

## EXODUS LESSON 62

We will begin this lesson in Exodus 38:1 “And he made the altar of burnt offering [of] shittim wood: five cubits [was] the length thereof, and five cubits the breadth thereof; [it was] foursquare; and three cubits the height thereof.” Exodus 38:2 “And he made the horns thereof on the four corners of it; the horns thereof were of the same: and he overlaid it with brass.”

I will stop right here and remind you that this brasen altar was just inside the outer court. Take a really good look at this, because it symbolizes all that Jesus did for us on the cross. This was the place of repentance. In the outer court, brass was used.

Exodus 38:3 “And he made all the vessels of the altar, the pots, and the shovels, and the basins, [and] the fleshhooks, and the firepans: all the vessels thereof made he [of] brass.” Exodus 38:4 “And he made for the altar a brasen grate of network under the compass thereof beneath unto the midst of it.” Exodus 38:5 “And he cast four rings for the four ends of the grate of brass, [to be] places for the staves.” Exodus 38:6 “And he made the staves [of] shittim wood, and overlaid them with brass.” Exodus 38:7 “And he put the staves into the rings on the sides of the altar, to bear it withal; he made the altar hollow with boards.” Exodus 38:8 “And he made the laver [of] brass, and the foot of it [of] brass, of the looking glasses of [the women] assembling, which assembled [at] the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.”

This altar and this laver were in the outer court, as we mentioned before. We see something very special in verse 8 above. The women brought their mirrors to be used in the outer court. For a woman to give her mirror was a great act of humility and sacrifice on her part. Here, again, we know this offering would be used in the outer court where all the Israelites could come.

Exodus 38:9 “And he made the court: on the south side southward the hangings of the court [were of] fine twined linen, an hundred cubits:” Exodus 38:10 “Their pillars [were] twenty, and their brasen sockets twenty; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets [were of] silver.” Exodus 38:11 “And for the north side [the hangings were] an hundred cubits, their pillars [were] twenty, and their sockets of brass twenty; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets [of] silver.”

We see clearly that this enclosure was not the same as the tabernacle where the Holy Place and Holy of Holies were. This area was available to the congregation. We do see the curtains of linen (righteousness) which separates even this area from the outside world. This was an area where anyone seeking salvation could come. This was why we see brass and silver in the outer court, brass for repentance and silver for redemption.

Exodus 38:12 “And for the west side [were] hangings of fifty cubits, their pillars ten, and their sockets ten; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets [of] silver.” Exodus 38:13 “And for the east side eastward fifty cubits.” Exodus 38:14 “The hangings of the one side [of the gate were] fifteen cubits; their pillars three, and their sockets three.” Exodus 38:15 “And for the other side of the court gate, on this hand and that hand, [were] hangings of fifteen cubits; their pillars three, and their sockets three.” Exodus 38:16 “All the hangings of the court round about [were] of fine twined linen.” Exodus 38:17 “And the sockets for the pillars [were of] brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets [of] silver; and the overlaying of their chapiters [of] silver; and all the pillars of the court [were] filleted with silver.” Exodus 38:18 “And the hanging for the gate of the court [was] needlework, [of] blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen: and twenty cubits [was] the length, and the height in the breadth [was] five cubits, answerable to the hangings of the court.” Exodus 38:19 “And their pillars [were] four, and their sockets [of] brass four; their hooks [of] silver, and the overlaying of their chapiters and their fillets [of] silver.” Exodus 38:20 “And all the pins of the tabernacle, and of the court round about, [were of] brass.”

The one thing that stands out so clearly in all of this was that every detail had been closely adhered to. We see that God had chosen well the people to do this work. He had chosen people who would follow His plan to the letter. To see an explanation of the meanings of all of this, read through the earlier lessons. In all of this beautiful description of the enclosure, we can see the world looking at the church as a separated people. We, also, can see the church beckoning the world to come and see. All the world could see was the linen enclosure. This linen depicts

righteousness. Is that what the world sees when they look at you? If you are a Christian, you are the church. God's grace through Jesus separates the believers from the world.

