

Ezekiel 41:16

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The door posts, and the narrow windows, and the galleries round about on their three stories, over against the door, cieled with wood round about, and from the ground up to the windows, and the windows were covered;

Analysis

The door posts, and the narrow windows, and the galleries round about on their three stories—the architectural elements combine function and beauty. The challonot atumot (חַלּוֹנֹת אֲטוּמוֹת, narrow/recessed windows) provided light while maintaining privacy and security, allowing illumination without exposure to profane gaze.

Cieled with wood round about, and from the ground up to the windows—the Hebrew sechuphe etz (שְׁכַׁעַפְּה עֵץ, paneled with wood) recalls Solomon's temple's cedar and cypress paneling (1 Kings 6:15). Such costly adornment demonstrates that God deserves humanity's finest craftsmanship and materials. The church, as God's temple, should likewise pursue excellence in worship while remembering that true beauty is spiritual holiness (1 Peter 3:3-4).

Historical Context

Ancient temple architecture used narrow windows for security and climate control. Wood paneling in arid regions was extremely expensive, imported from Lebanon. The vision's lavish detail emphasizes God's worthiness of supreme honor.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How do you balance external excellence in worship with internal spiritual authenticity?
2. What does the costly adornment of God's dwelling place teach about giving Him your best rather than your leftovers?

Interlinear Text

סַבְּ יְבָםָה	וְאֲתִיקָה	יָמָן	בְּ אַטְמוֹת	וְאַפְלָגָה	וְתַּחַת	בְּ פָסָה
The door posts	and the windows	and the narrow	and the galleries	round about		
H5592	H2474	H331	H862	H5439		
לְשִׁלְשֶׁת	מִזְבֵּחַ	בְּ גָד	בְּ פָסָה	שְׁחִירָה	עַזְבֵּן	
on their three stories	over against	The door posts	cieled	with wood		
H7969	H5048	H5592	H7824	H6086		

round about	round about	and from the ground	H5704	and the windows
H5439	H5439	H776		H2474

וְכָלָן וְתִמְךָפּוֹת: and the windows were covered

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 6:4 (Parallel theme): And for the house he made windows of narrow lights.

Ezekiel 40:25 (Parallel theme): And there were windows in it and in the arches thereof round about, like those windows: the length was fifty cubits, and the breadth five and twenty cubits.

Ezekiel 40:16 (Parallel theme): And there were narrow windows to the little chambers, and to their posts within the gate round about, and likewise to the arches: and windows were round about inward: and upon each post were palm trees.

1 Kings 6:15 (Parallel theme): And he built the walls of the house within with boards of cedar, both the floor of the house, and the walls of the cieling: and he covered them on the inside with wood, and covered the floor of the house with planks of fir.

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