

Exodus 37:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he made the vessels which were upon the table, his dishes, and his spoons, and his bowls, and his covers to cover withal, of pure gold.

Analysis

Vessels, dishes, spoons, and bowls (כְּלִים וְכֶלֶבֶת וְכֶלֶבֶת וְכֶלֶבֶת) made of pure gold served the table—demonstrating that even implements of service deserve excellence. These vessels held the bread and drink offerings associated with the showbread. Making service-vessels from pure gold teaches that tools of ministry, though instrumental rather than primary, still deserve God's best. Those who serve at God's table should use golden excellence in preparation and presentation.

Historical Context

The dishes held the showbread loaves; the spoons contained frankincense (Leviticus 24:7); the bowls and covers held drink offerings. All these utensils were pure gold, matching the table itself. They traveled with the table, wrapped in blue cloth and covered with skins (Numbers 4:7-8).

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does making service-vessels from pure gold teach about excellence in tools and methods of ministry?
2. How does God's concern for even utensils and implements challenge shortcuts in preparation and presentation in worship?

Interlinear Text

בָּשָׂלֵט	אֵת	עַל	אֲשֶׁר	הַכְלִימָן	אַתָּה	עַיְשָׂתָּה	אַתָּה
And he made	H853	the vessels	H834	H5921	which were upon the table	H7979	H853
H6213		H3627					
בְּקִשׁוֹת	אֵת	מִנְקִיּוֹת	אֵת	כְּפָתִי	אֵת	קְעָרָת	אֵת
his dishes	H853	and his spoons	H853	and his bowls	H853	and his covers	H7184
H7086		H3709		H4518			
בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ
טָהוֹרָה	אֲשֶׁר	יִסְרָאֵל	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ	בְּ
of pure	H2889	H2091	H2004	H5258	H834	to cover	withal

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