

# Exodus 39:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper: they were inclosed in ouches of gold in their inclosings.

## Analysis

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The fourth row—beryl (תַּרְשִׁישׁ, tarshish, aquamarine), onyx (שְׁׁהָם, shoham), and jasper (יָשְׁפֵּה, yashpheh)—completes the twelve. Each stone being 'inclosed in ouches of gold' (מִשְׁבְּצַת זָהָב, mishbetsot zahav, gold filigree settings) signifies that individual tribes exist within the golden framework of God's covenant. The gold settings prevent the stones from being lost, teaching eternal security—God preserves His elect. Jasper's opacity contrasts with beryl's translucence, showing tribal diversity. The breastplate's cumulative beauty prefigures Revelation 21:19-21, where the New Jerusalem's foundations bear precious stones.

## Historical Context

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Gold filigree settings (ouches) secured each stone and enhanced its beauty through contrast. This technique, well-developed in ancient metallurgy, ensured the stones remained in place despite the high priest's active ministry. The gold framework unified the diverse stones into a cohesive whole.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

### Study Questions

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1. How do gold settings 'holding' the stones illustrate God's sovereign preservation of His elect?
2. What does the New Jerusalem's gem-adorned foundations reveal about God's eternal purpose for His people?

### Interlinear Text

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מִסְבֵּת תְּבִשֵּׁבְתָּה וְבַטּוֹר  
row And the fourth a beryl an onyx and a jasper they were inclosed  
H2905 H7243 H8658 H7718 H3471 H4142

בְּמִלְאַתְּמָם: זֶבֶב מִשְׁבָּצָת  
in ouches of gold in their inclosings  
H4865 H2091 H4396

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