

Exodus 38:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And for the north side the hangings were an hundred cubits, their pillars were twenty, and their sockets of brass twenty; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver.

Analysis

The north side (צֵלָה צָפוֹנִים, tzela tzafon) identical to the south (hundred cubits, twenty pillars, bronze sockets, silver hooks/fillets) demonstrates that God's standards maintain consistency regardless of direction or circumstance. Holiness boundaries don't shift with orientation; righteousness requirements don't vary by context. This bilateral symmetry teaches that God's character remains unchanging—His holiness is stable, His standards are consistent, His requirements are universal. The gospel's demands and provisions apply equally in all situations.

Historical Context

The north side, facing toward Mount Sinai's general direction, matched the south side exactly—same length, same materials, same construction. This symmetry created visual impression of order and completeness, demonstrating that God's dwelling reflected His character: unchanging, consistent, perfectly balanced.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What does identical construction (north and south) teach about God's unchanging standards across all circumstances?
2. How does architectural symmetry communicate theological truth about God's consistent character?

Interlinear Text

בְּאַתְּ הַ
מִאָה אַלְפָא תְּ

side And for the north the hangings were an hundred cubits

H6285 H6828 H3967 H520

לְלִי נְחַשְׁתָּה עָשָׂר יָמִים בְּעַמּוֹד יָמִים

of the pillars twenty and their sockets twenty of brass the hooks

H5982 H6242 H134 H6242 H5178 H2053

לְלִי נְחַשְׁתָּה עָשָׂר יָמִים בְּעַמּוֹד יָמִים

of the pillars and their fillets of silver

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