

Exodus 27:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And thou shalt put it under the compass of the altar beneath, that the net may be even to the midst of the altar.

Analysis

The grate is placed 'under the compass of the altar beneath, that the network may be even to the midst of the altar.' This precise positioning—halfway up—ensures optimal burning. The attention to mechanics demonstrates that atonement, while spiritual, occurred in the material realm. Christ's death wasn't mystical abstraction but physical, historical event. The grate's exact placement prefigures how Christ's sacrifice occurred at the precise time, place, and manner God ordained (Galatians 4:4).

Historical Context

The 'compass' (כַּרְכֹּב, karkob) was likely a ledge or projection around the altar's middle. The grate fit beneath this ledge, positioning it at the altar's midpoint where it would be most effective for complete sacrifice consumption.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's precise 'positioning' of Christ's sacrifice demonstrate divine sovereignty over redemption?
2. Why was it necessary that Christ's atonement be historical and physical, not merely spiritual?

Interlinear Text

וְנָתַתָּה הַ	אֶתְּ הַ	תַּחַת הַ	כְּרֹכַב בַּ	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ:	מִלְּמַטָּה
And thou shalt put	H853	H8478	it under the compass	of the altar	beneath
H5414			H3749	H4196	H4295
הַ	רֶשֶׁת שֶׁ	עַד	בְּ	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ:	
H1961	that the net	may be even to	the midst	of the altar	
	H7568	H5704	H2677	H4196	

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