Exodus 38:21 "This is the sum of the tabernacle, [even] of the tabernacle of testimony, as it was counted, according to the commandment of Moses, [for] the service of the Levites, by the hand of Ithamar, son to Aaron the priest."

This was speaking of the totality of the tabernacle being exactly as Moses had commanded them from God. It was interesting that the Levites were to be the ministers, here, through Ithamar, not Nadab or Abihu. We will see Moses placing on record all of the metals used in the preparation of the tabernacle and enclosure. This tabernacle was made for everyone. The mention of the Levites, here, just meant that their family would be the priests who conducted the administration of the services.

Exodus 38:22 "And Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made all that the LORD commanded Moses."

We see, here, that this man Bezaleel, who was chosen by the Lord from total obscurity, had done the job well that God had called him to do. It was as if his sole purpose for living was to build the tabernacle.

Exodus 38:23 "And with him [was] Aholiab, son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, an engraver, and a cunning workman, and an embroiderer in blue, and in purple, and in scarlet, and fine linen."

We see, here, for the first time that Aholiab was chosen for his special gifts as an engraver and worker with materials.

Exodus 38:24 "All the gold that was occupied for the work in all the work of the holy [place], even the gold of the offering, was twenty and nine talents, and seven hundred and thirty shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary."

A talent is estimated to weigh 125 lbs. Metal weight is 12 ozs. to a lb., so we see here that 1 talent was 1500 ozs. We see here that there was 43,500 ozs. of gold. At today's price of about \$400 per oz. you can easily see that these gold talents would be worth by our standards \$17,400,000.00. Seventeen million four hundred thousand dollars worth of gold seems to be a lot, but you must remember there were an estimated 3 million people on this journey. This gold offering would be less than \$10 per person. Egypt had been made wealthy by the Lord through Joseph. When the famine came, the wealthy of many countries came to Egypt to buy food. Now, these Hebrews had brought much of it with them into the wilderness. One shekel weighed approximately 10 dwt. Twenty dwt. makes up an ounce. This shekel, I assume, is a small gold 1/2 oz. piece. Seven hundred thirty shekels would be 365 ozs. of gold. Figuring at \$400 an ounce, we would see that these 365 small gold shekels would amount to \$146,000.00. We see then a total of seventeen million four hundred thirty six thousand dollars gold value was used.

Exodus 38:25 "And the silver of them that were numbered of the congregation [was] an hundred talents, and a thousand seven hundred and threescore and fifteen shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary:"

This figures out to be 150,000 ounces of silver in the 100 talents. Figuring silver at \$5. per oz., these talents of silver would be worth by our standards \$750,000.00. We see here, also, that there were 1,775 shekels of silver which was 887 1/2 ozs. of silver. At \$5. per oz., this would figure \$4,437.50. The total value of the silver was \$754,437.50.

Exodus 38:26 "A bekah for every man, [that is], half a shekel, after the shekel of the sanctuary, for every one that went to be numbered, from twenty years old and upward, for six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty [men]."

We see here that the men over 20 years old who went up to be numbered were 603,550. There was 1/4 oz. of silver for each man. This bekah was, perhaps, a very small coin. This was just an explanation of verse 25 since the amount is the same \$754,437.50. Perhaps this was saying, that each man 20 years old or older brought 1/4 oz. of silver to the temple, and this was where all of the silver came from in verse 25.

Exodus 38:27 "And of the hundred talents of silver were cast the sockets of the sanctuary, and the sockets of the veil; an hundred sockets of the hundred talents, a talent for a socket."

Remember, these sockets were next to the ground, and they were what the boards of the walls sat on. As we said before, the silver symbolically means redemption. There was redemption between the sinful earth and God who dwelled in the Holy of Holies. A talent was 125 lbs., so this also helped stabilize the framework.

Exodus 38:28 “And of the thousand seven hundred seventy and five shekels he made hooks for the pillars, and overlaid their chapiters, and filleted them.”

These hooks weighed ½ oz. This was what held the curtains together.

Exodus 38:29 “And the brass of the offering [was] seventy talents, and two thousand and four hundred shekels.”

These 70 talents of brass weighed 8,750 lbs. In addition, there was 2,400 shekels which weighed 1,200 ozs. or 100 lbs. The total weight of the brass was 8,850 lbs.

