

# Song of Solomon 1:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

We will make thee borders of gold with studs of silver.

## Analysis

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The bridegroom (and perhaps companions) declares, **We will make thee borders of gold with studs of silver.** The Hebrew 'na'aseh-lakh torey zahav im neqquddot hakeseph' (נָאשֶׁה-לָךְ תּוֹרֵי זָהָב עִם נֶקְדּוֹת הַכְּסָף) promises to create ornaments of gold studded with silver. The plural 'we' may indicate the bridegroom speaking with royal plural or including companions who will assist in crafting gifts. The beloved promises to enhance the bride's existing beauty with even finer adornments —'borders of gold' (torey zahav, תּוֹרֵי זָהָב, gold filigree or chains) 'with studs of silver' (neqquddot hakeseph, נֶקְדּוֹת הַכְּסָף, silver beads or settings).

This verse celebrates the beloved's generous provision—he will adorn his bride with precious gifts, enhancing her beauty and demonstrating his love through costly presents. The move from the bride's current jewelry (verse 10) to promised finer ornaments shows progressive blessing and the beloved's desire to continually honor and beautify his bride. Spiritually, Christ promises to clothe His Church in ever-increasing glory—progressive sanctification leading to eschatological perfection. The gifts are costly (gold and silver) because the bride is precious beyond measure.

## Historical Context

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Ancient Near Eastern bridegrooms provided wedding gifts demonstrating their ability to provide for and honor their brides. Fine jewelry represented both wealth and affection—practical provision and symbolic treasure. The combination of gold and silver created beautiful contrast—precious metals worked with skilled

craftsmanship. Solomon's wealth made such promises credible—he had resources to provide lavish gifts. Early church fathers saw Christ promising to adorn His Church with spiritual gifts, graces, and ultimately resurrection glory. The Reformers emphasized that believers receive not only justification (legal declaration) but also sanctification (actual transformation)—Christ progressively adorns His Church with holiness. The Puritans taught that God gives spiritual gifts generously—'gold and silver' of grace, wisdom, love, and power. Modern readers see both literal marital application (husbands providing for and honoring wives) and spiritual reality (Christ's generous provision of every spiritual blessing in heavenly places, Ephesians 1:3).

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. What 'gold and silver' gifts has Christ given you—spiritual blessings, gifts, graces—that adorn your life and demonstrate His love?
2. How can husbands (and all believers) generously provide for and honor those they love, demonstrating covenant commitment through costly gifts?

## Interlinear Text

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thee borders	of gold	We will make	ל	ה	נְעָשָׂה	תֹּוךְ	תְּקִדְמָה
H8447	H2091	H6213	H0	H5973	H5351	H3701	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 149:4:** For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

**Philippians 3:21:** Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

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