

Numbers 28

Chapters 28 and 29 are a summary of the various Holy Days and the offerings to be made by Israel on those days.

Verses 1 – 2

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Command the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘You shall be careful to present to me my offering, my food for my offerings by fire, of a soothing aroma to me, at their appointed time.’”

These offerings were spelled out in the 1st month of the second year in the wilderness (Leviticus 23) but all of that generation had died in the wilderness. Those who were about to enter the Promised Land were either very young (19 and under) when this was first taught or born after that event took place. Therefore this new generation needed to be taught or reminded of what had been commanded concerning the Holy Days.

It is clear from verse two that God demands his people to offer sacrifices to Him at their appointed times. This was important for several reasons:

1. It was a time of fellowship with God.
2. It was a way of thanking God for His forgiveness and blessings.
3. This supported the priesthood.

Our sacrifices in the form of contributions do the same thing.

Verses 3 – 8

The Daily Offering

And you shall say to them, ‘This is the offering by fire which you shall offer to the Lord: two male lambs one year old without defect as a continual burnt offering every day. ⁴ You shall offer the one lamb in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer at twilight; ⁵ also a tenth of an ephah of fine flour as a grain offering, mixed with a fourth of a hin of pure oil. ⁶ It is a continual burnt offering which was ordained on Mount Sinai as a soothing aroma, an offering by fire to the Lord. ⁷ Then the drink offering with it *shall be* a fourth of a hin for each lamb; in the Holy Place pour out a drink offering of strong drink to the Lord. ⁸ The other lamb you shall offer at twilight; as the grain offering of the morning and as its drink offering, you shall offer it, an offering by fire, a soothing aroma to the Lord.

⁴ You shall offer the one lamb in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer at twilight; ⁵ also a tenth of an ephah of fine flour as a grain offering, mixed with a fourth of a hin of pure oil.

This offering was called the daily sacrifice.

⁶ It is a continual burnt offering which was ordained on Mount Sinai as a soothing aroma, an offering by fire to the Lord.

See Doc. 2805

Leviticus 6

This is the law for the burnt offering

1. The burnt offering *shall remain* on the altar all night
2. And the fire on the altar is to be kept burning on it.
3. Carry the ashes outside the camp to a clean place

⁷ Then the drink offering with it *shall be* a fourth of a hin for each lamb; in the Holy Place pour out a drink offering of strong drink to the Lord. ⁸ The other lamb you shall offer at twilight; as the grain offering of the morning and as its drink offering, you shall offer it, an offering by fire, a soothing aroma to the Lord.

The Altar was being used 24/7. A lamb was offered every morning and then at twilight. The offering had to remain on the altar all night and the fire had to be kept burning. This was done every day and night of the year.

Both of these included a grain offering and a drink offering.

Verses 9 – 10

The Sabbath Offering

⁹ ‘Then on the Sabbath day two male lambs one year old without defect, and two-tenths *of an ephah* of fine flour mixed with oil as a grain offering, and its drink offering: ¹⁰ This is the burnt offering of every Sabbath in addition to the continual burnt offering and its drink offering.

The Sabbath offering was double the daily offering and it was in addition to the daily offering. Like the daily offering, it was also a burnt offering. It also included the grain and drink offering

Verses 11 - 15

The Monthly Offering

¹¹ ‘Then at the beginning of *each* of your months you shall present a burnt offering to the Lord: two bulls and one ram, seven male lambs one year old without defect; ¹² and three-tenths *of an ephah* of fine flour mixed with oil as a grain offering, for each bull; and two-tenths of fine flour mixed with oil as a grain offering, for the one ram; ¹³ and a tenth *of an ephah* of fine flour mixed with oil as a grain offering for each lamb, as a burnt offering of a soothing aroma, an offering by fire to the Lord. ¹⁴ Their drink offerings shall be half a hin of wine for a bull and a third of a hin for the ram and a fourth of a hin for a lamb; this is the burnt offering of each month throughout the months of the year. ¹⁵ And one male goat as a sin offering to the Lord; it shall be offered with its drink offering in addition to the continual burnt offering.

