NUMBERS

Chapter 28

*Daily Offerings*

**The Lord said to Moses, 2 “Give this command to the Israelites and say to them: ‘See that you present to me at the appointed time the food for my offerings made by fire, as an aroma pleasing to me.’ 3 Say to them: ‘This is the offering made by fire that you are to present to the Lord: two lambs a year old without defect, as a regular burnt offering each day. 4 Prepare one lamb in the morning and the other at twilight, 5 together with a grain offering of a tenth of an ephah of fine flour mixed with a quarter of a hin of oil from pressed olives. 6 This is the regular burnt offering instituted at Mount Sinai as a pleasing aroma, an offering made to the Lord by fire. 7 The accompanying drink offering is to be a quarter of a hin of fermented drink with each lamb. Pour out the drink offering to the Lord at the sanctuary. 8 Prepare the second lamb at twilight, along with the same kind of grain offering and drink offering that you prepare in the morning. This is an offering made by fire, an aroma pleasing to the Lord.**

**Chs 28–29** The people who were about to cross the Jordan were a new generation (26:64–65). For their benefit, the Lord emphasized that they must bring the offerings and sacrifices, prescribed by Him through Moses, also after Joshua led them into the land of Canaan. The kinds of oblations and the presentation of them had been defined for the previous generation (Lv 1–7; 23; Nu 15:1–16). The statutes, not substantially different from those given earlier, provide a convenient summary and calendar of sacrificial services noted in Ex 23:14–17; 29:38–42; 31:12–17; Lv 23. Here, the priests could see the full number of required sacrifices listed, from daily to annual observances. In repeating much of this legislation, the Lord made it clear that Israel received the blessing of His unceasing presence in regular communion with Him. The sacrifices and offerings were to be brought in due season: daily (28:3–8), on the weekly Sabbath days (28:9–10), at the beginning of every month (28:11–15), on specified days of the year (28:16–29:40). See pp 170–71, 200–201. (TLSB)

**28:1–29:40** These chapters attest to the all-pervasiveness of sacrifice in the life of the people and to the enormity of the work of the priests. Perhaps the reason for these passages at this time is to give continuity to the impending transition from the leadership of Moses to that of Joshua (27:12–23). (CSB)

**28:1–8** See Ex 29:38–41; Lev 1–7 and notes. (CSB)

Known as the Tamid, from the term “regular” (v 3). Here is the core devotion of Israel: the offering of a male lamb. Cf Jn 1:29. (TLSB)

**28:4–8** Three parts of that daily sacrifice: the burning of the lamb, the drink offering, and the offering of wheat flour. “The Law had pictures or shadows of future things [Colossians 2:17]. So Christ and the entire worship of the New Testament are shown in this picture. The burning of the lamb illustrates Christ’s death. The drink offering illustrates that everywhere in the entire world, by the preaching of the Gospel, believers are sprinkled with the blood of that Lamb, that is, sanctified. Peter says, ‘In the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with His blood’ (1 Peter 1:2). The offering of wheat flour means faith, prayer, and thanksgiving in hearts. Therefore, in the Old Testament, the shadow is discerned. In the New, the thing illustrated should be sought, and not another type, as sufficient for a sacrifice” (Ap XXIV 36–37). (TLSB)

**28:7** *pour out*. The Lord had specified the amount of wine (Ex 29:40) but had not directed how it was to be offered to Him. (TLSB)

*Sabbath Offerings*

**9 “ ‘On the Sabbath day, make an offering of two lambs a year old without defect, together with its drink offering and a grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil. 10 This is the burnt offering for every Sabbath, in addition to the regular burnt offering and its drink offering.**

**28:9–10** The Sabbath offerings were in addition to the daily offerings. (CSB)

*Monthly Offerings*

**11 “ ‘On the first of every month, present to the Lord a burnt offering of two young bulls, one ram and seven male lambs a year old, all without defect. 12 With each bull there is to be a grain offering of three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil; with the ram, a grain offering of two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil; 13 and with each lamb, a grain offering of a tenth of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil. This is for a burnt offering, a pleasing aroma, an offering made to the Lord by fire. 14 With each bull there is to be a drink offering of half a hin of wine; with the ram, a third of a hin; and with each lamb, a quarter of a hin. This is the monthly burnt offering to be made at each new moon during the year. 15 Besides the regular burnt offering with its drink offering, one male goat is to be presented to the Lord as a sin offering.**

**28:11–15** The sacrifices at the beginning of the month were of great significance. These were times for celebration and blowing of trumpets in worship (see 10:10). (CSB)

*The Passover*

**16 “ ‘On the fourteenth day of the first month the Lord’s Passover is to be held. 17 On the fifteenth day of this month there is to be a festival; for seven days eat bread made without yeast. 18 On the first day hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work. 19 Present to the Lord an offering made by fire, a burnt offering of two young bulls, one ram and seven male lambs a year old, all without defect. 20 With each bull prepare a grain offering of three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil; with the ram, two-tenths; 21 and with each of the seven lambs, one-tenth. 22 Include one male goat as a sin offering to make atonement for you. 23 Prepare these in addition to the regular morning burnt offering. 24 In this way prepare the food for the offering made by fire every day for seven days as an aroma pleasing to the Lord; it is to be prepared in addition to the regular burnt offering and its drink offering. 25 On the seventh day hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work.**

**28:16–25** The priests are instructed as to the proper preparation for the Passover in the first month of the year. Passover is also associated with the Feast of Unleavened Bread (see Ex 12:15; Lev 23:4–8). The number 7 (and 14, its multiple) reappears frequently in the paragraph. (CSB)

*Feast of Weeks*

**26 “ ‘On the day of firstfruits, when you present to the Lord an offering of new grain during the Feast of Weeks, hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work. 27 Present a burnt offering of two young bulls, one ram and seven male lambs a year old as an aroma pleasing to the Lord. 28 With each bull there is to be a grain offering of three-tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil; with the ram, two-tenths; 29 and with each of the seven lambs, one-tenth. 30 Include one male goat to make atonement for you. 31 Prepare these together with their drink offerings, in addition to the regular burnt offering and its grain offering. Be sure the animals are without defect.**

**28:26–31** The Feast of Weeks came 50 days after the Feast of Unleavened Bread (see Lev 23:9–22); from this number the term “Pentecost” (meaning “fifty”) was used in the NT (Ac 2:1). (CSB)