

# Exodus 39:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

It was foursquare; they made the breastplate double: a span was the length thereof, and a span the breadth thereof, being doubled.

## Analysis

The breastplate's foursquare design (רָבָע, ravua, square), doubled for strength, with a 'span' (זָרֶת, zeret, about 9 inches) dimensions, creates space for twelve stones (v. 10-13). The perfect square symbolizes completeness and stability—God's covenant with the twelve tribes is balanced, secure, and comprehensive. The doubling provided a pocket for the Urim and Thummim (28:30), instruments of divine guidance. Geometric perfection in worship implements teaches that God orders His church with precision and purpose.

## Historical Context

A 'span' measured from thumb tip to little finger tip—approximately 9 inches—making this a substantial breastplate. The doubled design created a pouch for holding the Urim and Thummim. The square shape contrasted with irregular, asymmetric designs common in pagan religious objects.

## Related Passages

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

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

## Study Questions

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1. What does the breastplate's perfect square design reveal about God's ordered, purposeful covenant with His people?
2. How does the Urim and Thummim pocket teach us about seeking divine guidance in church leadership?

## Interlinear Text

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וְיָתַן	בְּחֵזֶק	בְּבָבָעַ	בְּנֵי הָעָם	כְּפָזֶل:	בְּנֵי הָעָם	בְּנֵי הָעָם	בְּנֵי הָעָם	בְּנֵי הָעָם	בְּנֵי הָעָם	בְּנֵי הָעָם	בְּנֵי הָעָם	בְּנֵי הָעָם
It was foursquare			H1961	double	they made	H853	the breastplate	a span				
H7251				H3717	H6213		H2833	H2239				

  

כְּפָזֶל:	בְּחֵזֶק	וְיָתַן	אֶרֶף וְ
was the length	a span	the breadth	double

  

H753	H2239	H7341	H3717

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