Exodus 38:30 “And therewith he made the sockets to the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the brasen altar, and the brasen grate for it, and all the vessels of the altar,” Exodus 38:31 “And the sockets of the court round about, and the sockets of the court gate, and all the pins of the tabernacle, and all the pins of the court round about.”

We see here, again, that the brass was used in the outer enclosure.

## Exodus 62 Questions

1. Where was the brasen altar located?
2. What did the brasen altar symbolize?
3. What did it specifically say the women brought that was a personal item of theirs?
4. What did the curtains of linen symbolize?
5. Why do we see brass and silver in the outer court?
6. What shows us that God had chosen well the people to do this work?
7. If you are a Christian, you are what?
8. What tribe would minister in the tabernacle?
9. Which one of Aaron's sons was singled out for work in the sanctuary?
10. Who was in charge of all the work?
11. What does the fact that God picked such an unknown man to do this job make you think about his life?
12. Why was Aholiab chosen as an assistant?
13. How much does a talent weigh (estimated)?
14. How does metal weight differ from a regular pound?
15. How much is 29 talents?
16. At today's price of \$400 per oz., how much would 29 talents amount to?
17. Where did Egypt get all of this gold?
18. What does a shekel weigh?
19. 730 shekels would be how many ounces?
20. What was the present value of 730 shekels figuring at \$400 gold?
21. What would be the present value of all the gold used in the tabernacle and enclosure?
22. How many ozs. of silver is 100 talents?
23. At present day price of \$5 per oz., how much total silver was used in the building of the temple and enclosure?
24. How many men over 20 years old went up to be numbered?
25. What was a bekah?
26. 70 talents of brass weighed what?
27. How many total lbs. of brass were used?
28. Where was the brass used?→

## EXODUS LESSON 63

We will begin this lesson in Exodus 39:1 “And of the blue, and purple, and scarlet, they made cloths of service, to do service in the holy [place], and made the holy garments for Aaron; as the LORD commanded Moses.”

This and the rest of Chapter 39 is in detail about the priest’s garments. We dealt with this in chapter 28 of Exodus, and so, we will not go into very much detail here.

Exodus 39:2 “And he made the ephod [of] gold, blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen.” Exodus 39:3 “And they did beat the gold into thin plates, and cut [it into] wires, to work [it] in the blue, and in the purple, and in the scarlet, and in the fine linen, [with] cunning work.”

We will just touch again on a few small points of interest. The gold was hammered, and cut very fine like thread, and woven into this beautiful dyed linen. The gold would give it brilliance. This ephod was like a great big vest that the high priest wore. This was a very colorful, strikingly beautiful garment.

Exodus 39:4 “They made shoulderpieces for it, to couple [it] together: by the two edges was it coupled together.” Exodus 39:5 “And the curious girdle of his ephod, that [was] upon it, [was] of the same, according to the work thereof; [of] gold, blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen; as the LORD commanded Moses.”

We spoke of this curious girdle before as being a side self-belt that kind of molded the garment into the high priest, as if to make the garment and high priest one.

Exodus 39:6 “And they wrought onyx stones enclosed in ouches of gold, graven, as signets are graven, with the names of the children of Israel.” Exodus 39:7 “And he put them on the shoulders of the ephod, [that they should be] stones for a memorial to the children of Israel; as the LORD commanded Moses.”

We see, here, two pieces of gold with onyx stones mounted in them. One was worn on each shoulder of the high priest. The names of 6 tribes of Israel were engraved in each of the two onyx stones; thus the high priest had all the 12 tribes of Israel on his shoulders.

Exodus 39:8 “And he made the breastplate [of] cunning work, like the work of the ephod; [of] gold, blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen.” Exodus 39:9 “It was foursquare; they made the breastplate double: a span [was] the length thereof, and a span the breadth thereof, [being] doubled.” Exodus 39:10 “And they set in it four rows of stones: [the first] row [was] a sardius, a topaz, and a carbuncle: this [was] the first row.” Exodus 39:11 “And the second row, an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond.” Exodus 39:12 “And the third row, a ligure, an agate, and an amethyst.” Exodus 39:13 “And the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper: [they were] enclosed in ouches of gold in their enclosings.”

