

The Tabernacle: Heaven on Earth – part 2

Exodus Chapter 26

Exd 26:1

1) Fine Linen
Curtains

1) The Four Curtains v. 1 - 14

"Moreover you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twisted linen and blue and purple and scarlet {material;} you shall make them with cherubim, the work of a skillful workman.

- Moses is told to make ten curtain strips that are made of FINE LINEN.
- They have specific colors (blue, purple and scarlet - Royalty, Divinity) Cherubim are woven in them.

Exd 26:2

"The length of each curtain shall be twenty-eight cubits, and the width of each curtain four cubits; all the curtains shall have the same measurements.

- There are 10 curtain strips are 42' x 6'

Exd 26:3

"Five curtains shall be joined to one another, and {the other} five curtains {shall be} joined to one another.

Exd 26:4

"You shall make loops of blue on the edge of the outermost curtain in the {first} set, and likewise you shall make {them} on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in the second set.

Exd 26:5

"You shall make fifty loops in the one curtain, and you shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is in the second set; the loops shall be opposite each other.

Exd 26:6

"You shall make fifty clasps of gold, and join the curtains to one another with the clasps so that the tabernacle will be a unit.

- On each curtain strip there is 50 loops on one side then 50 clasps on the other side
- The clasps and the loops of all ten strips will be fastened to make one covering
- The size of the entire FINE LINEN curtain is 42' by 60'
- The frame of the tabernacle is 15' Height x 15' Width x 45' Long. So the curtain would fit 1 cubit short of the ground on three sides and on the front the do is a different material.

Exd 26:7

2) Goat Hair
Curtains

"Then you shall make curtains of goats' {hair} for a tent over the tabernacle; you shall make eleven curtains in all.

Exd 26:8

"The length of each curtain {shall be} thirty cubits, and the width of each curtain four cubits; the eleven curtains shall have the same measurements.

- Moses is told to make 11 curtains made of GOATS HAIR. (Course, Black)
- There are 11 curtain strips each measures 45' x 6'

Exd 26:9

"You shall join five curtains by themselves and the {other} six curtains by themselves, and you shall double over the sixth curtain at the front of the tent.

Exd 26:10

"You shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in the {first} set, and fifty loops on the edge of the curtain {that is outermost in} the second set.

Exd 26:11

"You shall make fifty clasps of bronze, and you shall put the clasps into the loops and join the tent together so that it will be a unit.

- With a similar looping and clasping system (except being brass not gold) the 11 curtains are fastened together
- The entire GOATS HAIR curtain size is 45' x 66'

Exd 26:12

"The overlapping part that is left over in the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that is left over, shall lap over the back of the tabernacle.

Exd 26:13

"The cubit on one side and the cubit on the other, of what is left over in the length of the curtains of the tent, shall lap over the sides of the tabernacle on one side and on the other, to cover it.

- With this over the frame this material will run to the ground on three sides and on the front will fold a length back on itself.
- Goats hair would make or an insulation between the outer coverings and the Fine Linen coverings

Exd 26:14 "You shall make a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red and a covering of porpoise skins above.

3) Ram Skin
Curtains

4) Porpoise
Skin Curtains

- Two more sets of curtains are made from a thicker, stronger material for protection from the elements. (one piece not with a clap and loop system)
- Porpoise may be badger skin or sea cow
- Two items of note:
 - These four layers make the inside of the tabernacle extremely dark. Only the light from the Lampstand will provide the necessary light for this holy place.
 - The outer skins are not very pretty. They serve a purpose but the beauty is found deep within.
- We are the tabernacle of God and our beauty is found within more so that outward appearances.
 - 1 Corinthians 6:19 "do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?"
 - 2 Corinthians 4:16 "though our outward man perish, yet the inward [man] is renewed day by day."

Exd 26:15 2) The Frame v. 15 - 30

"Then you shall make the boards for the tabernacle of acacia wood, standing upright.

Exd 26:16 "Ten cubits {shall be} the length of each board and one and a half cubits the width of each board.

- In making the frame, the acacia boards are a dimension of 15' long x 2 ¼' wide
- Verse 29 tells us that these boards will be overlaid with gold.

Exd 26:17 "{There shall be} two tenons for each board, fitted to one another; thus you shall do for all the boards of the tabernacle.

Exd 26:18 "You shall make the boards for the tabernacle: twenty boards for the south side.

- For the south side 20 of these boards are made. 2 ¼' x 20 boards = 45 feet.
- The south wall is 45' long by 15' tall.
- Tenons were a mortise joint or tab that would fix each board to a footing (socket) so it could stand upright. Each board had these tenons.
- If the you or I were the boards in the church we would have these tenons to be stood upright by the sockets (stands). The boards with tenons cannot stand by themselves they require the sockets (stands)

Exd 26:19 "You shall make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards, two sockets under one board for its two tenons and two sockets under another board for its two tenons;

Exd 26:20 and for the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side, twenty boards,

Exd 26:21 and their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board and two sockets under another board.

