

Numbers 8:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And this work of the candlestick was of beaten gold, unto the shaft thereof, unto the flowers thereof, was beaten work: according unto the pattern which the LORD had shewed Moses, so he made the candlestick.

Analysis

The detailed description of the lampstand's craftsmanship—pure gold, hammered work, exact replication of the pattern shown to Moses—emphasizes that worship must follow divine revelation. The lampstand wasn't designed by human artistry but according to heavenly pattern. This teaches that true worship conforms to what God has shown us in His word, not what seems beautiful or meaningful to us. The Reformed doctrine of *sola scriptura* applies to worship—Scripture alone determines how we worship.

Historical Context

The pattern shown to Moses on Mount Sinai revealed heavenly realities. Hebrews later explains that the earthly tabernacle was a copy and shadow of heavenly things. The careful adherence to pattern meant that Israel's worship corresponded to eternal realities, not merely human religious impulses.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does the heavenly pattern inform our understanding of worship's significance?
2. What dangers arise when worship is designed according to human preference rather than divine revelation?
3. In what ways does New Testament worship fulfill the patterns revealed in the Old Testament?

Interlinear Text

מְעַשׂ הַזֶּה בְּמִנְבָּה: מְקֻשָּׁה בְּעַד זֶבַח

H2088 And this work of the candlestick thereof was beaten work gold H5704

H4639

H4501

H4749

H2091

עַד יְרֻכְּה מְקֻשָּׁה בְּנֵי אָהָרֹן

unto the shaft thereof unto the flowers thereof was beaten work H1931

H3409

H5704

H6525

H4749

H1931

מְשֻׁבְבָּה אֶת יְהוָה בְּמִרְאָה הַזֶּה

according unto the pattern had shewed which the LORD Moses H853

H4758

H834

H7200

H3068

H4872

בְּמִנְבָּה: מְעַשׂ הַזֶּה

so he made of the candlestick H4501

H3651

H853

H6213

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 25:18 (Parallel theme): And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat.

Exodus 25:9 (Parallel theme): According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

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