This breastplate was 3 palms wide (span) and 3 palms long. It was doubled making a pocket in the middle. On the front, there were 12 pieces of gold attached to the vest in 4 rows of 3 each. Set in the gold were 12 precious stones, 1 for each tribe of Israel. Not only did the high priest have the people on his shoulders, but on his heart as well, as we see in verse 14.

Exodus 39:14 “And the stones [were] according to the names of the children of Israel, twelve, according to their names, [like] the engravings of a signet, every one with his name, according to the twelve tribes.” Exodus 39:15 “And they made upon the breastplate chains at the ends, [of] wreathen work [of] pure gold.” Exodus 39:16 “And they made two ouches [of] gold, and two gold rings; and put the two rings in the two ends of the breastplate.” Exodus 39:17 “And they put the two wreathen chains of gold in the two rings on the ends of the breastplate.” Exodus 39:18 “And the two ends of the two wreathen chains they fastened in the two ouches, and put them on the shoulderpieces of the ephod, before it.” Exodus 39:19 “And they made two rings of gold, and put [them] on the two ends of the breastplate, upon the border of it, which [was] on the side of the ephod inward.” Exodus 39:20 “And they made two [other] golden rings, and put them on the two sides of the ephod underneath, toward the forepart of it, over against the [other] coupling thereof, above the curious girdle of the ephod.” Exodus 39:21 “And they did bind the breastplate by his rings unto the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue, that it might be above the curious girdle of the ephod, and that the breastplate might not be loosed from the ephod; as the LORD commanded Moses.”

This was just telling how this breastplate was connected to the ephod by these chains. The chains being attached to hooks behind the breastplate kept the hooks from distracting from the beauty.

Exodus 39:22 “And he made the robe of the ephod [of] woven work, all [of] blue.” Exodus 39:23 “And [there was] an hole in the midst of the robe, as the hole of an habergeon, [with] a band round about the hole, that it should not rend.” Exodus 39:24 “And they made upon the hems of the robe pomegranates [of] blue, and purple, and scarlet, [and] twined [linen].” Exodus 39:25 “And they made bells [of] pure gold, and put the bells between the pomegranates upon the hem of the robe, round about between the pomegranates;” Exodus 39:26 “A bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate, round about the hem of the robe to minister [in]; as the LORD commanded Moses.”

We see, here, a beautiful robe for the high priest to minister in. At the bottom, there were alternated pomegranates and gold bells. The rest of it was just explaining how it was made.

Exodus 39:27 “And they made coats [of] fine linen [of] woven work for Aaron, and for his sons,” Exodus 39:28 “And a mitre [of] fine linen, and goodly bonnets [of] fine linen, and linen breeches [of] fine twined linen,” Exodus 39:29 “And a girdle [of] fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, [of] needlework; as the LORD commanded Moses.”

We see, here, more garments, these made for the high priest and the priests. Notice that even the priest had linen. Linen, remember, is symbolic of righteousness. The priests symbolize the Christians. We know by this that we must put on the righteousness of Christ. These breeches were for modesty. We have covered all of this in an earlier lesson.

Exodus 39:30 “And they made the plate of the holy crown [of] pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, [like to] the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD.” Exodus 39:31 “And they tied unto it a lace of blue, to fasten [it] on high upon the mitre; as the LORD commanded Moses.”

This is describing the beautiful headpiece of the high priest who proclaimed with this headpiece HOLINESS TO THE LORD. By it being on his forehead, it showed that it was on his mind continuously.

Exodus 39:32 “Thus was all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation finished: and the children of Israel did according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did they.”

This was a very strong statement. Not only did it make the statement that all of the work was done, but it said that it was done exactly as the plans were given to Moses by the Lord. No changes were made at all.

