

Numbers 7:79

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 (קַעֲרַת־כֶּסֶף אַחַת שְׁלֹשִׁים וּמֵאָה מִשְׁקָלָהּ, qa'arat-kesef achat sheloshim ume'ah mishqalah)—Naphtali's offering mirrors the previous eleven tribes exactly. The repetition, far from tedious, demonstrates covenant faithfulness: God's people worship according to His revealed pattern, not human innovation. **Both of them full of fine flour mingled with oil** (מִנְחָה סֵלֶת בְּלוּלָהּ מִבֶּשֶׂם, minchah solet belulah bashemen) points to the grain offering accompanying sacrifice.

Silver (kesef) represents redemption (Exodus 30:12-16), as every Israelite was ransomed by silver at the census. The 130 shekels may allude to the 130 years from Abraham's birth to his covenant renewal (Genesis 17:1). Fine flour mingled with oil symbolizes humanity (flour from crushed grain) anointed by the Spirit (oil), prefiguring Christ's incarnation and anointing (Luke 4:18).

Historical Context

The standardized weights ('after the shekel of the sanctuary,' Exodus 30:13) prevented fraud and ensured fairness. The sanctuary shekel was the divine

standard, heavier than common commercial weights, demanding costlier sacrifice. Naphtali's faithful conformity to this standard demonstrated covenant integrity.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does the exact conformity of all twelve offerings challenge modern desires for individualized, personalized worship?
2. What does the symbolism of silver (redemption) combined with grain and oil teach about the relationship between atonement and consecration?
3. Why might the Holy Spirit inspire Moses to record each tribe's identical offering separately rather than stating 'each tribe brought the same'?

Interlinear Text

וְקִרְבָּנוֹ	קַעֲכֵת	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				