

Exodus 36:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make.

Analysis

The craftsmen report 'The people bring much more than enough' (מְרַבִּים לְהָבִיא מִדִּי, הַעֲבֹדָה, marbim lehavi midei ha-avodah)—literally 'exceeding to bring more than enough for the service.' This abundance demonstrates that when God's people give from stirred hearts, He ensures more than sufficient provision for His purposes. The phrase 'much more than enough' reflects gospel mathematics where God's provision always exceeds mere adequacy—baskets of fragments after feeding multitudes (Mark 6:43), 'able to do exceeding abundantly above all we ask or think' (Ephesians 3:20).

Historical Context

This unprecedented situation—stopping offerings due to excess—stands unique in biblical history. It demonstrates that the golden calf generation, properly turned back to God, could give as enthusiastically for true worship as they had for idolatry (ch. 32).

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does the abundance of offerings teach about God's provision when His people give willingly and generously?
2. How does this 'more than enough' principle appear throughout Scripture in God's provision for His purposes?

Interlinear Text

וְלֹאמְרֵם	אֶל	מֹשֶׁה	וְלֹאמְרֵם	מְרֹבִים	הָעָם
And they spake	H413	unto Moses	And they spake	much more	The people
H559		H4872	H559	H7235	H5971
וְלֵאמֹר	מִדַּי	הַעֲבֹדָה	לְמַלְאכָה	אֲשֶׁר	צִוָּה
bring	than enough	for the service	of the work	H834	commanded
H935	H1767	H5656	H4399		H6680
וְהָיָה	לַעֲשֹׂת	אֹתָהּ:			
which the LORD	to make	H853			
H3068	H6213				

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 24:14 (References Lord): And when they had finished it, they brought the rest of the money before the king and Jehoiada, whereof were made vessels for the house of the LORD, even vessels to minister, and to offer withal, and spoons, and vessels of gold and silver. And they offered burnt offerings in the house of the LORD continually all the days of Jehoiada.

Exodus 32:3 (Parallel theme): And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron.

Philippians 2:21 (Parallel theme): For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's.

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