

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 (תֵּזֵלָה תְּזַפֹּן, 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

Psalms 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

וּלְפָאֵת	צִפּוֹן	יָמָּה	בָּאַמָּה		
side	And for the north	the hangings were an hundred		cubits	
H6285	H6828	H3967		H520	
הָעֲמֻדֹת יָם	עֶשְׂרִים יָם	וְאֲדָנֶיהֶם	עֶשְׂרִים יָם	נְחֹשֶׁת	וְיָ
of the pillars	twenty	and their sockets	twenty	of brass	the hooks
H5982	H6242	H134	H6242	H5178	H2053
הָעֲמֻדֹת יָם	וְחִשְׁקֶיהֶם	כֶּסֶף:			
of the pillars	and their fillets	of silver			
H5982	H2838	H3701			

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