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**BIBLE STUDY**

**Refuge Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.**

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**“ANOINTED AND SANCTIFIED”**

**Numbers 7:1-29**

***Numbers 7:1 "And it came to pass on the day that Moses had fully set up the tabernacle, and had anointed it, and sanctified it, and all the instruments thereof, both the altar and all the vessels thereof, and had anointed them, and sanctified them;"***

In chapter 7 Moses took a step backward to recall the day when Israel finished setting up the tabernacle and consecrated it and all its furnishings. Every item in the tabernacle was anointed and dedicated to the service of God. Even the anointing oil that was used was holy.

***Exodus 30:25-28***

***25 "And thou shalt make it an oil of holy ointment, an ointment compound after the art of the apothecary: it shall be an holy anointing oil."***

***26 "And thou shalt anoint the tabernacle of the congregation therewith, and the ark of the testimony,"***

***27 "And the table and all his vessels, and the candlestick and his vessels, and the altar of incense,"***

***28 "And the altar of burnt offering with all his vessels, and the laver and his foot."***

The following is a little further expansion on this.

***Exodus 40:9 "And thou shalt take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle, and all that [is] therein, and shalt hallow it, and all the vessels thereof: and it shall be holy."***

***Numbers 7:2 "That the princes of Israel, heads of the house of their fathers, who [were] the princes of the tribes, and were over them that were numbered, offered:"***

The leaders who were mentioned earlier as the ones in charge of the census were now to oversee their tribe’s dedication offering. According to the timeline above, the dedication offerings were given first (second year, first month, first day), whereas the census did not start until one month later. This is speaking of those who had been chosen to be the princes over each of the tribes. They were head of the tribes, at the time of the numbering. Each tribe had given what they should to God for use in the tabernacle. The following is just one example of what they brought.

***Exodus 35:27 "And the rulers brought onyx stones, and stones to be set, for the ephod, and for the breastplate;"***

***Numbers 7:3 "And they brought their offering before the LORD, six covered wagons, and twelve oxen; a wagon for two of the princes, and for each one an ox: and they brought them before the tabernacle."***

These covered wagons were needed for transporting the things of the tabernacle. This is a good example of God sending exactly what was needed to do a certain job. The most important thing in giving, is to make sure we give from a free heart.

***Exodus 25:2 "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering."***

***Numbers 7:4 "And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,"***

In this case, Moses was not sure whether to accept this gift for the tabernacle, and he needed an answer from God. The LORD answers Moses.

***Numbers 7:5 "Take [it] of them, that they may be to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation; and thou shalt give them unto the Levites, to every man according to his service."***

Moses then presented these gifts to the Levites for their use in transporting the tabernacle to the promised land. The boards and the heavy parts of the tabernacle, that had to be carried from place to place would require covered wagons and oxen to pull the heavy load. The LORD instructs Moses to receive the offering and give them to those who are called to carry the heavy burden of the tabernacle. The person in charge of the burdens, will receive the wagons and the oxen.

***Numbers 7:6 "And Moses took the wagons and the oxen, and gave them unto the Levites."***

The Levites are a large tribe. We will see that Moses gives them to specific people of the Levites in the ministry of carrying the tabernacle and setting it up.

***Numbers 7:7-8***

***7 "Two wagons and four oxen he gave unto the sons of Gershon, according to their service:"***

***8 "And four wagons and eight oxen he gave unto the sons of Merari, according unto their service, under the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest."***

These carts and oxen were distributed based on the duties of the various Levitical families. The Gershonites were given two carts and four oxen corresponding to their service, which involved transporting the lighter cloth and leather parts of the sacred tent, while the Merarites received four carts and eight oxen corresponding to their service of carrying the much heavier metal and wooden pieces. Two wagons would be plenty to carry the curtains and the furniture of the tabernacle. The tribe of Gershon was in charge of them. It was necessary for the tribe of Merari to have four wagons, because the boards to the tabernacle were large, heavy, and bulky. This is not showing favoritism to this tribe. This is necessary for the carrying of the material of the tabernacle. Ithamar, the son of Aaron, we remember, was in charge of this. He supervised their service.

***Numbers 7:9 "But unto the sons of Kohath he gave none: because the service of the sanctuary belonging unto them [was that] they should bear upon their shoulders."***

We remember, the sons of Kohath were in charge of the holy things. It would not be right for them to be handled with animals, or on a cart. They are hand-carried by the members of the tribe chosen to carry them. There would be no need for wagons, or oxen. They used poles run through sockets to carry the heavier items. But Moses did not give carts or oxen to the Kohathites, since their responsibility was service related to the holy objects carried on their shoulders. These men carried the ark of the covenant and the altars on poles rather than on carts so that no one would touch these sacred objects. Later, King David’s failure to transport the ark in the right way would cost Uzzah his life when he reached out to steady the ark as it was transported by ox and cart (2 Samuel 6:1-8).

