

# Numbers 7:83

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 Ahira the son of Enan.

## Analysis

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**For a sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five he goats, five lambs of the first year: this was the offering of Ahira the son of Enan** (זֶבַח שְׁלָמִים, zevach hashelamim)—The peace offering (shelamim, from shalom) celebrates restored fellowship. Unlike burnt offerings (wholly consumed) or sin offerings (for priests), portions of the peace offering were eaten by the worshiper, symbolizing covenant communion with God.

The abundance—two oxen, five rams, five goats, five lambs—demonstrates lavish gratitude. The number five represents grace; the total of seventeen animals suggests completeness in worship. Ahira's offering, though last chronologically, is equal in value and acceptance. This concludes the twelve-tribe dedication with the same joy as it began, teaching that God's presence makes the last equal to the first (Matthew 20:16).

## Historical Context

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Peace offerings (Leviticus 3, 7:11-21) included thanksgiving, vow, and freewill categories. Portions were burned on the altar (God's portion), given to priests (Aaron's sons), and eaten by the offerer and family. This three-way sharing symbolized covenant fellowship—God, mediator, and worshiper dining together.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does the fellowship meal aspect of peace offerings enrich our understanding of the Lord's Supper as covenant communion?
2. What does the greater abundance of peace offerings (versus one sin offering) reveal about God's desire for relationship over transaction?
3. Why might Naphtali's offering be recorded with as much detail as Judah's, and what does this teach about God's impartiality?

## Interlinear Text

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וּלְזֶבַח	הַשְּׁלָמִים	בֶּקָר	שְׁנַיִם	אֵילִם	חֲמִשָּׁה
And for a sacrifice	of peace offerings	oxen	two	rams	five
H2077	H8002	H1241	H8147	H352	H2568
זֶה	חֲמִשָּׁה	שָׁנָה	בֶּן	כֶּבֶשׂ	חֲמִשָּׁה
he goats	five	lambs	of the first	year	five
H6260	H2568	H3532	H1121	H8141	H2568
יֵעֲנָן	בֶּן	אֲחִירָא	קָרֵב	זֶה הָיָה	
this was the offering	of Ahira	of the first	of Enan		
H7133	H299	H1121	H5881		

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