

Beneath The Curtain-Wall

“And the sockets for the pillars were of brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver; and the overlaying of their chapters of silver; and all the pillars of the court were filleted with silver” (Exodus 38:17).

Beneath the vast city of London, and covering neighboring areas of Essex, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, is a network of gigantic tubes in which a complex rail system operates. The London Underground, as it has become known, claims 270 stations and nearly 250 miles of track, making it the longest metro system in the world by route length. With more than one billion passengers each year, it is the third busiest metro system in all of Europe.

Those who use the Tube daily learn their routes and make their connections easily. But when a mountain boy like me visits London, for a while the network can be a bit confusing. Unless you almost run with the other passengers from one station to another, you will probably miss your connecting train. Then you have to patiently wait on another train that is going to that same station. Believe me, I speak from experience!

Beneath the curtain-wall that enclosed the Tabernacle in the Wilderness was a series of connections. The sockets were connected to the pillars; the pillars were connected together by the fillets, or the rods; the hooks were connected to the fillets; and the curtain was connected or hung on the hooks. In type and shadow, these connections beneath the curtain-wall remind us that there are special redemptive connections with the righteousness of God.

The brazen sockets beneath the curtain-wall remind us of the condemnation evidenced in God’s righteous dealings with men! Forming a foundation for the pillars, the sockets, made of brass, speak of the judgment and condemnation that Christ endured. He was condemned that we might be wrapped in divine righteousness. God “made Him (Christ) to be sin for us, Who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him” (2 Corinthians 5:21).

The silver fillets and hooks beneath the curtain-wall remind us of the cost exacted in God’s righteous dealings with men! The silver with which these items were made came from “the atonement money” (Exodus 30:16), the ransom money the children of Israel were required to give. Typically, therefore, the silver fillets and hooks point us to the redemptive price of Christ’s death. Now we are “justified freely...through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Romans 3:24).

The pillars beneath the curtain-wall remind us of the conclusions essential in God’s righteous dealings with men! Although we are not told what material was used to make the pillars, we assume they were made of shittim (acacia wood), like other items in the Tabernacle. Strong enough to support the curtains, the pillars must represent the strong, conclusive purposes of God on which His righteousness hangs. Friend, nothing God purposes will fail in the deserts of life.

