

Exodus 36:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he made curtains of goats' hair for the tent over the tabernacle: eleven curtains he made them.

Analysis

Curtains of goats' hair (יְרִיעֹת עִזִּים, yeri'ot izzim) form a covering over the beautiful inner curtains, providing protection from elements. Goat hair, coarse and durable, represents humble service concealing inner glory—illustrating that spiritual beauty often hides beneath plain exteriors. This layered structure (glory within, humility without) prefigures Christ who 'made himself of no reputation' (Philippians 2:7) and had 'no beauty that we should desire him' (Isaiah 53:2) while containing divine glory.

Historical Context

Goat hair was common material for tent-making in the ancient Near East (Paul the tentmaker likely worked with this material, Acts 18:3). It was naturally water-resistant, durable, and provided insulation—practical qualities making it ideal for protecting the tabernacle during wilderness travels.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does the goat-hair covering concealing inner glory illustrate Christ's incarnation?
2. What does the contrast between beautiful inner curtains and practical outer coverings teach about spiritual versus earthly perspectives?

Interlinear Text

וַעֲשֵׂה	יָרִיעַ	עֲזֵי	לְאֹהֶל	עַל	הַמִּשְׁכָּן
And he made	curtains	of goats	hair for the tent	H5921	over the tabernacle
H6213	H3407	H5795	H168		H4908
אֶתֵּם:	וַעֲשֵׂה	יָרִיעַ	וְעָשָׂה		
H853	And he made	curtains	eleven		
	H6213	H3407	H6249		

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