

Exodus 39:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The hangings of the court, his pillars, and his sockets, and the hanging for the court gate, his cords, and his pins, and all the vessels of the service of the tabernacle, for the tent of the congregation,

Analysis

The courtyard hangings (קַלְעֵי הַחֶתֶר, qal'ei heChatser) with pillars, sockets, gate hanging, cords, and pins defined sacred space, separating tabernacle from common camp. The white linen hangings symbolized holiness/separation; the bronze sockets' durability indicated enduring boundaries. The gate's embroidered hanging (multicolored like priestly garments) taught that entry requires both holiness and mediation. All these 'vessels of service' enabled tabernacle function. Christ, the door (John 10:9), provides entry to God's dwelling; the church as God's temple (1 Corinthians 3:16) maintains holy separation.

Historical Context

The courtyard's 100 cubits by 50 cubits dimensions created substantial enclosed space, protecting the tabernacle proper while allowing many worshippers in the courtyard during sacrifices. The bronze sockets' weight (totaling over 7 tons) ensured the structure's stability despite desert winds.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How do the courtyard boundaries teach that God's holiness requires separation from common profanity?
2. What does Christ as the gate reveal about His exclusive role as the way to the Father?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵת אֶדְן יַבְּנֵת וְאֵת קָלְעֵת אֶת
H853 The hangings for the court H853 his pillars H853 and his sockets H853
H7050 H2691 H5982 H134

וְאֵת יִתְדַּת יַבְּנֵת לְשֵׁעָר הַמִּסְן
and the hanging gate for the court H853 his cords and his pins H853
H4539 H8179 H2691 H4340 H3489

לֹא כְּלֵי עֲבָדָת הַמִּשְׁאָל כְּלֵי
H3605 and all the vessels of the service of the tabernacle for the tent H168
H3627 H5656 H4908

מָועֵד:
of the congregation
H4150