

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 (מִצְעַד עֵזִים, 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

Psalm 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

בְּמִשְׁכָּן | עַל לֹא בְּלֹא עַזְּ יָמִים יְרִיעָה תְּעַשׂ ה
And he made curtains of goats hair for the tent over the tabernacle

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אַתָּם: עַשׂ הַיְרִיעָה תְּעַשְׂרֵה הַעֲשָׂתִי
eleven curtains And he made

H6249 H6240 H3407 H6213 H853

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