

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

Twenty

The price of service – shekel equals 20 gerahs

The price of service of the children of Israel was measured by the shekel and several verses of scripture correlate the value of the shekel to be 20 gerahs:

1. Ex. 30:13 "This they shall give, every one that passeth among them that are numbered, half a shekel after the shekel of the sanctuary: (a shekel is twenty gerahs:) an half shekel shall be the offering of the LORD."

2. Lev. 27:25 "And all thy estimations shall be according to the shekel of the sanctuary: twenty gerahs shall be the shekel."

3. Num. 3:47 "Thou shalt even take five shekels apiece by the poll, after the shekel of the sanctuary shalt thou take them: (the shekel is twenty gerahs:)"

4. Num. 18:16 "And those that are to be redeemed from a month old shalt thou redeem, according to thine estimation, for the money of five shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, which is twenty gerahs."

5. Ezek 45:12 "And the shekel shall be twenty gerahs: twenty shekels, five and twenty shekels, fifteen shekels, shall be your maneh."

6. Ex. 38:26 "A bekah for every man, that is, half a shekel, after the shekel of the sanctuary, for every one that went to be numbered, from twenty years old and upward, for six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty men."

Likewise, there was a price paid for our service to the Lord. This is set forth in the following two verses:

1. 1 Cor 6:20 "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

2. 1 Cor 7:23 "Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men."

The price by which we have been purchased to be the servants of God is the blood of Christ. He purchased us on the cross of Calvary. We should no longer consider our lives as belonging to ourselves. He has bought us with his blood. We belong to him. We are no longer to be the servants of men, but the servants of God. We should use our body and spirit to glorify God. We should humble ourselves and consider ourselves as being the blood-bought servants of Christ and be willing to serve him with each breath that we live.