

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

וְאַתָּה	וְהַמִּשְׁכָּן	תְּמַعַּשׂ	ה	שְׁעָרָה	שְׁעָרָה	וְאַתָּה
H853	the tabernacle	Moreover thou shalt make	H6213	with ten	curtains	linen
	H4908			H6235	H3407	H8336
מִשְׁצֵה	רָתָה	וְתַכְתִּיכְתָּה	וְתַכְתִּיכְתָּה	שְׁנִים	כְּרֻבִּים	וְתַכְתִּיכְתָּה
of fine twined	and blue	and purple	H8438	and scarlet	with cherubims	
H7806	H8504	H713		H8144	H3742	
מִשְׁבָּחָה	בְּחִשְׁבָּחָה	תְּמַעַּשׂ	ה	אַתָּה		
work	of cunning	Moreover thou shalt make	H6213	H853		
H4639	H2803					

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.

