

Exodus 39:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he made the ephod of gold, blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen.

Analysis

The ephod's construction with gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine linen (ἵψιν, ephod) combines heaven's glory (blue), royalty (purple), sacrifice (scarlet), and righteousness (white linen). Bezalel's work fulfills God's exact pattern, teaching that acceptable worship requires divine prescription, not human innovation. The golden threads woven through colored fabrics symbolize deity permeating humanity—fulfilled when Christ, clothed in perfect righteousness, bore our sins. This garment enabled Aaron to bear the names of Israel on his shoulders (v. 7), prefiguring Christ who carries His people in strength (Isaiah 9:6).

Historical Context

The ephod, described in Exodus 28:6-14, served as the high priest's distinctive outer garment. Its construction after the golden calf apostasy (ch 32) demonstrates God's gracious restoration of priestly mediation. The skilled artisans' faithful execution contrasts sharply with their earlier crafting of the idol.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the ephod's specified materials teach that approaching God requires both divine glory and sacrificial covering?
2. What does Christ bearing believers' names on His shoulders reveal about the security of your salvation?

Interlinear Text

וַיַּעַשׂ	אֶת	הָאֵפֹד	זֶה	בָּ	תֵּכָהֶלֶת	וְאַרְגָּמָן	וְתוֹלַעַת	שָׁנִי
And he made		the ephod	of gold		blue	and purple	and scarlet	
H6213	H853	H646	H2091		H8504	H713	H8438	H8144
וְשֵׁשׁ	וְחֹשֶׁן							
linen	and fine twined							
H8336	H7806							

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 8:7 (Parallel theme): And he put upon him the coat, and girded him with the girdle, and clothed him with the robe, and put the ephod upon him, and he girded him with the curious girdle of the ephod, and bound it unto him therewith.

Exodus 25:7 (Parallel theme): Onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod, and in the breastplate.