

Exodus 35:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And to devise curious works, to work in gold, and in silver,
and in brass,

Analysis

The summary statement 'the children of Israel brought a willing offering unto the LORD' uses the technical term for freewill offering (נְדָבָה, nedavah)—emphasizing spontaneous generosity flowing from love, not legal obligation. The comprehensive scope—'every man and woman, whose heart made them willing'—stresses that this movement of generosity pervaded the entire community. This willing offering for 'all manner of work' demonstrates understanding that every aspect of tabernacle construction, from grand furnishings to practical necessities, deserves wholehearted support.

Historical Context

This communal outpouring of generosity marked a dramatic reversal from the golden calf incident (ch. 32) where gold was gathered for idolatry. Now the same materials are consecrated for true worship, demonstrating national repentance and renewed covenant commitment.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the transformation from golden calf to willing tabernacle offerings demonstrate genuine repentance and restoration?
2. What is the relationship between having a heart 'made willing' and bringing freewill offerings to God?

Interlinear Text

וְלַחֵשׁ ב	מְחַשְׁבֵּי ת	לַעֲשֹׂת	בַּזָּהָב	וּבַכֶּסֶף	וּבַנְּחֹשֶׁת:
And to devise	curious works	to work	in gold	and in silver	and in brass
H2803	H4284	H6213	H2091	H3701	H5178

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