

The Tabernacle: Heaven on Earth – part 1

Exodus Chapter 25

Exd 25:1 **1) The Supplies** v. 1 - 9

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

- Moses is up on the mountain. He has left Aaron and Hur in charge. God's glory has come upon the mountain top and from the Israelite's position it looks like a raging fire. Moses will be gone for 40 days and 40 nights.
- God will tell him to go back down because there is trouble. (Chapter 32)
- Moses goes back up for 40 more days **Chapter 34:24** "And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments." That is 80 Days total.
- In the first 40 days God will be showing him the heavenly tabernacle to make a model of it on earth. (see end of last chapter)
- It is interesting that God tells us about the creation of the earth in 2 chapters. The Bible takes 50 chapters to tell us about the tabernacle. To give you some idea of how much that is, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, II Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, 1 Peter, and 2 Peter are 50 chapters.
- This gives us some idea of how important the tabernacle is.

Exd 25:2 "Tell the sons of Israel to raise a contribution for Me; from every man whose heart moves him you shall raise My contribution.

- The Lord wanted Israel to be the source of provision for the materials.
- The contribution is from all whose heart is moved to give.
 - The primary motivation for the giving is not the need, it is the willingness.
- "A contribution for Me" - God can create anything He desires. What he is trying to create is a willing heart.
- 2 Corinthians 9:7 "So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."

Exd 25:3 "This is the contribution which you are to raise from them: gold, silver and bronze,

Exd 25:4 blue, purple and scarlet {material,} fine linen, goat {hair,}

Exd 25:5 rams' skins dyed red, porpoise skins, acacia wood,

- Blue = Takhalet from the sea snail.
- Porpoise skins could be sea cows, badger skin - no one really knows.

Exd 25:6 oil for lighting, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense,

Exd 25:7 onyx stones and setting stones for the ephod and for the breastpiece.

- Where did these children of Israel get these things. God allows Israel collect these things as spoils as during the Exodus from Egypt.
- Scholars have calculated the tabernacle costing a present day value of \$13 million dollars

Exd 25:8 "Let them construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them.

Exd 25:9 "According to all that I am going to show you, {as} the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furniture, just so you shall construct {it.}

- The purpose is that God would dwell with men. Not that he has a tent.
- There is a cost or a value to God dwelling with man.
- As we looked at the end of chapter 24 we have seen that this tabernacle being built is a type or pattern Moses sees in heaven.
 - Hebrews 8:4-5 "there are those who offer the gifts according to the Law; who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses was warned {by God} when he was about to erect the tabernacle;"



"They shall construct an ark of acacia wood two and a half cubits long, and one and a half cubits wide, and one and a half cubits high.

- A cubit is 18 inches long
- The ark is 42" long x 27" wide x 27" tall (3' 9" x 2' 3" x 2' 3")

Exd 25:11 "You shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and out you shall overlay it, and you shall make a gold molding around it.

- This is a box without a lid and covered with gold inside and out. With decorative edging on it

Exd 25:12 "You shall cast four gold rings for it and fasten them on its four feet, and two rings shall be on one side of it and two rings on the other side of it.

Exd 25:13 "You shall make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold.

Exd 25:14 "You shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to carry the ark with them.

- The poles were used to carry the ark.
- 2 Samuel 6:6-7 - Uzzah reached out and touched the ark to steady it on the ox cart. He immediately dropped dead.

Exd 25:15 "The poles shall remain in the rings of the ark; they shall not be removed from it.

Exd 25:16 "You shall put into the ark the testimony which I shall give you.

- The two stone tablets will go in the ark.
- Eventually some manna will go in it as well as Aarons budded rod. (Hebrews 9:4)

Exd 25:17 "You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold, two and a half cubits long and one and a half cubits wide.

- This lid is made of pure gold as a lid. This is not wood then overlaid with gold but pure gold.
- Joe Focht says "if this was 1 inch thick it would weigh 700 lbs."

Exd 25:18 "You shall make two cherubim of gold, make them of hammered work at the two ends of the mercy seat.

Exd 25:19 "Make one cherub at one end and one cherub at the other end; you shall make the cherubim {of one piece} with the mercy seat at its two ends.

Exd 25:20 "The cherubim shall have {their} wings spread upward, covering the mercy seat with their wings and facing one another; the faces of the cherubim are to be {turned} toward the mercy seat.

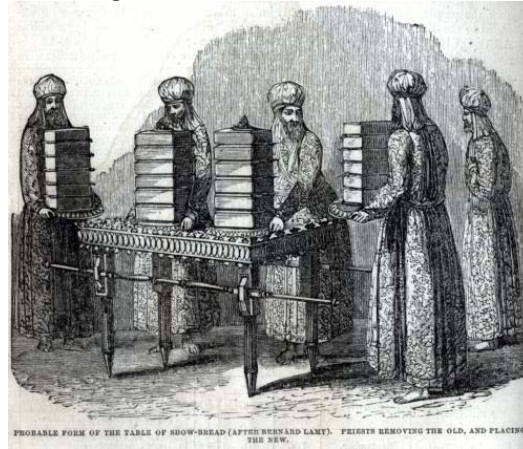
Exd 25:21 "You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the testimony which I will give to you.

