

Exodus 39:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus was all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation finished: and the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did they.

Analysis

This verse marks completion: 'Thus was all the work of the tabernacle...finished' (וְתִּקְלַל, vatekhal, was completed—same verb as Genesis 2:1-2, creation's completion). The emphasis 'the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD commanded Moses' (matching Exodus 39:42-43; 40:16) teaches that faithful obedience brings completion. After the golden calf apostasy (ch 32), Israel's obedience here demonstrates restoration. This completion prefigures Christ's 'It is finished' (John 19:30)—redemption accomplished. The pattern followed exactly (no deviation) shows that God's design, not human innovation, governs worship.

Historical Context

The tabernacle's completion came nearly a year after Sinai (Exodus 19:1 to 40:17), including the golden calf incident's interruption. This completion vindicated the artisans' Spirit-empowered work (31:1-6; 35:30-35) and demonstrated that corporate repentance restored blessing.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Israel's complete obedience after the golden calf apostasy illustrate the possibility of restoration?
2. What does 'finished' in Exodus 39:32 and John 19:30 teach about God's completed redemptive work?

Interlinear Text

אָלָּא	כִּי	מִשְׁכָּן	תְּבוּנָה	כָּל	יָתַר	כָּל
finished	H3605	Thus was all the work	of the tabernacle	of the tent		
H3615		H5656		H4908		H168
מִשְׁעָד	עֲשָׂה	בְּנֵי	וְשָׁבָת	כָּל	וְשָׁבָת	אָשָׁר
of the congregation	did	and the children	of Israel	H3605	H3478	H834
H4150	H6213	H1121				
צִוָּה	הִתְצִוָּה	אֶת	מִשְׁמָה	כִּי	עֲשָׂה	
commanded	according to all that the LORD	H853	Moses	H3651	did	
H6680	H3068		H4872	H6213		

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 25:40 (Parallel theme): And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount.