

Exodus 35:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The pins of the tabernacle, and the pins of the court, and their cords,

Analysis

Oil for lighting (שֶׁמֶן לְאַוָּר, shemen la-ma'or) had to be pure, beaten olive oil—the finest quality requiring crushing the olives rather than pressing them. This oil kept the menorah burning continually (תָּמִיד, tamid, 'perpetually'), symbolizing the Holy Spirit's unceasing work in providing light and illumination. The requirement for 'beaten' oil parallels Christ's suffering ('beaten' for our iniquities, Isaiah 53:5) that provides the light of life to all who believe.

Historical Context

Pure olive oil was produced by crushing olives in a mortar rather than grinding in a mill, yielding the clearest, cleanest burning oil. The daily oil supply and lamp-tending fell to the priests as one of their primary duties, emphasizing the priority of maintaining God's light.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What is the spiritual significance of requiring 'beaten' oil for the light that represents God's presence?
2. How does the continual burning of the lamps challenge believers regarding consistent spiritual vigilance?

Interlinear Text

אַתְּ תִּתְּנַדֵּב אֶת הַמְּשָׁק | אֶת הַמִּשְׁקָה | אֶת הַמִּשְׁקָה | אֶת הַמִּשְׁקָה |

H853

The pins

וְתַּבְנִית

H4908

אֶת הַמִּשְׁקָה |

H853

The pins

וְתַּבְנִית

H3489

of the court

H2691

אֶת הַמִּשְׁקָה |

H853

מִתְּרִיכָם:

and their cords

H4340

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 27:19 (Temple): All the vessels of the tabernacle in all the service thereof, and all the pins thereof, and all the pins of the court, shall be of brass.

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