

Exodus 35:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses gathered all the congregation of the children of Israel together, and said unto them, These are the words which the LORD hath commanded, that ye should do them.

Analysis

Moses assembles the entire congregation before beginning tabernacle construction, emphasizing that sacred work requires communal participation. The phrase 'these are the words which the LORD hath commanded' (אלה הדברים, eleh ha-devarim) mirrors the introduction to the Ten Commandments (20:1), signaling the gravity of what follows. This gathering precedes construction to ensure all Israel understands the divine blueprint and participates with willing hearts.

Historical Context

Spoken after Moses' second forty-day meeting with God (34:28-35), this assembly marks the transition from receiving instructions (chs 25-31) to implementing them. The entire camp gathers at the base of Sinai to hear God's commands communally.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does gathering the entire community before beginning sacred work demonstrate the importance of shared understanding and commitment?
2. In what ways does Moses' role as mediator of God's commands prefigure Christ's role as the ultimate mediator?

Interlinear Text

וְשָׁבָא לְבָנָי אֶלְעָם לְמִשְׁנָה תְּקִבָּה כָּל אֶת מִשְׁנָה הַקְרָבָה
gathered And Moses all the congregation of the children of Israel

H6950 H4872 H853 H3605 H5712 H1121 H3478

אֲשֶׁר פָּדַבְּרָה יְמִינֵי אָמָר אֶלְהָי אֶלְקָנָה מִן אֶלְקָנָה
and said unto them These are the words

H559 H413 H428 H1697 H834

אֲתָּם תְּלֻשָּׁה תְּהִלָּה הַצּוֹרָה
hath commanded which the LORD that ye should do

H6680 H3068 H6213 H853

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 34:32 (Word): And afterward all the children of Israel came nigh: and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him in mount Sinai.