

Exodus 25:38

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the tongs thereof, and the snuffdishes thereof, shall be of pure gold.

Analysis

Tongs and snuffdishes of pure gold—even the maintenance tools are consecrated. The tongs (מְלֻקָּתִים, melqachayim) trimmed wicks; the snuffdishes (מְחַתָּה, machtah) collected burnt wick. Nothing associated with maintaining light can be common. This teaches that spiritual ministry requires consecrated instruments—even the 'trimming' of excess and removal of dead works must be done with tools purified by God. Self-effort produces no light.

Historical Context

Priests used these tools during morning and evening lamp service, removing charred wick and adding fresh oil. The gold construction ensured that even these utilitarian items matched the lampstand's holiness, maintaining the sacred character of all service.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. What 'trimming' or 'snuffing' in your life needs to be done with consecrated tools (God's word, Spirit)?
2. How does attempting spiritual maintenance with 'common' tools fail to produce true light?

Interlinear Text

וְמַלְכָּתָ יְהָוָה	וְמִחְתָּהָ יְהָוָה	יְהָוָה בְּ	טָהוֹר:
And the tongs	thereof and the snuffdishes	gold	thereof shall be of pure
H4457	H4289	H2091	H2889

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