

Numbers 7:77

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And for a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Pagiel the son of Ocran.

Analysis

For a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs (ゼバチ, zevach hashelamim)—The peace offering (shelamim, from shalom, שָׁלוּם, "wholeness/peace") celebrates restored fellowship between God and man. Unlike burnt offerings (entirely consumed) or sin offerings (for the priests), portions were eaten by the worshiper, symbolizing covenant communion. **This was the offering of Pagiel the son of Ocran**—Asher's prince completes his dedication with abundant thanksgiving.

The five-fold repetition (five rams, five goats, five lambs) suggests the number of grace and God's favor. These voluntary offerings express gratitude, not obligation. The oxen (strength), rams (leadership), goats (atonement), and lambs (innocence) together picture the fullness of reconciliation, anticipating the messianic feast (Isaiah 25:6, Luke 14:16-24).

Historical Context

Peace offerings were detailed in Leviticus 3 and 7:11-21. They included thanksgiving offerings, vow offerings, and freewill offerings. The worshiper, priests, and God (via the altar fire) all partook, symbolizing covenant fellowship. Pagiel's offering concluded Asher's presentation on the eleventh day.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 – Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the fellowship meal aspect of the peace offering deepen our understanding of the Lord's Supper as covenant communion?
2. What does the abundance of peace offerings (compared to one sin offering) teach about God's desire for relationship over mere transaction?
3. Why might the peace offerings include the greatest variety of animals (oxen, rams, goats, lambs) compared to the other sacrifices?

Interlinear Text

וְلֹא בְּחִזְקָה רְשָׁעִים	בְּקָר הַשְׁלָמִים	שְׁנִים	אַיִל מִשְׁנֶה	אַיִל מִשְׁנֶה	וְלֹא בְּחִזְקָה רְשָׁעִים
And for a sacrifice	of peace offerings	oxen	two	rams	five

בָּנָה	שְׁנַת	ה	חַמְשָׁה	ה	עַתְּד	יְמִים	כְּבָשׂ	יְמִים	חַמְשָׁה	ה	בָּנָה
he goats	five		lambs		of the first		year		five		
H6260	H2568		H3532		H1121		H8141		H2568		H2088

אָכְלָה:	בְּרֵבֶת:	פְּגֻעִיאָה לְ:	בְּ:	אָכְלָה:
this was the offering	of Pagiel	of the first	of Ocran	

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