¹¹ ‘Then at the beginning of each of your months you shall present a burnt offering to the Lord:

This was the monthly offering. The Jewish Month began with a New Moon which appeared every 29.5 days. This is why the Jewish calendar varied between 29 and 30 days from month to month.

¹¹two bulls and one ram, seven male lambs one year old without defect;

So far we have a daily, weekly and monthly sacrifice. As the period of time increased so did the size and value of the sacrifice. These sacrifices also included a grain and drink offering for each kind of animal.

¹⁵ And one male goat as a sin offering to the Lord; it shall be offered with its drink offering in addition to the continual burnt offering.

The sin offering was eaten by the priest with one exception.

See Doc. 2810

Leviticus 6

This is the law of the sin offering

The priest who offers it shall eat it.

It shall be eaten in the court of the tent of meeting

But no sin offering of which any of the blood is brought into the tent of meeting shall be eaten; it shall be burned with fire.

Verses 16 – 25 **Passover & The feast of unleavened bread**

¹⁶ 'The Lord's Passover *shall be* on the fourteenth day of the first month. ¹⁷ On the fifteenth day of this month *there shall be* a feast; unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days. ¹⁸ On the first day *there shall be* a holy assembly; you shall do no laborious work. ¹⁹ But you shall present an offering by fire, a burnt offering to the Lord: two bulls and one ram, and seven male lambs one year old, *that* you have without defect. ²⁰ For their grain offering, you shall offer fine flour mixed with oil: three-tenths *of an ephah* for a bull, and two-tenths for the ram. ²¹ A tenth *of an ephah* you shall offer for each of the seven lambs; ²² and one male goat as a sin offering to make atonement for you. ²³ You shall present these besides the burnt offering of the morning, which is for a continual burnt offering. ²⁴ In this way you shall present daily, for seven days, the food of the offering by fire, of a soothing aroma to the Lord; it shall be presented with its drink offering in addition to the continual burnt offering. ²⁵ On the seventh day you shall have a holy assembly; you shall do no laborious work.

¹⁶ The Lord's Passover *shall be* on the fourteenth day of the first month.

The Passover lamb was killed shortly before sunset and this event symbolized the 1st born Jewish males being saved from death.

See Chart 2815

Jewish Feasts						
Feast	Scripture	Date Observed	Roman Calendar	Sabbath	Offerings	Commemorates
Passover	Lev. 23:05	Nisan 14 At twilight	March/April	No	Numbers 28:16-24	Oldest son saved from death
Festival of Unleavened Bread	Lev. 23:6-8	Nisan 15-21	March/April	Day 1 & 7 Spec Sabbath	Numbers 28:16-24	The hasty flight from Egypt
Offering the First Fruits	Lev. 23:9-14	After the Sabbath	March/April	No	Numbers 28:16-24	Beginning of the barley harvest
Feast Of Weeks (Pentecost)	Lev. 23:15-22	50 days after F.F.	May/June	Special Sabbath	Numbers 28:26-31	beginning of the wheat harvest.
Festival of Trumpets	Lev. 23:23-25	Tishri 1	September	Special Sabbath	Numbers 29:1-6	Civil New Year
Day of Atonement	Lev. 23:26-32	Tishri 10	Sept/Oct	Sabbath	Numbers 29:7-11	Forgiveness of sin for the nation
Tabernacles Temp. Shelters	Lev. 23:33-34	Tishri 15-21	Sept/Oct	Day 1 & 8 Spec Sabbath	Numbers 29:12-38	Wilderness End of harvest

¹⁷ On the fifteenth day of this month *there shall be* a feast; unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days.

This was called the Feast of unleavened bread and all leaven had to be eliminated from the house.

See Chart 2815 above

¹⁸ **On the first and seventh day *there shall be* a holy assembly; you shall do no laborious work.**

There was a difference between the regular weekly Sabbaths (every Saturday) and the special Sabbaths of this and other feasts.

See chart 2820

Regular Sabbaths vs High/Special Sabbaths

Regular Sabbaths

See Ex. 35:2-3

For six days work may be done, but on the seventh day you shall have a holy day, a Sabbath of complete rest to the Lord; **whoever does any work on it shall be put to death.**

You shall not kindle a fire in any of your dwellings on the Sabbath day.

