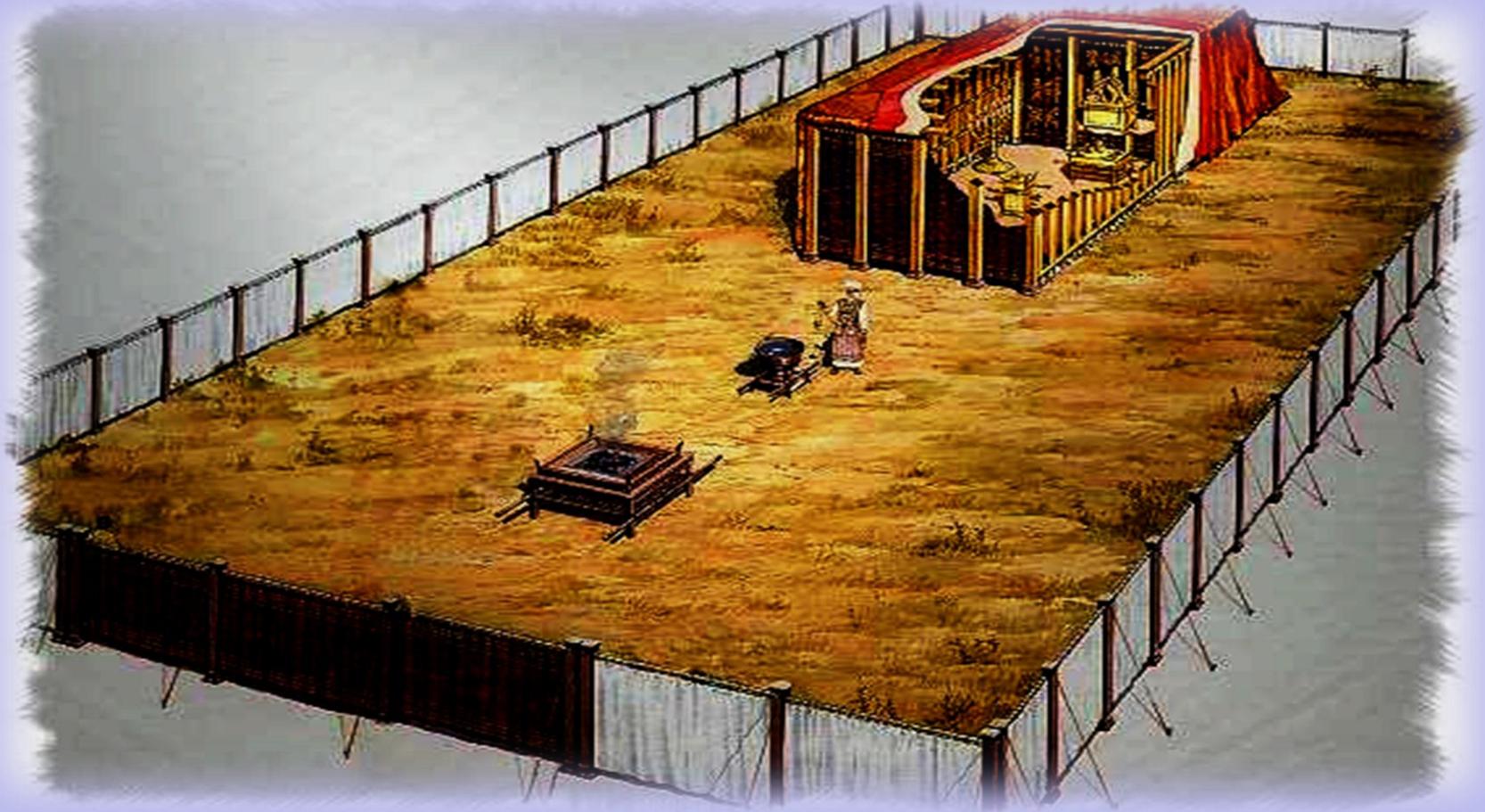


Builders of The Tabernacle—Exodus 35



Luke 24:27 “*And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself*”

Bezaleel and His Workers—Exodus 35

- The “pattern” was given by Moses as a *shadow and figure* of what would be fulfilled later in Christ (Heb 8:5; 9:9). Significantly, it was NOT Moses who actually built the tabernacle, but a man specially “called” by Yahweh, along with his fellow-workers.
- **Tabernacle Pattern Given—Exo 25-31—Moses**
- **Tabernacle Is Delayed—Exo 32-34—Israel Idolatry**
- **Tabernacle Is Constructed—Exo 35-39—Bezaleel**
- **Tabernacle filled with YHWH’s Glory—Exo 40—Finished**

John 1:17 “For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ”

- It is consistent with the pattern of Scripture, that Moses would direct the Law, but himself would not accomplish it; being “weak through the flesh” (Rom 8:3). It was Joshua, not Moses, who brought Yahweh’s people into the “Rest” (Deu 32:52; Heb 4:1-11).

