

Numbers Chapter 28

- Numbers 28 & 29 are basically a reiteration of the sacrifices described in Leviticus – because this new generation, and every generation must be instructed and reminded.

V: 1-2 God tells Moses to remind this new generation about observing the sacrifices and offerings previously commanded by God.

“A sweet savour” – well pleasing to the Lord, well pleasing in His sight.

- There were times when they just put part of the animal on the altar, much like meat or fat on the BBQ and it smells great to us as well.
- The burnt offering was different though, it was the whole animal, the hide, and all the rest, the smell of burning flesh with the hair is very unpleasant to us – yet God refers to it as a sweet savour, something well pleasing in His sight.

Romans 12:1 “I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

- When we sacrifice ourselves as **Romans 12:1** suggests, it is the destruction of our flesh – which is well pleasing to God

Jesus taught us:

John 6:63 “It is the Spirit that quickeneth / makes alive; the flesh profiteth nothing:...”

- God knows that when we are set free from sin, set free from the flesh, we are free to worship Him, and to have the life that He wants for us.

Romans 8:6 “For to be carnally minded / fleshly minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”

Romans 8:7-8 “⁷Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. ⁸So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.”

- Each of these sacrifices or offerings has an intended or stated purpose; but ultimately the purpose is simply to be pleasing to God.

Revelation 4:11 “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”

V: 3-8 The morning and the evening sacrifices: **The daily offerings.**

- 2 lambs, one for the morning, one for the evening sacrifice – without spot or blemish, no inherited defects.
- Intended as a continual “burnt offering” – and offering of consecration or dedication.

Psalm 141:2 “Let my prayer be set before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.”

- It’s the idea that when we get up in the morning, we dedicate our life and our day to the Lord. Then before we retire in the evening, once again we seek His face thanking Him for the day and asking for His favor tomorrow – the morning and the evening sacrifice of consecration.

V: 5 The “meat offering” which is the “meal” or “grain offering” – the offering of the bread, mingled with the oil which represents an offering of thanksgiving to the Lord.

V: 6 A “continual burnt offering” my life is ever and always dedicated to the Lord. Every day, every circumstance – never not belonging to the Lord.

Song of Solomon 6:3 “I am my beloved’s, and my beloved is mine:”

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 “¹⁹What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? ²⁰For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

- “A *continual burnt offering*” appears 16 times in these two chapters, this implies a sense of consistency, regularity not randomness, but steadfastness.

V: 7 Drink offering: A cup representing our body:

2 Corinthians 4:7 “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels...”

- Filled with strong wine – representing blood – representing the life.

Leviticus 17:11 “For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.”

- These things combined together represent the life that is poured out in service to God, a pleasing sacrifice unto God.

Romans 12:1 “I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

- Paul didn’t just teach it, he lived it.

2 Timothy 4:6 “For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.”

- The Apostle Paul lived a life that was poured out in service to God, a living sacrifice.

V: 8 This process is repeated for the evening sacrifice.

V: 9-10 **The weekly offerings:** On the Sabbath day, there are two lambs to be sacrificed in addition to the continual burnt offerings described previously.

- This is double the sacrifice from the normal.

V: 11-14 **Monthly Offerings:** In the beginning of each month, there shall be another “burnt offering” / offering of consecration as well.

- 2 young bullocks, one ram, 7 lambs of the 1st year – all without spot.
- No spot means a perfect specimen, no birth defects.
- These are each offered in conjunction with their respective “meat” / “meal” offerings and drink offerings

V: 15 A kid of the goats is to be offered as a “sin” offering.

1. Burnt offering: Consecration, dedication to the Lord.
2. Meat offering: Thanksgiving to the Lord.
3. Drink offering: Being poured out, serving the Lord.
4. Sin offering: Acknowledging our sin before the Lord and asking for His forgiveness.

1 John 1:8-9 “⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Yearly Offerings:

V: 16 14th day of the 1st month: We come to the **Passover** of the Lord; commemorating when the Lord brought the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt.

- At the Passover meal, the Pesach or Seder dinner – which we are about to celebrate: the children of Israel were instructed: (Exodus 12).
 1. Every household was to take a lamb, a male without blemish.
 2. They were to keep it in their house 4 days, and then on the 14th day of the month, in the evening they were to kill it.
 3. They were to take some of the blood and place it on the side posts and the upper door post / header which would be a sign.
 4. They would then roast the lamb, being careful not to break any of its bones.
 5. They would eat the lamb with unleavened bread and bitter herbs, leaving nothing left over.
 6. They ate this meal with their loins girded, shoes on their feet, staff in hand – and ready to move out.
- 7. As they ate this meal, the death angel came down as part of that last plague to strike Egypt – striking all of the first born dead. When he came to a house with blood on the door posts, a house covered in the blood of the lamb, he would “pass over” that house.
- All pointing to our Passover Lamb, Jesus.

1 Peter 1:18-19 “¹⁸Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

- Our Lord Jesus is that Passover Lamb; He alone is without spot, He alone could be the sacrifice for our sins that covers us.

John 1:29 “The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”

John 6:53 “Then Jesus said unto them, verily, verily, I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you.”

V: 17-25 15th day of the 1st month: Part of the Passover celebration is the “feast of unleavened bread” which was to last 7 days.

- Unleavened bread is bread that has no leaven:

Jesus said:

John 6:48 “I am the bread of life.”

- Leaven in the Bible is a type or analogy to sin:

2 Corinthians 5:21 “For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”

- 1st day – Sabbath day, no work to be done – all must be prepared ahead of time, hence the “day of preparation” in the Gospel accounts.
- They repeated the same sacrifices as at the beginning of the month:
 1. 2 young bullocks, one ram, 7 lambs of the first year – all without blemish for burnt offerings.
 2. Meat offerings, drink offerings, and a goat for the sin offering.
- On the 7th day, again a “holy convocation” or Sabbath day, no work to be done.

