-giving or appeasement. Israel's chatat involved substitutionary death—the goat died in the sinner's place. This legal substitution reached its climax in Isaiah 53:6: 'the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.' The goat couldn't actually remove sin (Hebrews 10:4) but faithfully pointed forward to Christ.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does the sin offering's requirement before peace offerings inform proper sequencing in your own worship and prayer life?
2. What does the repeated 'one kid' (12 times in Numbers 7) teach about the sufficiency of Christ's single sacrifice versus repeated religious rituals?
3. In what ways does understanding Old Testament sacrifices as 'shadows' (Hebrews 10:1) rather than final realities affect how you read Leviticus and Numbers?

Interlinear Text

שְׂעִיר	עִזִּ ים	אֶחָ ד	לְחַטָּאת:
kid	**of the goats**	**One**	**for a sin offering**
H8163	H5795	H259	H2403