Builders of The Tabernacle—Exodus 35

□ “Moses needs skilled workmen. Their appointment is not left to chance. Yahweh endows certain men for such work, and places them over their fellow-workers. *Thus He calls upon His people to help themselves in the tasks appointed them, whilst providing them with means to accomplish what He desires.* Though the tabernacle is most difficult to construct, the Israelites are set to the task of building it. *Yahweh will never do for His people what they can do for themselves.* By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the natural ability of certain skilled workmen is increased, and they are appointed as supervisors over other labourers” —*HPM, Expositor.*

Eph 4:8-12 “When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and *gave gifts unto men...* he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; *For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Act 2; 1Cor 12)*

The Apostle submits the true building of Yahweh's *dwelling place* is accomplished by Christ and the apostles/prophets—

Eph 2:19-22 “Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; *And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom ALL THE BUILDING fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit*”

- **Christ and his co-laborers who fulfilled the Mosaic Pattern:**
Mar 14:58 “We heard him say, I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I WILL BUILD another *made without hands*” (**Acts 7:47-48; John 2:21**)
Heb 9:11 “But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by *a greater and more perfect tabernacle*, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building”⁴

The Prophetic Parable—when Israel fell away to idolatry as Moses delayed in the Mount. Upon his return he “brake” the tables of the covenant (Exo 32:19), symbolizing how Israel “brake” Yahweh’s covenant thru idolatry (Jer 32:13).

Heb 8:5-7 “Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about *to make the tabernacle*: for, See, saith he, *that* thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount. But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is *the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises*. For if that *first covenant* had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for *the second*”

- The “second” giving of the covenant was slightly different. The first were given to Moses by Yahweh when he made an end of “communing with him upon Mount Sinai...two tables of stone, written with the finger of God” (Exo 31:18).

The Second Law—this time Moses provides the substance:

Exo 34:1 LORD said unto Moses, *Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first:* and I WILL WRITE UPON THESE tables *the words that were in the first tables,* which thou brakest.

- **Man, not God, must provide the surface—the heart—for Yahweh to write upon it His Law. The *new covenant* in Christ:**

2Cor 3:2-3 “Ye are our epistle *written in our hearts,* known and read of all men: *Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ* ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; *not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the hear*”

- The “new covenant” Yahweh makes with Israel will be after the “spirit” of the heart and not the “letter of the Law” (Jer 31:31).

Eze 36:26 “A *new heart* also will I give you, and a *new spirit* will I put within you: and I will take away *the stony heart* out of your flesh, and I will give you *an heart of flesh*”

Based upon this principle, Moses mediates on behalf of Israel and Yahweh forgives their sin—(Exo 32-34)

□ “Moses returns with the good news that the sins of the people are forgiven and Yahweh has consented in mercy *to renew His covenant with the nation*. They respond with hearty willingness to the request for materials to construct the tabernacle. *All classes co-operate to that end*. The rulers bring gems; the more wealthy offer their gold, silver and copper; others provide blue, purple, scarlet, fine twined linen; the poorer gather the shittim wood; the women give up their copper mirrors, and labour with their spinning wheels in manufacturing linen thread. *All are united in the common work of the Lord, and all are drawn closer together as a result*. The ONE CONDITION, applying to all, is that whatever is given must be done with "A WILLING HEART" (v. 5). That attitude sanctifies the gift (whether it be gold or wood) as acceptable to Yahweh” —*HPM Expositor*

- In Christ, the Law is elevated so that “murder, circumcision, washing, adultery” are all matters of the heart. And so, the work begins—

Exo 35:4 And Moses spake unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying, This *is* the thing which the LORD commanded, saying,

Exo 35:5 Take ye from among you an offering unto the LORD: *whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it*, an offering of the LORD; gold, and silver, and brass...

