

Exodus 37:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Their knobs and their branches were of the same: all of it was one beaten work of pure gold.

Analysis

The summary statement 'their knobs and their branches were of the same' (וְקַנְתָּם מִמְּנָה כִּי, כְּפִתְּרִים ukenotam mimennah hayu—'from it they were') emphasizes complete unity—one piece of gold beaten into complex form. This unity represents the church's essential oneness despite diverse functions and positions. Just as the menorah's branches don't compete but collaboratively illuminate, believers don't vie for prominence but cooperatively witness to Christ. The phrase 'beaten work of pure gold' emphasizes costly formation producing unified testimony.

Historical Context

Creating this complex design from one piece required extraordinary metalworking skill—heating gold to malleability, carefully hammering the shape, then chasing the intricate details. The unity of material ensured structural integrity while creating symbolic richness: one God, one light, one witness.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What does the menorah's complete unity (one piece despite complex form) teach about essential oneness in the diverse church?
2. How does beaten work producing unified witness illustrate that suffering and formation create, rather than destroy, genuine unity?

Interlinear Text

מְקֹשֶׁת	ה	כָּל	הַ	כִּי	וְ	מִתְּמָרָה	וְ	לִקְנָת	מִ	כְּפִתְרִיב	וְ	מִקְשָׁת	
Their knobs		and their branches				H4480		H1961		H3605		beaten work	
H3730		H7070										H4749	

אַחֲת	בְּ	בָּרוּךְ	אַתָּה
were of the same all of it was one		gold	of pure
H259		H2091	H2889

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