

Exodus 25:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, within and without shalt thou overlay it, and shalt make upon it a crown of gold round about.

Analysis

Pure gold overlay 'within and without'—the Ark must be completely covered, hidden and visible surfaces alike. This totality represents Christ's complete divinity permeating His humanity. The gold crown (border) surrounding it signifies royalty and separation. Nothing of the wood could show through; similarly, while Christ's humanity was real, His divine glory could not be suppressed (transfiguration).

Historical Context

Gold overlay required skilled craftsmanship to hammer gold leaf onto the wooden structure. The 'crown' (זֶר, zer) was a decorative border that also prevented objects from sliding off during transport, combining beauty with function.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. Why must Christ's divinity 'overlay' His humanity both 'within and without'?
2. How does the gold crown relate to Christ's kingship and separation from sin?

Interlinear Text

וּמַחַ וְיָ	מִבַּיִת	טָהוֹר	זָהָב	בְּאֹתוֹ	וְתַצֵּף נָו
and without	within	it with pure	gold	H853	And thou shalt overlay
H2351	H1004	H2889	H2091		H6823
זָהָב	יָרֵךְ	עַל יוֹ	וַעֲשֵׂה יָת		וְתַצֵּף נָו
gold	upon it a crown	H5921	it and shalt make		And thou shalt overlay
H2091	H2213		H6213		H6823

סָבִיב:
round about
H5439

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 25:24 (Parallel theme): And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, and make thereto a crown of gold round about.