

Exodus 36:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he coupled five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves.

Analysis

The identical phrase 'one measure was to all the curtains' (מִדָּה אַחַת לְכָל, middah achat lekhhol) appearing again emphasizes consistency even in outer coverings. Whether visible (inner curtains) or hidden (outer coverings), God's standard of excellence remains constant. This teaches that we should work with equal diligence in public ministry and private service, in visible leadership and hidden prayer, because God sees and values all work done according to His pattern.

Historical Context

Maintaining uniform measurements in hand-woven goat-hair curtains required significant skill and attention, as natural fibers could vary in thickness and tension. The craftsmen's ability to produce eleven identical curtains demonstrated Spirit-given competence (35:31).

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. Why does God require the same standard of excellence for hidden outer coverings as for visible inner curtains?
2. How does consistent quality in both seen and unseen work challenge contemporary ministry that prioritizes visible results?

Interlinear Text

וְיִרְאֶה	בְּנֵי	שְׁשָׁת	אֶת	לְבָד	פִּירִיעַ	תִּשְׁמַע	וְיִרְאֶה	רְאֵת	שְׁשָׁת
And he coupled	H853	five		curtains	H905		by themselves and six		
H2266		H2568		H3407			H8337		
curtains	H905								
H3407									

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