Exodus 39:33 “And they brought the tabernacle unto Moses, the tent, and all his furniture, his taches, his boards, his bars, and his pillars, and his sockets,” Exodus 39:34 “And the covering of rams’ skins dyed red, and the covering of badgers’ skins, and the veil of the covering,” Exodus 39:35 “The ark of the testimony, and the staves thereof, and the mercy seat,” Exodus 39:36 “The table, [and] all the vessels thereof, and the shewbread,” Exodus 39:37 “The pure candlestick, [with] the lamps thereof, [even with] the lamps to be set in order, and all the vessels thereof, and the oil for light,” Exodus 39:38 “And the golden altar, and the anointing oil, and the sweet incense, and the hanging for the tabernacle door,” Exodus 39:39 “The brasen altar, and his grate of brass, his staves, and all his vessels, the laver and his foot,” Exodus 39:40 “The hangings of the court, his pillars, and his sockets, and the hanging for the court gate, his cords, and his pins, and all the vessels of the service of the tabernacle, for the tent of the congregation,” Exodus 39:41 “The cloths of service to do service in the holy [place], and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and his sons’ garments, to minister in the priest’s office.” Exodus 39:42 “According to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so the children of Israel made all the work.”

We see here, again, a list of each item that was made. Moses had received the plans from God. God had called Bezaleel and Aholiab to do the actual oversight of the work, and now that this was finished, it had to be brought to Moses to examine each item to make sure that each detail had been carried out to the fullest.

Exodus 39:43 “And Moses did look upon all the work, and, behold, they had done it as the LORD had commanded, even so had they done it: and Moses blessed them.”

All of this work pleased Moses, because he saw that Aholiab and Bezaleel had done their job well. Now, Moses spoke a blessing on all the workers. This blessing was actually a blessing from God, but Moses was God’s agent and

the blessing spoken by Moses came from God. This blessing was for this world, but Moses, these workers, Bezaleel, and Aholiab would have great reward in heaven, as well.

## Exodus 63 Questions

1. What was the ephod made of?
2. What type of thread was it sewn with?
3. What was the ephod like?
4. How was it coupled together?
5. What was the curious girdle?
6. What were the onyx stones mounted in?
7. What was graven upon them?
8. Where were they worn?
9. What was the symbolic meaning of these two shoulder onyxes?
10. What was the breastplate made of?
11. How many stones were on the front of it?
12. What did they symbolize?
13. What was the shape of the breastplate?
14. What did this breastplate full of stones symbolize?
15. How was it attached to the garment?
16. What was around the hem of the robe?
17. What were Aaron's sons' coats made of?
18. What was the mitre?
19. What do the priests symbolize?
20. What was written upon the plate on the crown?
21. What did they do with all the items when they finished them?
22. How did Moses judge the work?
23. Where had the plans originally come from?
24. Who were the two overseers of the work?
25. What did Moses do fo

## EXODUS LESSON 64

We will begin this lesson in Exodus 40:1 “And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,” Exodus 40:2 “On the first day of the first month shalt thou set up the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation.”

This first month is approximately April on our calendar, so this was approximately April 1. I say approximately, because the Hebrews change months with the new moon. Here, we see after Moses' inspection of all the items, God told Moses to set up the tabernacle on the first day of Abib.

Exodus 40:3 “And thou shalt put therein the ark of the testimony, and cover the ark with the veil.”

The ark must not be open to public view. This ark was to be kept in the Holy of Holies, and no one could go into the Holy of Holies but the high priest. This beautiful veil kept the ark hidden.

Exodus 40:4 “And thou shalt bring in the table, and set in order the things that are to be set in order upon it; and thou shalt bring in the candlestick, and light the lamps thereof.” Exodus 40:5 “And thou shalt set the altar of gold for the incense before the ark of the testimony, and put the hanging of the door to the tabernacle.”

The Holy Place was 30 feet long and 15 feet wide. As we discussed in an earlier lesson, the candlestick, the table for the shewbread, and the altar of incense were all in the Holy Place. The Holy Place and the Holy of Holies made up the tabernacle. This tabernacle was forbidden to the congregation. They could only go into the outer enclosure. Read chapter 3 and 9 of Hebrews to see how this tabernacle was a miniature of the one in heaven.

Exodus 40:6 “And thou shalt set the altar of the burnt offering before the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation.” Exodus 40:7 “And thou shalt set the laver between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and shalt put water therein.” Exodus 40:8 “And thou shalt set up the court round about, and hang up the hanging at the court gate.”