***Numbers 7:10-11***

***10 "And the princes offered for dedicating of the altar in the day that it was anointed, even the princes offered their offering before the altar."***

***11 "And the LORD said unto Moses, They shall offer their offering, each prince on his day, for the dedicating of the altar."***

The altar was dedicated by pouring anointing oil over it. The blood of the sacrifice was sprinkled on it, as well. The offerings from the princes were brought to be offered. Whether they were actually offered on this particular day, or on another day, we have no way of knowing. This would cause you to believe the offerings of the princes occurred on several days. They brought it to be offered earlier, but rather than rush the whole thing through, they took a special time for each to make his offering. What follows in the remainder of the chapter is a list of the dedication gift for the altar that the leaders of each of the twelve tribes brought for the altar in the tabernacle. God called each leader to come on a separate day to present his offering for the dedication so that each gift could be honored and celebrated individually.

***Numbers 7:12-13***

***12 "And he that offered his offering the first day was Nahshon the son of Amminadab, of the tribe of Judah:"***

***13 "And his offering [was] one silver charger, the weight thereof [was] an hundred and thirty [shekels], one silver bowl of seventy shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary; both of them [were] full of fine flour mingled with oil for a meat offering:"***

Now, we see the prince who represented the tribe of Judah, Nashon, offered his offering on the first day. This offering is of great value. You remember that 5 shekels of silver was the redemption price of the firstborn. The silver charger weighed 5 pounds troy weight. The silver bowl weighed just under 3 pounds. We have touched before on the fact, that the meat offering is made up of the makings of bread. Jesus is the Bread of life. He is, also, the Meat offering. All of the offerings symbolize Jesus in some way. "Silver" has to do with redemption.

***Numbers 7:14 "One spoon of ten [shekels] of gold, full of incense:"***

"Gold" symbolizes the purity of God. The spoon would weigh 50 dwt. of gold. The incense is to be burned and rise to heaven. This symbolizes the prayers of the saints that rise to heaven.

***Exodus 30:7-8***

***7 "And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense every morning: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it."***

***8 "And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations."***

***Numbers 7:15 "One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:"***

These burnt offerings were a shadow of better things to come. Jesus was a male with no blemish. The difference being that the blood of animals cannot do away with sin, it can just cover the sin. The blood of Jesus, the perfect Lamb sacrifice, abolished sin for all who would believe. Jesus was God the Son.

***Numbers 7:16 "One kid of the goats for a sin offering:"***

The burnt offering and the peace offering consisted of more than one animal to be sacrificed. The sin offering consisted of just one animal.

***Numbers 7:17 "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 Nahshon the son of Amminadab."***

The number two speaks of agreement. The number five speaks of the grace of God. Nashon offered for his whole tribe.

***Numbers 7:18-29***

***18 "On the second day Nethaneel the son of Zuar, prince of Issachar, did offer:"***

***19 "He offered [for] his offering 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:"***

***20 "One spoon of gold of ten [shekels], full of incense:" This is the same offering, also.***

***21 "One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:"***

***22 "One kid of the goats for a sin offering:"***

***23 "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 Nethaneel the son of Zuar."***

***24 "On the third day Eliab the son of Helon, prince of the children of Zebulun, [did offer]:"***

***25 "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:"***

***26 " One golden spoon of ten [shekels], full of incense:"***

***27 "One young bullock, one ram, one lamb of the first year, for a burnt offering:"***

***28 "One kid of the goats for a sin offering:"***

***29 "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 Eliab the son of Helon."***

Nethaneel represented the tribe of Issachar. This is the same offering Nashon made for the tribe of Judah. These offerings were on the second day. They were all made for the entire tribe. Each of the tribes had their special day. Eliab represented the tribe of Zebulon. Again, this is the very same offering that the other two had made. Each prince offers for his tribe he represented.

**QUESTIONS**

1. What did Moses anoint?
2. What happened to everything that was anointed?
3. How many covered wagons did they bring?
4. How many oxen did they bring?
5. What would the covered wagons be used for?
6. Why did Merari get twice as many of each?
7. What was the reason Kohath did not get any?
8. How was the altar dedicated?
9. How much did the silver charger weigh?
10. What was brought for a meat offering?
11. What was brought for a burnt offering?
12. What was brought for a sin offering?
13. What was brought for a peace offering?
14. Who offered on the second day?
15. Who offered the third day?