

Exodus 26:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moreover thou shalt make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: with cherubims of cunning work shalt thou make them.

Analysis

Ten curtains of fine twined linen with cherubim embroidered in blue, purple, and scarlet form the tabernacle's inner covering. The linen represents righteousness (Revelation 19:8); the colors heaven (blue), royalty (purple), and sacrifice (scarlet). Cherubim woven throughout picture the heavenly reality—angels surrounding God's throne. This innermost layer, seen only by ministering priests, reflects the heavenly pattern Moses saw. Christ is our true tabernacle, containing all heavenly realities (Hebrews 8:2).

Historical Context

These curtains formed the ceiling and inner walls of the Holy Place and Most Holy Place. Made of the finest Egyptian linen, each was approximately 42 feet long and 6 feet wide, requiring skilled weavers to create the complex cherubim patterns.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does the cherubim-embroidered ceiling represent worshipers gathering under heaven's watch?
2. In what ways is Christ the 'true tabernacle' of which this was merely a copy?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵת H853	הַמִּשְׁכָּה the tabernacle H4908	תַּעֲשֶׂה הָ Moreover thou shalt make H6213	שָׁשׁ יְרֵיעַ תַּעֲשֶׂה with ten H6235	curtains H3407	לִנְיָ linen H8336
מִשְׁזָר H7806	וְתָכָה לָת and blue H8504	וְאַרְגָּמָן and purple H713	וְתֵלַע עֵת H8438	שָׁנִי and scarlet H8144	כְּרֻבִים with cherubims H3742
מַעֲשֵׂה הָ work H4639	חֵשֶׁב of cunning H2803	תַּעֲשֶׂה הָ Moreover thou shalt make H6213	אֹתָם: H853		

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 26:36 (Parallel theme): And thou shalt make an hanging for the door of the tent, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework.

Exodus 25:18 (Parallel theme): And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat.

Exodus 26:31 (Parallel theme): And thou shalt make a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made:

Exodus 36:35 (Parallel theme): And he made a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen: with cherubims made he it of cunning work.