Exd 25:22 "There I will meet with you; and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony, I will speak to you about all that I will give you in commandment for the sons of Israel.

- Leviticus 16:14-15 Once a year the High Priest would enter the tabernacle and sprinkle blood on the Ark of the Covenant and meet God. This day is the Day of Atonement.
- Even before the tablets were given to Moses, God has provided a Mercy Seat for sin to be atoned for by blood.
- In Romans 3:23-25 "*all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. {This was} to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed"*
 - The word for propitiation is the same word used in the Septuagint (Greek Old Testament) when it speaks of the mercy seat
 - With that information we can insert the words "mercy seat" into the Romans passage and then it would be telling us that "Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a mercy seat in His blood for us"

Exd 25:23 **2) Instructions for building the Table of Showbread** v. 23 - 30

JESUS



PROBABLE FORM OF THE TABLE OF SHOW-BREAD (AFTER BERNARD LAMY). PRIESTS REMOVING THE OLD, AND PLACING THE NEW.

"You shall make a table of acacia wood, two cubits long and one cubit wide and one and a half cubits high.

- A cubit is 18 inches long
- The Table of Showbread is 36" x 18" x 27" (3' x 1 1/2' x 1' 3")
- It too will be overlaid with gold and have poles to carry it.

Exd 25:24 "You shall overlay it with pure gold and make a gold border around it.

Exd 25:25 "You shall make for it a rim of a handbreadth around {it;} and you shall make a gold border for the rim around it.

Exd 25:26 "You shall make four gold rings for it and put rings on the four corners which are on its four feet.

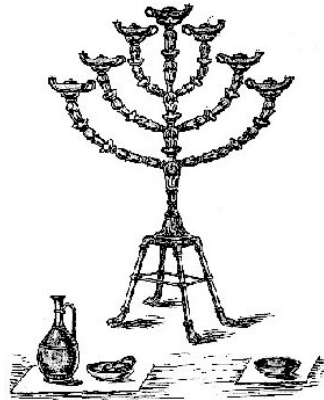
Exd 25:27 "The rings shall be close to the rim as holders for the poles to carry the table.

Exd 25:28 "You shall make the poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold, so that with them the table may be carried.

Exd 25:29 "You shall make its dishes and its pans and its jars and its bowls with which to pour drink offerings; you shall make them of pure gold.

Exd 25:30 "You shall set the bread of the Presence on the table before Me at all times.

- On this table shall be bread. Jewish tradition says this bread is unleavened and perforated.
- Leviticus 24:5-8 "*And thou shalt take fine flour, and bake twelve cakes thereof: two tenth deals shall be in one cake. And thou shalt set them in two rows, six on a row, upon the pure table before the LORD. And thou shalt put pure frankincense upon [each] row, that it may be on the bread for a memorial, [even] an offering made by fire unto the LORD. Every sabbath he shall set it in order before the LORD continually, [being taken] from the children of Israel by an everlasting covenant."*



"Then you shall make a lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand {and} its base and its shaft are to be made of hammered work; its cups, its bulbs and its flowers shall be {of one piece} with it.

- KJV uses "candlestick" There were no candles. The use of oil burning lamps were the norm.
- This Lampstand is pure one piece gold.
- No dimensions given for the lampstand but in verse 40 it was made according to what Moses was shown.

Exd 25:32 "Six branches shall go out from its sides; three branches of the lampstand from its one side and three branches of the lampstand from its other side.

Exd 25:33 "Three cups {shall be} shaped like almond {blossoms} in the one branch, a bulb and a flower, and three cups shaped like almond {blossoms} in the other branch, a bulb and a flower--so for six branches going out from the lampstand;

Exd 25:34 and in the lampstand four cups shaped like almond {blossoms,} its bulbs and its flowers.

- It is interesting to note that the 3 stages of growth is on these branches
 - A Bud
 - A Flower
 - An Almond

Exd 25:35 "A bulb shall be under the {first} pair of branches {coming} out of it, and a bulb under the {second} pair of branches {coming} out of it, and a bulb under the {third} pair of branches {coming} out of it, for the six branches coming out of the lampstand.

Exd 25:36 "Their bulbs and their branches {shall be of one piece} with it; all of it shall be one piece of hammered work of pure gold.

Exd 25:37 "Then you shall make its lamps seven {in number;} and they shall mount its lamps so as to shed light on the space in front of it.

- In this holy place the only source of light is this lampstand.

Exd 25:38 "Its snuffers and their trays {shall be} of pure gold.

Exd 25:39 "It shall be made from a talent of pure gold, with all these utensils.

Exd 25:40 "See that you make {them} after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain.

- Revelation 4:5 tells us that a lampstand is before the throne of God and is the Spirit of God

Tabernacle