- Each board there were 2 sockets made. These sockets were the stands that the tenons went into so the board could stand erect.
- These sockets (stands) were made of silver. Silver was the currency used for redemption
 - Exodus 21 when an ox gores a slave. Redemption by 30 pieces of silver.
 - Lev 5:16-17 a guilt offering is made with a ram according to the value of silver
 - Deut 22:19 if a man shames a virgin he is fined 100 shekels of silver
 - Matthew 26:15 the chief priest weighed out 30 pieces of silver to Judas to betray Jesus
- David Guzik said of these silver sockets "The silver of redemption also separated the tabernacle from the dirt of the desert floor. Jesus' redeeming work separates us from the world."
- Same for the north wall.

Exd 26:22 "For the rear of the tabernacle, to the west, you shall make six boards.

Exd 26:23 "You shall make two boards for the corners of the tabernacle at the rear.

- The rear of the tabernacle is six boards 13 ½' but the remaining 15' is made up by the corner pieces.
- The tabernacle always faces east, so the back wall is on the west side.

- Exd 26:24 "They shall be double beneath, and together they shall be complete to its top to the first ring; thus it shall be with both of them: they shall form the two corners.
- Exd 26:25 "There shall be eight boards with their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board and two sockets under another board.
- Exd 26:26 "Then you shall make bars of acacia wood, five for the boards of one side of the tabernacle,
Exd 26:27 and five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle for the rear {side} to the west.
- Exd 26:28 "The middle bar in the center of the boards shall pass through from end to end.
- Exd 26:29 "You shall overlay the boards with gold and make their rings of gold {as} holders for the bars; and you shall overlay the bars with gold.
- Bars are made to pass through the rings so the individual bars could become one sturdy wall.
 - If you or I were the boards in the church we would have these bars to be joined to one another. Every board has these bars that what makes a board a wall. It accomplished more than it could by itself because of being joined to one another. These bars would be the individual discipline and love for one another that would bring unity. Every board has rings that receive discipline and love to strengthen the wall.
- Exd 26:30 "Then you shall erect the tabernacle according to its plan which you have been shown in the mountain.

Exd 26:31 **3) The Veil** v. 31 - 35

"You shall make a veil of blue and purple and scarlet {material} and fine twisted linen; it shall be made with cherubim, the work of a skillful workman.

- The Veil is the barrier that separates the Holy of Holies from the rest of the tabernacle
- Interesting to note, the Holy of Holies is always a cube
 - The Tabernacle 15' x 15' x 15' (Exodus 26)
 - Solomon's Temple 30' x 30' x 30' (1 Kings 6:20)
 - City of God 1500 miles x 1500 miles x 1500 miles (Revelation 21:16)
- This Veil will be placed 30 feet from the front leaving 15 feet for the Holy of Holies.
- Like the curtains the veil is blue purple & Scarlet with cherubim woven in. The ancient Jews said the later veil of the temple was as wide as four fingers, so that no one could possibly see into the Most Holy place.
- The Lord is calling for the skilled workmen. It is interesting the kinds of laborers required for this tabernacle. (Cabinet makers, carpenters, goldsmiths, silversmiths, seamstresses, weavers, installers)

Exd 26:32 "You shall hang it on four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold, their hooks {also being of} gold, on four sockets of silver.

Exd 26:33 "You shall hang up the veil under the clasps, and shall bring in the ark of the testimony there within the veil; and the veil shall serve for you as a partition between the holy place and the holy of holies.

Exd 26:34 "You shall put the mercy seat on the ark of the testimony in the holy of holies.

Exd 26:35 "You shall set the table outside the veil, and the lampstand opposite the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south; and you shall put the table on the north side.

- The Veil is the barrier that only the High Priest could enter once a year (on the Day of Atonement) to sprinkle the sacrifice blood on the mercy seat for the sin of Israel.
- Hebrews 9:12 "*not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.*"
- Matthew 27:50-51 "*And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth shook and the rocks were split.*"

- Hebrews 10:19-22 "Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, and since {we have} a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled {clean} from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water."

Exd 26:36 **4) The Screen** v. 36 - 37

"You shall make a screen for the doorway of the tent of blue and purple and scarlet {material} and fine twisted linen, the work of a weaver.

Exd 26:37 "You shall make five pillars of acacia for the screen and overlay them with gold, their hooks {also being of} gold; and you shall cast five sockets of bronze for them.

- The Screen is the only entrance to the Tabernacle. The screen uses the same color scheme as the 1st curtain and the veil. But here a weaver can build not a skilled workman.
- This screen is attached by the use of 5 pillars with sockets (stands) of bronze. (not silver)
- David Guzik "Since bronze (or brass) must be made with a refining fire, it pictures purity and endurance through trial. The entrance to the tabernacle hung on a symbolic foundation of what Jesus did for us"

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