

# Exodus 36:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And every wise hearted man among them that wrought the work of the tabernacle made ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: with cherubims of cunning work made he them.

## Analysis

The actual tabernacle construction begins with 'every wise hearted man' making ten curtains of fine twined linen (שֶׁשׁ מְשֻׁזָּר, shesh mashzar) and colored threads. These innermost curtains, visible only to ministering priests, featured cherubim embroidered with 'cunning work' (מְעֵשֶׂה חֹשֶׁב, ma'aseh choshev—'designer's work')—artistic excellence dedicated to God though rarely seen. This teaches that God deserves our finest work regardless of human visibility; we work for Him, not for applause. The cherubim design recalls Eden's guarded entrance (Genesis 3:24), now opened through the sacrificial system.

## Historical Context

These ten curtains, each approximately 42' × 6', joined to form the tabernacle's ceiling and walls. The fine linen represented purity, while blue (heaven), purple (royalty), and scarlet (sacrifice) woven with gold thread (divinity) created a magnificent display visible only to priests—teaching that God values hidden excellence.

## Related Passages

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## 1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

### Study Questions

---

1. What does the creation of beautiful curtains seen only by priests teach about working for God's eyes rather than human applause?
2. How do the cherubim embroidered on the inner curtains connect Eden's closed entrance to the tabernacle's mediated access?

### Interlinear Text

---

עָשׂוּ הַ	כָּל	חֲכָמִים	לִב		
among them that wrought	H3605	And every wise	hearted man		
H6213		H2450	H3820		
עָשׂוּ הַ	אֶת הַמְּלָאכָה	הַמִּשְׁכָּן	עֶשְׂרֵי	יְרִיעֹת	
among them that wrought	the work	H853	of the tabernacle	ten	curtains
H6213	H4399		H4908	H6235	H3407
שֵׁשׁ	מִשְׁזָרִי	וְתֵכָה לָת	וְאַרְגָּמָן	וְתוֹלַע עֵת	שָׁנִי
linen	of fine twined	and blue	and purple	H8438	and scarlet
H8336	H7806	H8504	H713		H8144
כְּרֻבִים	מְעֵשֶׂה הַ	חָשִׁיב	עָשׂוּ הַ	אֹתָם:	
with cherubims	work	of cunning	among them that wrought	H853	
H3742	H4639	H2803	H6213		

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)