

Numbers 29 Bible Study Notes

Clarke Lee's Commentary: In this 7th month we have the most feast and sacrifices given. We believe that the reason for this is; it was the time between the harvest and the planting, so that the people had a time of rest. It seems, God appointed that during their not so busy times of living, they should dedicate the more time to worship. An example to us that we should not get so busy relaxing and enjoying the fruit of our labors that we forget to spend more time thanking and praising God.

We have some reminders in other scriptures of these feasts in Ex 23:16; 34:22; Le 23:24.

Ex 23:16-17; 13 And in all things that I have said unto you be circumspect: and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth. 14 Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year. 15 Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:) 16 And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field. 17 Three times in the year all thy males shall appear before the Lord GOD. 18 Thou shalt not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leavened bread; neither shall the fat of my sacrifice remain until the morning. 19 The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the LORD thy God.

Ex 34:22 And thou shalt observe the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the year's end. 23 Thrice in the year shall all your men children appear before the Lord GOD, the God of Israel.

Le 23:24 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation. 25 Ye shall do no servile work therein: but ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

We see from these references a few things to remember:

- Not even speaking the name of any idol/god (this would constitute the complete filling of the mind with thoughts of God and godliness, not mentioning the name of another god, only referencing to idolatry by the generic term of idolatry)
- Make no offering with leavened bread (completely remove self-works from our worship of God)
- Not leave any fat until morning (not becoming lackadaisical and forgetting to follow through completely with the commandments of God)
- Bring the firstfruits each year to the house of the Lord (put God first in everything)
- All males to come before the Lord to the tabernacle service 3 times per year. (not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together)
- Not doing any servile work (observe to keep the day of worship and rest)
- All the sacrifices were made by fire to which we have already spoken in Numbers 28.

All these things required in the sacrificial feast were to be reminders of who they were to worship. They are to worship, without adding their own wishes to the rituals, leave off the business work, all of Israel was to appear before the Lord 3 times a year, and devote yourself wholly to God. We see the application of these things to our own lives in worship of God.

Adam Clarke's Commentary: This seventh month was Tisri, and answers to a part of our September and October. It was the seventh of the sacred and the first month of the civil year.

1 And in the seventh month, on the first day of the month, ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work: it is a day of blowing the trumpets unto you. 2 And ye shall offer a burnt offering for a sweet savour unto the LORD; one young bullock, one ram, and seven lambs of the first

year without blemish: 3 And their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals for a bullock, and two tenth deals for a ram, 4 And one tenth deal for one lamb, throughout the seven lambs: 5 And one kid of the goats for a sin offering, to make an atonement for you: 6 Beside the burnt offering of the month, and his meat offering, and the daily burnt offering, and his meat offering, and their drink offerings, according unto their manner, for a sweet savour, a sacrifice made by fire unto the LORD.

Holy Convocation: (International Standard Bible Encyclopedia) A rendering for *miqra'* chiefly in the frequent "Holy Convocation"; but the word is sometimes used alone, e.g. Nu 10:2; Isa 1:13; 4:5. On a holy convocation no work could be done. The phrase differs from "solemn assembly," which in the Pentateuch is only applied to the concluding festivals at the end of Passover and Tabernacles, while "Holy Convocation" is used of the Sabbath and all the great holy days of the Mosaic legislation.

Clarke Lee's Commentary: Holy convocation: Convocation means something called out, i.e. a public meeting (the act, the persons, or the place); also a rehearsal, assembly, calling, reading.

From this definition we gather that the 1st day of the Feast of Trumpets was to be a day when all Israel assembled together before the tabernacle of the Lord, in contrast to the other days of the feast, when Israel may be each family in their assigned place.

Feast of Trumpets: In this feast; there was the blowing of trumpets on the 1st day of the 7th month. The sacrifices called for were additional sacrifices; they did not take away the regular monthly and daily sacrifices. We recognize that there was the sin offering made on this day for atonement. Atonement is the covering/removal of the death penalty for sins, by the blood shed of the sacrifice. This always points us to the incarnation of Jesus Christ, and the sacrifice of himself on the cross to remove the sins of all of God's people.

7 And ye shall have on the tenth day of this seventh month an holy convocation; and ye shall afflict your souls: ye shall not do any work therein: 8 But ye shall offer a burnt offering unto the LORD for a sweet savour; one young bullock, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year; they shall be unto you without blemish: 9 And their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals to a bullock, and two tenth deals to one ram, 10 A several tenth deal for one lamb, throughout the seven lambs: 11 One kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the sin offering of atonement, and the continual burnt offering, and the meat offering of it, and their drink offerings.

Clarke Lee's Commentary: On the 10th day of the 7th month there were more sacrifices offered, and in conjunction with that, the affliction of their souls. Since we see the atonement offering again it gives us application to our own lives today. When we approach God in prayer we should come before him: First, confessing all our sins with remorse (**ye shall afflict your souls**) for the commission of them. We find further, in New Testament scripture, not only are we to confess our sins, that we might receive forgiveness, but also to turn from sin to God.

Day of Atonement: Again we see the "**holy convocation**" and this being the time they were required to come together, as Israel as a whole, and afflict themselves. What does this mean? I believe it is the time when once a year they are to come together and each individual is to call to remembrance their sins of the past year. Having these in mind will make it easy for them to humble themselves before God knowing that they are sinners in need of atonement. They are to feel true remorse and regret for their sinful condition. They are to cry over their sins. They are to mourn and plead to God that he remove not from them and leave them desolate. They are to beg him to accept the "**sin offering of atonement**" and lay their past sins aside.

