

# 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' (אֵלֶּה פְּקֻדֵּי הַמִּשְׁכָּן מִשְׁכַּן הָעֵדֻת, *eleh fekudei ha-mishkan mishkan ha-edut*), 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' (פְּקֻדָּה, *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

**Psalms 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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וְכָל	הַיִּתְדֹת	לְמִשְׁכָּן	וְלִחֹץ	סָבִיב	נְחֹשֶׁת:
H3605	<b>And all the pins</b>	<b>of the tabernacle</b>	<b>and of the court</b>	<b>round about</b>	<b>were of brass</b>
	H3489	H4908	H2691	H5439	H5178

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