Verses 6 through 8 were describing what was in the outer court, or outside enclosure. We find the altar of burnt offering and the laver with water, here, just inside the gate.

Exodus 40:9 “And thou shalt take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle, and all that [is] therein, and shalt hallow it, and all the vessels thereof: and it shall be holy.”

We see that even though these items were specifically made for the use of the tabernacle, they still needed to be dedicated to God by anointing them and setting them aside for this specific service.

Exodus 40:10 “And thou shalt anoint the altar of the burnt offering, and all his vessels, and sanctify the altar: and it shall be an altar most holy.” Exodus 40:11 “And thou shalt anoint the laver and his foot, and sanctify it.”

We see, here, that even though these items were not in the Holy Place or Holy of Holies, they still needed to be anointed and set aside for God’s service. This tells us that in our churches everything used in God’s service should be set aside and dedicated for this purpose. This includes small items, as well as large.

Exodus 40:12 “And thou shalt bring Aaron and his sons unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and wash them with water.”

There are several indications from this water. Aaron and his sons should be baptized (washed in water). This could also mean clean (free from sin). The high priest is symbolic of Jesus, and the priests are symbolic of all Christians.

Exodus 40:13 “And thou shalt put upon Aaron the holy garments, and anoint him, and sanctify him; that he may minister unto me in the priest’s office.”

Here, again, we see that not only the tabernacle and the items would be anointed, but the high priest would put on the garment of righteousness. He would carry the congregation on his shoulders and on his heart. His dedication would be forever. The anointing was to separate him for God.

Exodus 40:14 “And thou shalt bring his sons, and clothe them with coats:” Exodus 40:15 “And thou shalt anoint them, as thou didst anoint their father, that they may minister unto me in the priest’s office: for their anointing shall surely be an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations.”

We see, here, that these were set aside (anointed) people for God’s service. This was not a temporary priesthood, but was forever. Remember one more time, that the priests are symbolic of all the believers.

Exodus 40:16 “Thus did Moses: according to all that the LORD commanded him, so did he.”

This just meant that Moses anointed and dedicated all these people, the tabernacle, and all the items to the service of God.

Exodus 40:17 “And it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first [day] of the month, [that] the tabernacle was reared up.”

We see that it took a year to prepare, set up the tabernacle, and get everything dedicated.

Exodus 40:18 “And Moses reared up the tabernacle, and fastened his sockets, and set up the boards thereof, and put in the bars thereof, and reared up his pillars.” Exodus 40:19 “And he spread abroad the tent over the tabernacle, and put the covering of the tent above upon it; as the LORD commanded Moses.” Exodus 40:20 “And he took and put the testimony into the ark, and set the staves on the ark, and put the mercy seat above upon the ark:”

This was just explaining in detail that the silver sockets were set on the ground, the boards were stood upright in them, and the bars were put across to keep them upright, and then the tent material was draped over that and attached.

As we said, the ark of the covenant, which held the tables of stone, was put in the Holy of Holies; and the pure gold mercy seat was put on top of the ark.

Exodus 40:21 “And he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the veil of the covering, and covered the ark of the testimony; as the LORD commanded Moses.” Exodus 40:22 “And he put the table in the tent of the congregation, upon the side of the tabernacle northward, without the veil.” Exodus 40:23 “And he set the bread in order upon it before the LORD; as the LORD had commanded Moses.”

Now, that the tabernacle was built and all the vessels ready, Moses was setting it up properly as God had shown him. Even to the bread on the table of shewbread, it was set up. Every little detail had to be exact .

Exodus 40:24 “And he put the candlestick in the tent of the congregation, over against the table, on the side of the tabernacle southward.”

You can see that the candlestick was on the opposite side of the room from the table of shewbread.

Exodus 40:25 “And he lighted the lamps before the LORD; as the LORD commanded Moses.”

Once the light was lighted, it must never be allowed to go out. This was one of the important jobs of the priest: to keep this light burning perpetually. This Light was to never go out. We know that Jesus is the Light of the world. We, also, know that we, Christians, must keep this flame burning forever. We, too, must not allow the Light of Jesus to go out.

