

### NUMBERS 7:1-11

**BIBLE STUDY** 

#### MT. ZION FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

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### VISION

The vision of the Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church of Charlottesville, Virginia will reach and reproduce within its surrounding community, a people inspired and equipped with a passion for the truth of God's Word and His compassion for others who will be enablers of change.



### Numbers 7:1-3 Tabernacle Offerings

When Moses finished setting up The Dwelling, he anointed it and consecrated it along with all that went with it. At the same time he anointed and consecrated the Altar and its accessories. <sup>2-3</sup> The leaders of Israel, the heads of the ancestral tribes who had carried out the census, brought offerings. They presented before God six covered wagons and twelve oxen, a wagon from each pair of leaders and an ox from each leader.

### Numbers 7:4-5 Tabernacle Offerings

4-5 God spoke to Moses: "Receive these so that they can be used to transport the Tent of Meeting. Give them to the Levites according to what they need for their work."



### Numbers 7:6-9 Tabernacle Offerings

<sup>6-9</sup> Moses took the wagons and oxen and gave them to the Levites. He gave two wagons and four oxen to the Gershonites for their work and four wagons and eight oxen to the Merarites for their work. They were all under the direction of Ithamar son of Aaron the priest. Moses didn't give any to the Kohathites because they had to carry the holy things for which they were responsible on their shoulders.

### Numbers 7:10-11 Tabernacle Offerings

10-11 When the Altar was anointed, the leaders brought their offerings for its dedication and presented them before the Altar because God had instructed Moses, "Each day one leader is to present his offering for the dedication of the Altar."



WHEN the Tabernacle was first set up, the princes of Israel brought offerings for the Tabernacle. Our verse tells what God told Moses to do about the offerings. The message from God involved the presentation of the offerings, the purpose of the offerings, and the people for the offerings.

#### The message from God involved:

• the presentation of the offerings

the purpose of the offerings

the people for the offerings



Presenting of the offerings. "Take it of them." When the princes of the twelve tribes presented their voluntary offerings, Moses was to receive them. Receiving the offerings put approval on the presenting of the offerings. It said that these princes, who were the "heads of the house of their fathers" (Numbers 7:2) were indeed right in making offerings.

How good that the leaders of the people were first to make the offerings. Too often the leaders are the last to give their offerings. Many use their high position for personal glory and gain instead of leading the people in godliness.



Purpose of the offerings. "That they may be to do the service of the tabernacle." The offerings were to help support the work of the tabernacle. The people had given offerings for the building of the tabernacle; now they were to give offerings to support the work of the tabernacle.

Church people oftentimes forget that it takes many gifts to support the work of the church. Do not quit giving after the building is built. You must continue to give to support the week-by-week ministry.

People for the offerings. "Give them unto the Levites, to every man according to his service." The gifts were to be given to the ministers. And note they were to be given "according to his service." The Levites were not freeloading. They were to do the work required of the tabernacle ministry.

Everyone did not have the same jobs and thus did not receive the same remuneration "He gave two wagons and four oxen to the Gershonites for their work and four wagons and eight oxen to the Merarites for their work. They were all under the direction of Ithamar son of Aaron the priest...

Moses didn't give any to the Kohathites because they had to carry the holy things for which they were responsible on their shoulders. (Numbers 7:8, 9), but were given support only according to their various ministries. Equity was practiced in the distribution of the offering. Sound administration principles prevailed in the Tabernacle work.

### Numbers 7:5 Tabernacle Offerings

Do our churches need the same principles in doing their work?

