

The OT in the Life of the Believer

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Lecture XII

One week ago as we met together we were discussing the seventh chapter of Num. and you remember that on the 12th day Ahira, the son of Enan, prince of the children of Naphtali offered. We read from vs. 78 to 83 - (reading the text). This offering of Ahira, the leader of the children of Naphtali in the wilderness has been read by thousands of people. It has been read every year, or at least once in three years as various synagogues have held a different order or reading straight through the Pentateuch. Ahira the son of Enan, is otherwise completely forgotten, but here we have this full detail ~~of~~ of the offering which he made and the same was true of the eleven leaders of the other tribes here. As we read this we think how what we do will probably be completely forgotten, and we won't even have a name that's read over in future years if the Lord tarry. But how wonderful to know that the Lord does not forget anything that we do. The Lord remembers every aspect of our lives and there is no service we make for Him, no offering to Him ~~and~~ that he does not know and will remember through all eternity. And I believe in this 7th ch. of Num. that this repetition, identical lang. in all of these offerings of these different tribes, that this repetition here is in order to stress that to us -- the equality of these men before God, men saved through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. One might to have human eyes seem to have done far more than another, but in God's eyes they were all simply blood-bought ones ^{sh} ~~who~~ whose sacrifices represented what Jesus Christ did for them. And how wonderful to know that each of us is remembered in full detail before the Lord.

Then we have in the chapter the addition of the 12, the total of all that was offered, and it ends up in vs. 88. "This was the dedication of the altar, after it was anointed." And now I think if I had been in the place of the Archbishop in the 13th century who made the divisions in the Bible into chapters, it is very likely that I would have started ch. 8 with what he made vs. 89 of ch. 7. It would be an interesting debate. Does vs. 89 belong properly in ch. 7 or in ch. 8? I think that