

Exodus 38:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the brass of the offering was seventy talents, and two thousand and four hundred shekels.

Analysis

The bronze total—'seventy talents, and two thousand and four hundred shekels' (approximately 4,800-5,400 pounds)—came from voluntary offerings (unlike mandatory silver). This bronze made the bronze altar, laver, court sockets, pins, and vessels—all items associated with judgment, service, and boundaries. The voluntary nature of bronze offerings (versus mandatory atonement silver) teaches that while redemption is non-negotiable, service and endurance (bronze qualities) should flow from willing hearts. Those who've experienced mandatory redemption should respond with voluntary service.

Historical Context

Bronze came from Egyptian plunder and voluntary offerings (35:24). The seventy talents plus 2,400 shekels provided sufficient bronze for the massive altar (approximately 1,500 pounds), laver, sixty courtyard sockets, and numerous pins and vessels. This quantity demonstrates the people's generous response to God's redemption.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does voluntary bronze offerings (versus mandatory silver) teach about service flowing from gratitude for redemption?
2. How does bronze's use for judgment-items (altar), service-items (laver), and boundary-items (sockets, pins) illustrate the multifaceted nature of Christian response to salvation?

Interlinear Text

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| וְנַחַת שְׁתִּים | הַתְּנוּפָה הָיָה | שְׁבָעָה יָמִים | כֶּבֶשׂ רָאשָׁה | וְאֶלְף יָמִים | וְאֶרְבָּעָה |
| And the brass | of the offering | was seventy | talents | and two thousand | and four |
| H5178 | H8573 | H7657 | H3603 | H505 | H702 |

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