

Numbers 7:60

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

On the ninth day Abidan the son of Gideoni, prince of the children of Benjamin, offered:

Analysis

On the ninth day Abidan the son of Gideoni, prince of the children of Benjamin, offered—Benjamin, Jacob's youngest son (Genesis 35:18), was Rachel's only son born in Canaan. **Abidan** ('my father is judge,' אָבִידָן, Avidan) and **Gideoni** ('hewer/warrior,' גִּדְעֹנִי, Gid'oni) both carry militant overtones, fitting Benjamin's fierce warrior reputation (Genesis 49:27: 'Benjamin shall ravin as a wolf').

The ninth day continues beyond the eighth-day renewal into sustained consecration. Numbers 7's twelve-day pattern emphasizes thoroughness—God desired every tribe's full participation, not abbreviated or consolidated offerings. Abidan's offering mirrors all others precisely, demonstrating that the smallest tribe (Benjamin often appears last in tribal lists) received equal honor in worship. God shows no tribal favoritism.

Historical Context

Benjamin's territory included Jerusalem (Joshua 18:28), making them geographically central despite small size. The tribe nearly faced extinction after the Judges 19-21 civil war, surviving only through divine mercy. Famous Benjamites include King Saul (1 Samuel 9:1-2), Queen Esther (Esther 2:5-7), and the apostle Paul (Philippians 3:5), demonstrating God's restoration of the nearly-destroyed tribe.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does Benjamin's equal offering (despite being the smallest tribe) teach about God's valuation of people regardless of worldly status or size?
2. How does Abidan's name ('my father is judge') and heritage (Benjamin = 'son of my right hand') connect to Christ as Judge seated at God's right hand (Acts 7:55-56)?
3. In what ways does Benjamin's near-extinction and restoration (Judges 21) picture themes of judgment, mercy, and redemption throughout Scripture?

Interlinear Text

אַבְּיָד	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי
Abidan	Benjamin	Benjamin	Benjamin	Benjamin	Benjamin
day	On the ninth	prince	of the children	of Benjamin	Abidan
H3117	H8671	H5387	H1121	H1144	H27

בְּנֵי	גִּדְעֹנִי
of the children	of Gideoni
H1121	H1441

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 1:11 (Parallel theme): Of Benjamin; Abidan the son of Gideoni.

Numbers 2:22 (Parallel theme): Then the tribe of Benjamin: and the captain of the sons of Benjamin shall be Abidan the son of Gideoni.

