

# Exodus 38:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all the pins of the tabernacle, and of the court round about, were of brass.

## Analysis

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The summary of tabernacle materials begins with 'This is the sum of the tabernacle, even of the tabernacle of testimony' (אֶלֶה פְּקוּדֵי הַמִּשְׁקָן מִשְׁקָן פְּעֻדָּת), emphasizing accountability and testimony. The detailed accounting demonstrates stewardship—offerings given willingly (ch. 35-36) must be used faithfully with transparent reporting. 'Tabernacle of testimony' recalls that God's dwelling exists to house His covenant law, the testimony to His character and requirements. This introduction to financial accounting teaches that sacred work requires careful stewardship and public accountability.

## Historical Context

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The 'numbering' or 'accounting' (פקודין, pekudei) was commanded by Moses and executed by Levites under Ithamar's supervision. This financial transparency demonstrated responsible handling of the people's generous offerings. Ancient Near Eastern temple records often included such accountings, but Israel's record emphasized divine command and priestly responsibility rather than royal authority.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. What does detailed accounting of tabernacle materials teach about stewardship and transparency in ministry?
2. How does the designation 'tabernacle of testimony' keep focus on God's covenant character rather than merely the physical structure?

## Interlinear Text

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וְחַשְׁתָּה:	סְבִּיבָּה:	נָחָשָׁת:
וְכָל	וְלֹפֶצֶת	וְכָל
H3605 And all the pins	H4908 of the tabernacle	H2691 and of the court
H3489		H2691
		H5439 round about
		H5178 were of brass

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