

Exodus 27:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And for the gate of the court shall be an hanging of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework: and their pillars shall be four, and their sockets four.

Analysis

The gate itself: 20 cubits of blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen with needlework—matching the tabernacle's entrance and veil but without cherubim. The colorful, beautiful gate stands out from the plain white courtyard walls, drawing eyes and feet to the entrance. Christ, our Gate, displays heaven (blue), royalty (purple), sacrifice (scarlet), and righteousness (linen). His beauty attracts; His sacrifice enables entry. The needlework suggests the intricate providence weaving His life.

Historical Context

This 20-cubit (30-foot) wide gate hung from four pillars, creating a substantial and striking entrance. The colorful embroidered hanging contrasted dramatically with the plain white linen walls, clearly identifying where worshipers should enter.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's 'beauty' (colorful gate) attract you to enter God's presence?
2. What does the gate's needlework (intricate design) teach about divine providence in Christ's life?

Interlinear Text

וּלְשַׁעַר	הַחֲצֵר	מָסָה	עֶשְׂרִים	אַמָּה	לְתֵּלָה
And for the gate	of the court	shall be an hanging	of twenty	cubits	of blue
H8179	H2691	H4539	H6242	H520	H8504
וְאֶרְגָּמָה	וְתוֹלַעַת	שָׁנִי	וְשֵׁשׁ	מִשְׁזָר	מַעֲשֵׂה
and purple	and scarlet	linen	and fine twined		
H713	H8438	H8144	H8336	H7806	H4639
רָקִים	עַמֻּדֵיהֶם	אַרְבָּעָה	וְאֲדָנִיָּה	אַרְבָּעָה	
wrought with needlework	and their pillars	four	and their sockets	four	
H7551	H5982	H702	H134	H702	

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.