

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 (קְעָרֹטָיו וְכַפֹּתָיו וְקִשּׁוֹתָיו וְמִנְקִיָּתָיו, ke'arotav vekhappotav ukesotav umenakkiyotav) 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

וַיַּעַשׂ	אֶת	הַכֵּל יָמִין	אֲשֶׁר	עַל	הַשֻּׁלְחָן	אֶת
And he made	H853	the vessels	H834	H5921	which were upon the table	H853
H6213		H3627			H7979	
קְעֵרֹתָיו	וְאֶת	כַּפְתָּיו	וְאֶת	מִנְקֵיטָיו	וְאֶת	הַקָּשׂוֹת
his dishes	H853	and his spoons	H853	and his bowls	H853	and his covers
H7086		H3709		H4518		H7184
אֲשֶׁר	יָסַף	בָּהּ	זָהָב	טָהוֹר:		
H834	to cover	withal	gold	of pure		
	H5258	H2004	H2091	H2889		