

Numbers 3:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the hangings of the court, and the curtain for the door of the court, which is by the tabernacle, and by the altar round about, and the cords of it for all the service thereof.

Analysis

The Gershonites' responsibility for the tabernacle courtyard hangings and gate emphasizes the importance of maintaining proper boundaries around sacred space. The courtyard separated common space from holy space, teaching Israel that approaching God required recognition of His transcendent holiness. Every cord and pin served a purpose in maintaining the structure's integrity, illustrating how seemingly minor faithful service matters in God's kingdom. No task in service of God's house is insignificant.

Historical Context

The courtyard hangings created a 100 cubit by 50 cubit enclosure (Exodus 27:9-18) using fine twisted linen suspended from bronze and silver pillars. This visible boundary reminded Israel that God was both accessible (having a dwelling among them) and holy (requiring proper approach through the priesthood and sacrifices). The east gate faced the sunrise, symbolizing God as the source of light and life.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How do proper boundaries in approaching God protect both His holiness and our spiritual wellbeing?
2. In what ways can you faithfully fulfill responsibilities that may seem small but contribute to the larger work of God's kingdom?

Interlinear Text

וְקַלְעֵי י	הַחֲצֵי ר	וְאֵת	מָסַךְ	פֶּתַח	הַחֲצֵי ר
And the hangings	of the court	H853	and the curtain	for the door	of the court
H7050	H2691		H4539	H6607	H2691
אֲשֶׁר	עַל	הַמִּשְׁכָּה	וְעַל	הַמִּזְבֵּחַ	סָבִיב
H834	H5921	which is by the tabernacle	H5921	and by the altar	round about
		H4908		H4196	H5439
וְאֵת	מִיתָבֵי יו	לְכָל ל	עֲבֹדָתוֹ:		
H853	and the cords	H3605	of it for all the service		
	H4340		H5656		

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 35:18 (Temple): The pins of the tabernacle, and the pins of the court, and their cords,