Food had to be prepared the day before

Special Sabbaths

See Ex. 12:16

And on the first day you shall have a holy assembly, and another holy assembly on the seventh day; **no work at all shall be done on them, except for what must be eaten by every person—that alone may be prepared by you.**

Food could be prepared on a special Sabbath

On the regular Sabbaths no work was allowed, but on the special Sabbaths the preparation of food was permitted. The lamb was slain on the 14th just before sunset and it was cooked about 1 hour later on the 15th (the next day) which was a special Sabbath.

¹⁹ **But you shall present an offering by fire, a burnt offering to the Lord....**

Back in Lev. 23:8 this is all that was said but here we are given the details.

1. Two bulls and one ram and seven male lambs one year old.
2. Their grain and drink offerings.
3. One male goat as a sin offering.

This was offered on each of the 7 days.

²⁵ **On the seventh day you shall have a holy assembly; you shall do no laborious work.**

The 7th day was the 21st.

See chart 2821

The Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread

This is based on a Passover that begins on a Wednesday

The day of preparation	Feast of Unleavened Bread						
Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Lamb killed before sunset	Special Sabbath		Regular Sabbath	First Fruits			Special Sabbath

See Leviticus 23:5

The Lord's Passover begins at twilight on the 14th day of the first month

The lamb was slaughtered around 6:30pm on the 14th close to sunset (7pm)

Later in history, the Lamb was killed at 3pm at the time of the evening sacrifice

The lamb was then roasted and eaten before midnight (12am) on the 15th

The actual Passover event occurred at midnight on the 15th when the Lord killed all the Egyptian firstborn and passed over the homes of the Hebrew slaves

So the Passover started shortly before the end of the 14th and culminated around midnight on the 15th.

The Jews called the Feast of Unleavened Bread the Passover Week.

Verses 26 – 31 **The Feast of weeks (Pentecost)**

²⁶ **‘Also on the day of the first fruits, when you present a new grain offering to the Lord in your *Feast of Weeks*, you shall have a holy assembly; you shall do no laborious work.** ²⁷ **But you shall offer a burnt offering as a soothing aroma to the Lord: two bulls, one ram, *and* seven male lambs one year old; ²⁸ *and as their grain offering, fine flour mixed with oil: three-tenths of an ephah* for each bull, two-tenths for the one ram, ²⁹ *and a tenth for each of the seven lambs;* ³⁰ *also one male goat to make atonement for you.* ³¹ **Besides the continual burnt offering and its grain offering, you shall present *them* with their drink offerings. They shall be without defect.****

²⁶ ‘Also on the day of the first fruits, when you present a new grain offering to the Lord in your *Feast of Weeks*, you shall have a holy assembly; you shall do no laborious work.

See chart 2825

Jewish Feasts						
Feast	Scripture	Date Observed	Roman Calendar	Sabbath	Offerings	Commemorates
Passover	Lev. 23:05	Nisan 14 At twilight	March/April	No	Numbers 28:16-24	Oldest son saved from death
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The Feast of weeks (beginning of the wheat harvest) started 50 days after the offering of the First Fruits (Beginning of the barley Harvest)

The day of first fruits is also called, The Feast of Harvest, The Feast of Weeks, Pentecost, and Whit Sunday.

Whitsun (also Whitsunday or Whit Sunday) is the name used in Britain, and other countries among Anglicans and Methodists, for the Christian holy day of Pentecost.

This day was a special Sabbath.

²⁷ But you shall offer a burnt offering as a soothing aroma to the Lord: two bulls, one ram, *and* seven male lambs one year old; ²⁸ and as their grain offering, fine flour mixed with oil: three-tenths *of an ephah* for each bull, two-tenths for the one ram, ²⁹ *and* a tenth for each of the seven lambs; ³⁰ *also* one male goat to make atonement for you.

This was a burnt offering. It included the following:

1. Two bulls, one ram, *and* seven male lambs one year old.
2. Their grain offering.
3. One male goat to make atonement.