

Numbers 7:73

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 (קַעֲרַת־כֶּסֶף, qa'arat-kesef)—Pagiel, prince of Asher, brings the eleventh offering, identical in content and value to the previous ten tribes. The repetition underscores that God values **fine flour mingled with oil** (סֶלֶת בְּלֻלָה בַּשֶּׁמֶן, solet belulah bashemen) equally from every tribe—the grain offering symbolizes the fruit of human labor consecrated to God.

The 130-shekel charger and 70-shekel bowl total 200 shekels, representing completeness. Asher, whose name means "blessed," brings blessing through costly, identical worship. No tribe innovates or seeks distinction; all conform to the divine pattern, demonstrating that true worship is not creative self-expression but obedient conformity to God's revealed will.

Historical Context

Asher's offering came on the eleventh day of the twelve-day dedication (c. 1445 BC). As a northern tribe known for its olive oil (Deuteronomy 33:24), Asher's participation demonstrates the united worship of all twelve tribes at the newly erected tabernacle.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. Does the repetitive nature of these offerings challenge modern assumptions that worship must be novel or creative to be meaningful?
2. How does Asher's conformity to the pattern reflect the relationship between individual liberty and corporate obedience in worship?
3. What does the equal value of each tribe's offering teach about spiritual equality before God despite differing gifts or prominence?

Interlinear Text

וְהָיָה His offering H7133	זָבַח charger H7086	כֶּסֶף silver H3701	אֶחָד shekels one H259	וְשָׁלֹשׁ יָמִים and thirty H7970	וּמֵאָה whereof was an hundred H3967
מִשְׁקָלָהּ the weight H4948	מִזְבֵּחַ קֶרֶן bowl H4219	אֶחָד shekels one H259	כֶּסֶף silver H3701	שִׁבְעֵים יָמִים of seventy H7657	בְּשֵׁקֶל after the shekel H8255
בְּשֵׁקֶל after the shekel H8255	הַקֶּדֶשׁ of the sanctuary H6944	שְׁנֵיהֶם both H8147	מְלֵא יָמִים of them full H4392	סֵלֶת of fine flour H5560	בְּלוּלָהּ mingled H1101
בְּשֵׁן with oil H8081	לְמִנְחָה: for a meat offering H4503				