

Exodus 31:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,

Analysis

Bezalel and Oholiab are filled with God's Spirit for artistic work—wisdom, understanding, knowledge, craftsmanship. This demonstrates that the Holy Spirit equips not only for preaching/teaching but for creative, technical skills. All talents serve God's purposes when consecrated to Him. The Spirit who designed creation enables artisans to create beauty for worship. Christ, the wisdom of God, is the ultimate craftsman who builds His church.

Historical Context

These craftsmen led teams of skilled workers who constructed the tabernacle according to Moses' pattern. Their Spirit-filling for technical work demonstrated that God values and empowers all forms of service, not just spiritual leadership.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does the Spirit's equipping for artistic work validate creativity and craftsmanship as ministry?
2. What talents has God given you that can serve His purposes when consecrated to Him?

Interlinear Text

וַאֲמַלֵּא	אֶת־וְ	רוּחַ	אֱלֹהִים	בְּחָכְמָה
And I have filled	H853	him with the spirit	of God	in wisdom
H4390		H7307	H430	H2451
וּבְתוּבוֹן	וּבִדְעָה	וּבְכָל	מְלָאכָה:	
and in understanding	and in knowledge	H3605	and in all manner of workmanship	
H8394	H1847		H4399	

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 35:31 (Spirit): And he hath filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship;

1 Kings 7:14 (Parallel theme): He was a widow's son of the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in brass: and he was filled with wisdom, and understanding, and cunning to work all works in brass. And he came to king Solomon, and wrought all his work.

Isaiah 28:26 (References God): For his God doth instruct him to discretion, and doth teach him.

Isaiah 28:6 (Spirit): And for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgment, and for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate.

1 Kings 3:9 (Parallel theme): Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