What application would this have to do with us today? Certainly, we see the parallel that when we sin; we should afflict our souls and truly be repentant before God. We should mourn and cry over our own sinful condition and plead to God that he accept our sacrifice for sins, Jesus Christ upon the

cross, for if God doesn't accept that sacrifice; we are lost and undone. We have no other source of atonement for our sins.

Without Blemish: We are reminded here, in the description of the sacrifices, of the "**without blemish**" several times. This is a reminder to us of the need for the perfect sacrifice for the removal of our sins. A sacrifice that was without blemish is representative of the body of Jesus Christ who was without sin. The only one to wholly fulfill the law by living a sinless life and perfectly executing the divine will of God the Father.

12 And on the fifteenth day of the seventh month ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work, and ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days: 13 And ye shall offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD; thirteen young bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year; they shall be without blemish: 14 And their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals unto every bullock of the thirteen bullocks, two tenth deals to each ram of the two rams, 15 And a several tenth deal to each lamb of the fourteen lambs: 16 And one kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering.

Adam Clarke's Commentary: Verse 12. [On the fifteenth day of the seventh month] On this day there was to be a solemn assembly, and for seven days sacrifices were to be offered; on the first day thirteen young bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs. On each succeeding day one bullock less, till on the seventh day there were only seven, making in all seventy. What an expensive service! How should we magnify God for being delivered from it! Yet these were all the taxes they had to pay. At the public charge there were annually offered to God, independently of trespass-offerings and voluntary vows, fifteen goats, twenty-one kids, seventy-two rams, one hundred and thirty-two bullocks, and eleven hundred and one lambs! But how little is all this when compared with the lambs slain every year at the passover, which amounted in one year to the immense number of 255,600 slain in the temple itself, which was the answer that Cestius, the Roman general, received when he asked the priests how many persons had come to Jerusalem at their annual festivals; the priests, numbering the people by the lambs that had been slain, said, "twenty-five myriads, five thousand and six hundred."-For an account of the feast of tabernacles, see ACC for Le 23:34.

Clarke Lee's Commentary: This was the beginning of the feast of tabernacles (sometimes called the "feast of booths") and we find the reference for this in: **Le 23:34 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD.**

On the 15th day of the 7th month we have the services of Day One. The offerings of the first day, thirteen bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs, and one kid, verses 13-16.

29 animals sacrificed

17 And on the second day ye shall offer twelve young bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of the first year without spot: 18 And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 19 And one kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and the meat offering thereof, and their drink offerings.

Clarke Lee's Commentary: On the 16th day of the 7th month we have the services of Day Two. The offerings of the second day, twelve bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs, and one kid, verses 17-19. 28 animals sacrificed

20 And on the third day eleven bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish; 21 And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 22 And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering.

Clarke Lee's Commentary: On the 17th day of the 7th month we have the services of Day Three. The offerings of the third day, eleven bullocks; the rest as before, verses 20-22. 27 animals sacrificed

23 And on the fourth day ten bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish: 24 Their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 25 And one kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering.

Clarke Lee's Commentary: On the 18th day of the 7th month we have the services of Day Four. The offerings of the fourth day, ten bullocks; the rest as before, verses 23-25. 26 animals sacrificed

26 And on the fifth day nine bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without spot: 27 And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 28 And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering.

Clarke Lee's Commentary: On the 19th day of the 7th month we have the services of Day Five. The offerings of the fifth day, nine bullocks, &c., verses 26-28. 25 animals sacrificed

29 And on the sixth day eight bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish: 30 And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 31 And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering.

Clarke Lee's Commentary: On the 20th day of the 7th month we have the services of Day Six. The offerings of the sixth day, eight bullocks, &c., verses 29-31. 24 animals sacrificed

32 And on the seventh day seven bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish: 33 And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 34 And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering.

Clarke Lee's Commentary: On the 21st day of the 7th month we have the services of Day Seven. The offerings of the seventh day, seven bullocks, &c., verses 32-34. 23 animals sacrificed

Animals Sacrificed in the Feast of Tabernacles

Day	Bullocks	Rams	Lambs	Daily Total
1	13	2	14	29
2	12	2	14	28
3	11	2	14	27
4	10	2	14	26
5	9	2	14	25
6	8	2	14	24
7	7	2	14	23
Totals	70	14	98	182

35 On the eighth day ye shall have a solemn assembly: ye shall do no servile work therein: 36 But ye shall offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD: one bullock, one ram, seven lambs of the first year without blemish: 37 Their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullock, for the ram, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 38 And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering. 39 These things ye shall do unto the LORD in your set feasts, beside your vows, and your freewill offerings, for your burnt offerings, and for your meat offerings, and for your drink offerings, and for your peace offerings. 40 And Moses told the children of Israel according to all that the LORD commanded Moses.

Clarke Lee's Commentary: On the 22nd day of the 7th month we have the services of Day Eight.

Again we see the feast days starting with the ***holy convocation*** and ending with a "***holy assembly***". God went to great lengths to be sure that all Israel gathered together, as one body, several times each year. We see the feast of tabernacles was to last for one week; a picture of the cycle of time when God created and rested. A picture to us; when all God's people are born and saved, in time, the day of eternal rest will have come, then Christ shall gather us all together, one last time at the resurrection of the dead, change us from mortal to immortal, and carry us to the "***holy assembly***" in the place he has gone to prepare for us; that eternal Promised Land. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! for the finished work of Jesus Christ, our sacrificial Lamb and Saviour!

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