Exodus 40:26 “And he put the golden altar in the tent of the congregation before the veil.” Exodus 40:27 “And he burnt sweet incense thereon; as the LORD commanded Moses.”

Remember, this was just outside the Holy of Holies and was to be burned twice a day, morning and evening. This symbolizes the prayers of the saints.

Exodus 40:28 “And he set up the hanging [at] the door of the tabernacle.” Exodus 40:29 “And he put the altar of burnt offering [by] the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation, and offered upon it the burnt offering and the meat offering; as the LORD commanded Moses.”

Here, again, we see Moses setting up the hanging for the tabernacle door. This altar of the burnt offering, as we have said a few times before, was outside the tent of the tabernacle in the enclosure. We see, here, Moses offering burnt and meat offerings just as the Lord had commanded him to do.

Exodus 40:30 “And he set the laver between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and put water there, to wash [withal].” Exodus 40:31 “And Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet thereat.” Exodus 40:32 “When they went into the tent of the congregation, and when they came near unto the altar, they washed; as the LORD commanded Moses.”

This washing was symbolic in one way. It showed how the minister of God had to stay clean from all world pollution. The literal use was, also, significant in that walking in sandals got the feet dirty. The hands had to be clean to keep all of this beautiful linen clean, as well. The ministers of the Lord today could see in this that their walk must be clean (holy), and that their ministering hands must be free of pollution, as well.

Exodus 40:33 “And he reared up the court round about the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the hanging of the court gate. So Moses finished the work.”

The court was the last thing to go up. Actually, part of its purpose was to shut out the world. “So Moses finished the work” needs no explanation.

Exodus 40:34 “Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.”

Now that Moses had dedicated the temple and followed all of God’s commands to the letter, we see God entered the Holy of Holies. The presence of God was in this cloud. This was the same cloud that the children of Israel followed in their wilderness wanderings. The Lord will not enter a polluted temple (then or now). This presence of the Lord was over the mercy seat.



Exodus 40:35 “And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.”

The close presence of God, as we have read all through this book, is a very dangerous place to be, unless the person in question is summoned by the Lord. The Lord was pleased with this temple, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. As long as this presence was there, Moses or no one else was to say it was time to go. The presence or absence of the Lord determined when it was time to move.

Exodus 40:36 “And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys.” Exodus 40:37 “But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up.” Exodus 40:38 “For the cloud of the LORD [was] upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.”

This cloud led the children of Israel, and they set the tabernacle and the court of the congregation wherever they stopped. In another study of a later book, we will study about building a permanent temple in Jerusalem to house this same ark of the covenant. David’s son, Solomon, would be called of God to do the task. For all the journeys of the Israelites the tabernacle and its court was their place to meet with God.

## Exodus 64 Questions

1. What month and day did the Lord tell Moses to set up the tabernacle?
2. In the author’s explanation of verse 1, why does she say the date was approximately?
3. What kept onlookers from gazing at the ark of the covenant?
4. Where was the ark to be placed?
5. Who was the only one who could enter there?
6. What kept the ark hidden?
7. Where was the table of shewbread placed?
8. Where was the candlestick placed?
9. How long and wide was the Holy Place?
10. Where was the altar of incense placed?
11. What made up the tabernacle?
12. What New Testament book has a great deal to say about the tabernacle?
13. Where was the altar of the burnt offering to be set?
14. Name 2 things that were found in the outer court.
15. What was Moses to anoint?
16. What does anointing do?
17. What does all of these items being anointed, tell us about our churches today?
18. What was Moses to do to Aaron and his sons at the door of the tabernacle?
19. What is one spiritual meaning we might see in all of the washing?
20. What was Moses to do to them next?
21. What was said about the priesthood?
22. How long had it taken to get everything ready?
23. As soon as the candlestick was in its right place, what did Moses do?
24. How long was this light to burn?
25. What was to be burned on the golden altar inside the tent?
26. How often?
27. What did the washing of the feet and hands of the priest symbolize?
28. What was part of the purpose of the enclosure?
29. When the Lord saw that Moses had finished it, what did the Lord do?
30. How did the people know when the Lord was in the tabernacle?
31. When were the children of Israel allowed to move?→