

Numbers 7:67

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was 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

His offering was one silver charger, the weight whereof was an hundred and thirty shekels, one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary—Dan's offering precisely matched every previous tribe's, demonstrating God's requirement for equality in worship. The silver (*kesef*, כֶּסֶף) symbolizes redemption (Exodus 30:11-16), where each Israelite paid a half-shekel ransom for his soul. The 200-shekel total (130 + 70) represented significant wealth, yet remained identical across rich and poor tribes.

Both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering—Repetition throughout Numbers 7 emphasizes that God prescribes worship standards, not worshipers. Modern 'authenticity' that dismisses divine instruction for personal expression mirrors Cain's rejected offering (Genesis 4:3-5) and Nadab and Abihu's strange fire (Leviticus 10:1-2). True worship submits creativity to revelation, personal expression to biblical boundaries.

Historical Context

The tabernacle dedication offerings occurred shortly after the golden calf apostasy (Exodus 32) and the second giving of the law. The painstaking detail in Numbers 7—verse after verse of seemingly repetitive offerings—stands in stark contrast to

the chaotic self-worship of the golden calf episode. Ordered, prescribed worship restores what lawless worship destroys: God's presence, communal holiness, and spiritual safety.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does the identical offering requirement (across wealthy and poor tribes) challenge modern consumer approaches to worship that cater to personal preferences?
2. What is the relationship between creative expression in worship and submission to biblically prescribed patterns?
3. How does Dan's orthodox offering here (contrasted with later idolatry at Dan) show that right external forms without heart faithfulness ultimately fail?

Interlinear Text

וְקִרְבָּנוֹ	קַעֲבֹת	כֶּסֶף	אֶחָד	שְׁלֹשִׁים	וּמֵאָה
His offering	charger	silver	shekels one	and thirty	whereof was an hundred
H7133	H7086	H3701	H259	H7970	H3967
בְּשֵׁקָל	מִזְבֵּחַ	אֶחָד	כֶּסֶף	שִׁבְעִים	בְּשֵׁקָל
the weight	bowl	shekels one	silver	of seventy	after the shekel
H4948	H4219	H259	H3701	H7657	H8255
בְּשֵׁקָל	הַקֹּדֶשׁ	שְׁנֵיהֶם	מְלֵאִים	סֵלֶת	בְּלוּלָה
after the shekel	of the sanctuary	both	of them full	of fine flour	mingled
H8255	H6944	H8147	H4392	H5560	H1101
בְּשֵׁן	לְמִנְחָה:				
with oil	for a meat offering				
H8081	H4503				