

# Given Work But Remember Rest

## Exodus Chapter 31

Exd 31:1 **1) Called** v. 1 - 5

Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Exd 31:2 "See, I have called by name Bezalel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah.

Exd 31:3 "I have filled him with the Spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all {kinds of} craftsmanship,

Exd 31:4 to make artistic designs for work in gold, in silver, and in bronze,

Exd 31:5 and in the cutting of stones for settings, and in the carving of wood, that he may work in all {kinds of} craftsmanship.

- Bezalel - means "in the shadow of God" *Named at birth to work on the tabernacle which is a shadow of things in heaven* (Amy Clutter)
- We do not know this guy. We haven't heard of him before. Bezalel is down at base camp with the rest of Israel.
- God told Moses "I HAVE called him." Scripture doesn't say how. Doesn't speak of a burning bush experience. It doesn't tell us how or what occurred.
- Called him BY NAME. Even though I do not know him. Maybe even Moses doesn't know him (God gave Moses his address- tribe of Judah, family of Hur, house hold of Uri) **God knows Him. God knows him by name.**
  - A name is more than what you call someone. A name speaks of character, personality, responsibility, as well as what you call someone.
- Spirit filled craftsman. He is just as anointed as the priests.
- What is given him:
  - Wisdom
  - Understanding
  - Knowledge
- For Building UP! **Ephesians 4:11-13** "And He gave some {as} apostles, and some {as} prophets, and some {as} evangelists, and some {as} pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, **to the building up of the body of Christ**; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ."

Exd 31:6 **2) Appointed** v. 6 - 11

"And behold, I Myself have appointed with him Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan; and in the hearts of all who are skillful I have put skill, that they may make all that I have commanded you:

Exd 31:7 the tent of meeting, and the ark of testimony, and the mercy seat upon it, and all the furniture of the tent,

Exd 31:8 the table also and its utensils, and the pure {gold} lampstand with all its utensils, and the altar of incense,

Exd 31:9 the altar of burnt offering also with all its utensils, and the laver and its stand,

Exd 31:10 the woven garments as well, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, {with which} to carry on their priesthood;

Exd 31:11 the anointing oil also, and the fragrant incense for the holy place, they are to make {them} according to all that I have commanded you."

- Oholiab - means "Father of the Tent" When was he appointed? Recently or did God know him from birth and moved his parents to name him "father of the tent" just for this moment, to help Bezalel .
- Not only Oholiab but others whom God put in their hearts skill.
- **God knows this guy's address too.** We have never heard of him, Moses may not know him But God does. **God even knows his heart.** God knows what is in his heart.

- Psalm 44:21 *"For He knows the secrets of the heart."*
- Colossians 3:23-24 *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."*
- What is given him:
- Skill (KJV *wisdom*)
- Bezalel was given wisdom, understanding and knowledge in various types of craftsmanship.
- Oholiab and others were given skill (wisdom) to make all that was commanded Moses.
- It is clear that there is a structure of oversight. Bezalel understands the work that needs to be done, and others have the gifts to do exactly what needs to be done.
- Both are clearly and equally selected by God. Both are important and vital to accomplish the goal.

Exd 31:12 **3) Observe** v. 12 - 18

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Exd 31:13 "But as for you, speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'You shall surely observe My sabbaths; for {this} is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you.

Exd 31:14 'Therefore you are to observe the sabbath, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people.

Exd 31:15 'For six days work may be done, but on the seventh day there is a sabbath of complete rest, holy to the LORD; whoever does any work on the sabbath day shall surely be put to death.

Exd 31:16 'So **the sons of Israel shall observe the sabbath**, to celebrate the sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant.'

Exd 31:17 "**It is a sign between Me and the sons of Israel forever**; for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, but on the seventh day He ceased {from labor,} and was refreshed."

- God tells Moses to tell all Israel to "KEEP THE SABBATHS"
  - The 7<sup>th</sup> day  
(the Day of Rest - Exo 20:8-11)  
They were not permitted,
    - a. Work (Exodus 20:10)
    - b. to leave their dwellings (Exodus 16:29),
    - c. nor kindle a fire throughout their habitations on the Sabbath day (Exodus 35:1-3).
  - Every 7<sup>th</sup> year  
(the land rests - it remains fallow (Lev 25:2-5)  
(the Lord's Release - All debts are forgiven Deut 15:1-3)
  - Every 50<sup>th</sup> year  
(Jubilee - the slate is wiped clean.) Everything starts over.
    - a. Slaves are released
    - b. land returned to families (Lev 25:10-13)
- Why Did God Bring up Sabbath Again?
- Because He just assigned work to be done. Our (man's) tendency is to do God's work and place so much importance on our assigned work that we will forget all else. Even Rest. Even Sabbath. Even time with God.
- *"Our rest in the finished work of Jesus is never to be eclipsed by our work for God. When workers for God are burnt-out, they have almost always allowed their work for God to be bigger in their minds than His work for them."* (Guzik)

- Sabbath Keeping
  - Between God and Israel Verse 16 and Verse 17 not the church
  - Romans 14:5-6 *"One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day [alike]. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind. He that regardeth the day, regardeth [it] unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard [it]. He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks; and he that eateth not, to the Lord he eateth not, and giveth God thanks."*
  - Colossians 2:16-17 *"Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath [days]: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of Christ."*

Exd 31:18 When He had finished speaking with him upon Mount Sinai, He gave Moses the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written by the finger of God.

- God finally gives the commandments to Moses. After Forty Days.
- The phrase "carved in stone" give us the picture of unchanging, permanent. This is the will the plan of God and it is unchanging.
- Malachi 3:6 *"For I, the LORD, do not change;"*

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