

Exodus 37:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he made the staves of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold.

Analysis

Staves of shittim wood overlaid with gold continue the incarnational pattern—humanity (wood) clothed in divinity (gold) for the purpose of carrying prayer's altar. This teaches that those who facilitate others' prayers (intercessors, pastors, prayer leaders) must themselves be transformed by divine grace. We can't carry others' prayers on merely human wisdom or natural eloquence—only gold-overlaid vessels can bear the golden altar. The ministry of intercession requires Spirit-filled instrumentality.

Historical Context

The staves for the incense altar were proportionally shorter than those for the ark or table, since the altar was smaller and lighter. Nevertheless, the same principle applied: gold-overlaid poles for carrying, demonstrating that even smaller, lighter sacred objects deserved golden excellence in handling.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does the requirement for gold-overlaid staves teach about intercessors and prayer leaders needing Spirit-filled transformation?
2. How does carrying the prayer altar requiring divine enablement challenge merely human approaches to facilitating others' prayers?

Interlinear Text

וְעָשָׂה	אַתָּה	בְּבָדְךָ יְמִינְךָ	בְּבָדְךָ יְמִינְךָ	שְׁטָמֵה	לִיצְרָה	אַתָּה
And he made	H853	the staves	wood	of shittim	and overlaid	H853
H6213		H905	H6086	H7848	H6823	

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