

Exodus 36:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing.

Analysis

Moses issues a proclamation 'throughout the camp' (בְּמַחֲנֶה, ba-machaneh) commanding cessation of offerings—perhaps the only biblical instance of commanding people to stop giving. The phrase 'Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering' אל־יַעֲשׂוּ אֶת־מְלֹאת קֹדֶשׁ, al-ya'asu-od melakhah litrumah ha-kodesh demonstrates that even good things (giving) must be done in proper measure and timing. Wisdom knows both when to give and when to cease giving.

Historical Context

This proclamation required Moses to exercise leadership by restraining enthusiasm—a delicate task. Stopping the flow of offerings could have been interpreted negatively, but the people obeyed, demonstrating their trust in Moses' leadership and understanding that excess should not be gathered.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. What does Moses' command to stop giving teach about leadership and the wisdom to restrain even good impulses?
2. How does the principle of 'enough' challenge prosperity-focused ministry cultures?

Interlinear Text

לִפְנֵי יְהוָה	לִפְנֵי יְהוָה	לִפְנֵי יְהוָה	לִפְנֵי יְהוָה	לִפְנֵי יְהוָה
gave commandment	And Moses	H5674	and they caused it to be proclaimed	H6963
H6680	H4872			
בְּמִצְבָּה	לִאמֶר	אַיִשׁ	וְאִשָּׁה	עַד יִשְׁעָשׂוּ אֶל
throughout the camp	saying	Let neither man	nor woman	make
H4264	H559	H376	H802	H5750
מְלָאֵךְ הָ	לִתְרֹום תְּ	בְּקַדְשָׁ	וְכָל אֲ	בְּעַם
any more work	for the offering	of the sanctuary	were restrained	So the people
H4399	H8641	H6944	H3607	H5971
מִבְּבִיא:				
from bringing				
H935				

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