

Exodus 36:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all the wise men, that wrought all the work of the sanctuary, came every man from his work which they made;

Analysis

The wise craftsmen 'came every man from his work which they made' (אִישׁ אִישׁ מִלְּאָכֳלָה, ish ish mi-melakhto)—individually and collectively approaching Moses with their concern. Their wisdom extended beyond craftsmanship to stewardship: recognizing when enough materials had been gathered. This interruption of work to address excess demonstrates that faithful stewardship sometimes requires saying 'enough'—a countercultural concept in contexts of scarcity or greed. Wise workers know both when to labor and when to stop collecting.

Historical Context

In ancient contexts of scarcity and need, having too much of anything was virtually unheard of. The craftsmen's willingness to halt offerings demonstrates integrity—they could have hoarded excess materials but instead alerted Moses to the abundance.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What does the craftsmen's recognition of 'too much' teach about integrity and stewardship in ministry?
2. How does calling a halt to giving challenge contemporary ministry cultures that perpetually emphasize need?

Interlinear Text

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------------------------|---------------------|------|-------|---------------------|
| וַיָּבֹא | כִּל | עֲשִׂים: | בְּחִכְמִים | אַת | כָּל | מִמְלָאכָתוֹ |
| came | H3605 | And all the wise men | that wrought | H853 | H3605 | all the work |
| H935 | | H2450 | H6213 | | H4399 | |

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|---------------------|----------|
| בְּקָדֵש | אִישׁ | אִישׁ | אִישׁ | אִישׁ | אִישׁ | הַמְּהָ | עֲשִׂים: |
| of the sanctuary | every man | every man | all the work | H834 | H1992 | that wrought | |
| H6944 | H376 | H376 | H4399 | | H6213 | | |

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org