Exodus 27:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt make for it a grate of network of brass; and upon the net shalt thou make four brasen rings in the four corners thereof.

Analysis

A grate (network) of bronze holds the sacrifice, with bronze rings at its four corners. This grate sits below the altar's top, allowing ashes to fall through while supporting the burning sacrifice. The open network permits air circulation, enabling complete combustion—total consumption of the offering. Christ's sacrifice was complete, exhaustive, holding back nothing. The bronze rings again emphasize universality (four corners) and judgment (bronze) character.

Historical Context

The grate (מְּכְבַּר, mikhbar) was a mesh or network positioned inside the altar at half-height, creating an air space beneath for better burning. This design ensured offerings were completely consumed, fulfilling God's command for whole burnt offerings.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

- 1. How does the altar's design for 'complete combustion' illustrate Christ's total sacrifice?
- 2. What does the bronze grate 'supporting' the sacrifice teach about judgment's necessity in atonement?

Interlinear Text

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