

Exodus 28:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And two chains of pure gold at the ends; of wreathen work shalt thou make them, and fasten the wreathen chains to the ouches.

Analysis

Two chains of pure gold, wreathen work (braided/woven), attach to the settings. Pure gold (unmixed) chains connect the shoulder pieces to the breastplate, physically linking strength (shoulders) with love (heart). Christ's priestly ministry unites power and affection—He bears us with both. The braided/woven design suggests strength through unity—multiple strands intertwined are stronger than single strand. The Trinity's united work secures our salvation.

Historical Context

These golden chains (נִזְבָּע, avotot) were likely small braided cords of gold wire, creating flexible but strong connections. The wreathen/braided design was both decorative and functional, allowing movement while securing the breastplate to the ephod.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does Christ unite 'strength' (shoulders) and 'love' (heart) in His care for you?
2. What does the braided chain (multiple strands) teach about the Trinity's united work in salvation?

Interlinear Text

את מ מעשך ה מגבֵּל ת שְׁרַשְׁר ת וְשַׁתִּי
And two chains gold of pure at the ends shalt thou make H853
H8147 H8333 H2091 H2889 H4020 H6213

על קעבת ת שְׁרַשְׁר ת אַת מעשך ה
work of wreathen them and fasten H853 chains of wreathen H5921
H4639 H5688 H5414 H8333 H5688

בְּמִשְׁבָּצָתִן
to the ouches
H4865

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