V: 26-31 The feast of the “**first fruits**”, celebrated 50 days after the Passover, which is why in the New Testament it is referred to “**Pentecost**”. They were celebrating the harvest, the increase that God has provided; the first fruits of the first harvest.

- Again, pointing to Jesus.

1 Corinthians 15:20 “But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept.”

Speaking of Jesus:

Colossians 1:15-18 “¹⁵Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: ¹⁶For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: ¹⁷And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist. ¹⁸And He is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence.”

- **Jesus is the first fruit!**
- A “new” meat offering: meaning another besides the others. Can we ever say thank you enough?
- They repeated the same sacrifices as at the beginning of the month:
 1. 2 young bullocks, one ram, 7 lambs of the first year – all without blemish for burnt offerings.
 2. Meat offerings, drink offerings, and a goat for the sin offering.

Numbers Chapter 29

V: 1-6 Another “Holy Convocation” – the **Feast of Trumpets**, “Rosh Hashanah.”

- The trumpet referred to here is a “shofar” or rams horn as opposed to the silver trumpets that were blown for the daily offerings and at the beginning of each new month.
- Numbers Ch. 10 describes that the trumpets were blown to sound an alarm, or to announce a battle, and to gather the people to the Tabernacle.

1 Corinthians 15:52 “In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 “¹⁶For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: ¹⁷then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

- Again, the specified offerings & sacrifices:
 1. 1 young bullock, 1 ram, 7 lambs of the first year, without blemish.
 2. Meat offering, drink offering, and the sin offering.

V: 7-11 **The Day of Atonement** – Yom Kippur.

- On the day of Atonement the people afflicted their souls, in other words they fasted, and they abstained from any work.
- The Day of Atonement was the one day in the year, year by year when the High Priest would enter into the Holy of Holies with burning incense / prayers, and with the blood of the sacrifice and sprinkle it upon the Ark of the Testimony in atonement for the sins of the nation.
- This is all a picture of Jesus’ death on the cross as the ultimate sin offering for us.

Hebrews 9:11-14 “¹¹But Christ being come an High Priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; ¹²Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. ¹³For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: ¹⁴How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”

- Jesus is that great High Priest, He’s the sacrifice, and He’s the propitiation – the atonement for our sins.
- Again, the specified offerings & sacrifices:

1. 1 young bullock, 1 ram, 7 lambs of the first year, without blemish.
2. Meat offering, drink offering, and the sin offering.

V: 12-16 15th day of the 7th month – the **Feast of Tabernacles**. Also referred to as the feast of “booths” or “Succoth”.

- They would construct little booths, lean too’s and sleep in them for 7 days as a reminder of God’s protection and provision during the exodus and wanderings in the wilderness.

2 Samuel 22:3 “The God of my Rock; in Him will I trust: He is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my High Tower, and my refuge, my Savior; thou savest me from violence.”

Psalm 18:2 “The Lord is my Rock, and my Fortress, and my Deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my Buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my High Tower.”

Psalm 46:7 “The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.”

Colossians 3:2-3 “²Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. ³For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.”

- Jesus is our Tabernacle, and we are His.

V: 17-38 Again, the specified offerings & sacrifices:

1. **13, 12, 11, -7 on the 7th day, then 1 on the 8th young bullocks**, 2 then 1 rams, 14 lambs of the first year, without blemish.
2. Meat offering, drink offering, and the sin offering.

- Cattle & livestock was and is expensive, this is how the gauged their wealth. Besides the normal sacrifices offered individually, and not counting these or what the people killed for the Passover, thus far:
- 113 bulls, 32 rams, and 1,086 lambs. Add to that the individual portions of grain, oil, and wine for each one, we are talking about a considerable expense.
- Where did they get all this stuff? God gave it to them. Why? For His glory!
- The feast of Tabernacles day by day until the 7th day, then on the 8th day back to the regular sacrifices.
- Fast forward to 32 AD: On the last day of this feast; the great day Jesus stood on the steps of the Temple and addressed those that were gathered:

John 7:37 ³⁷“In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, if any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. ³⁸He that believeth on Me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.”

V: 39-40 All of these things are in addition to their vows and free will offerings, their regular burnt offerings, drink offerings, and their peace offerings.

- Again that phrase: “... *the continual burnt offering*...”
- There is intended to be a rhythm to our spiritual lives: there is nothing random about it.
 - a. The morning and the evening sacrifice: We begin each day focused on the Lamb that was slain; we end each day focused on the Lamb.
 - b. Then one day a week double that, twice as much sacrificed, twice as much time, twice as much effort – focused on the Lamb that was slain.
 - c. At the beginning of each month, another significant increase in time, effort, and resources – simply to be pleasing to God.
 - d. Then annually, 7 feasts focusing on different aspects of our savior.
- If our spiritual life is haphazard, sporadic, or random – then it is not what God want for us, we’re missing out if that is the case.

Hebrews 10:7 “Lo, I come in the volume of the book it is written of Me.”

- We see Jesus in each of the sacrifices and feasts – but that is not all.

John 1:17 “For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”

Matthew 5:17 “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.”

John 19:30 “... it is finished.” Tetelistai, paid in full.

- The last offering mentioned, not spoken of in these chapters until now: the peace offering; celebrating peace & fellowship with God – demonstrated in having a meal with God.
- Jesus is our peace; He is the Prince of Peace.

Revelation 3:20 “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me.”