- After the spirit of Christ, this is not compulsory, but willing! Yahweh cannot establish a “dwelling among men” that is built upon unwilling and stony hearts.

Exo 35:10 And *every wise hearted among you shall come*, AND MAKE all that the LORD hath commanded;

Exo 35:11 The tabernacle, his tent, and his covering, his taches, and his boards, his bars, his pillars...

- One man is especially appointed by Yahweh to lead this grand work. Significantly, he is “called” before Moses delayed and Israel turned to idolatry; as Christ told the Jews (John 5:39-45).

Exo 31:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
Exo 31:2 See, *I have called by name Bezaleel* the son of Uri,
the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah: ***(Christ tabernacle: Joh 1:14)***
Exo 31:3 And *I have filled him with the spirit of God, in
wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge,* and IN ALL
MANNER OF WORKMANSHIP, ***(Eph 2:10 “we are his workmanship
created in Christ Jesus”)***
Exo 31:4 To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in
silver, and in brass,
Exo 31:5 And in cutting of stones, to set *them*, and in carving
of timber, *to work in all manner of workmanship.*

- **The Lord took up the Mosaic pattern and “fulfilled all that was spoken” (Mat 5:17).**
- **He told his disciples: “these are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me” —Luke 24:44.**

- **Bezaleel**—*shadow of El*. The Lord was in the express image of Yahweh Himself (Heb 1:1-3; Col. 1:14-18).
- **Son of Uri**—*light*. As Yahweh is called “Light” His son was a reflection of that “light” (1John 1:5; John 1:5-9; 9:5; 1Tim 6:16)
- **Son of Hur**—*white linen*. Righteousness (Rev 19:8).
- **Tribe of Judah**—*royal tribe of the Lord himself* (Heb 7:14).
- “I Have Filled Him With the Spirit”—the Lord was “filled” with the spirit without measure (Luke 4:1; John 3:34); and for the same purpose that Bezaleel was given the spirit—

Isa 11:1-4 “There shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And *the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;* And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and *he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge...*”¹⁰

Exo 31:6 And I, behold, *I have given with him* Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan: AND *in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom*, that they may make all that I have commanded thee;

- **Aholiab**—(*ohel*) tent, tabernacle of the Father.
- **Son of Ahisamach**—*brother of help*.

While he represents the apostles, specifically, Paul, who was the chosen vessel to bring the “light” to the Gentiles (Acts 13:47). How remarkable Paul was a “tent-maker”—the meaning of Aholiab’s name (Acts 18:3). And, spoke of the “tabernacle”—

- 2Co 5:1-4 “For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house *not made with hands*, eternal in the heavens... For we that are in *this* tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life”

Exo 35:34 And he hath put in (Bezaleel's) heart **THAT HE MAY TEACH**, *both he, and Aholiab*, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan.

Exo 35:35 **THEM HATH HE FILLED WITH WISDOM OF HEART**, to work all manner of work...

- The necessity for workmen to be “taught” means we **DO NOT** naturally possess knowledge how to glorify Yahweh!

Jer 10:23 “O LORD, I know that the way of man *is not in himself*: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps”

1Co 2:12-14 “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, *but the spirit which is of God*; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God*: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned”¹²

Exo 35:20-26 “ And *all the congregation* of the children of Israel *departed* from the presence of Moses (**the Law**). And they came, *every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, (Spirit of Christ)* and they brought the LORD'S offering *to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation, and for all his service...they came, both men and women, as many as were willing hearted, and brought bracelets, and earrings, and rings, and tablets, all jewels of gold: and every man that offered offered an offering of gold unto the LORD...And all the women that were wise hearted did spin with their hands, and brought that which they had spun, both of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, and of fine linen. And all the women whose heart stirred them up in wisdom spun goats' hair.”*

Exo 35:29 “The children of Israel brought *a willing offering* unto the LORD, *every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to bring for all manner of work, which the LORD had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses”*

□ “Outstanding workmen are needed for special labour. *This is a principle insisted upon throughout Scripture, and one which should be applied today.* The democratic idea that one is as good as another in any field of endeavour is not found therein. When Yahweh wants a particular work to be done, he arranges for unique workmen. Therefore, in constructing the tabernacle, Bezaleel and Aholiab are separated from the congregation and employed to supervise the task because of their outstanding skills. *But even outstanding personal ability is not sufficient for the work then in hand.* The two men are endowed with the spirit of God to guide them in wisdom, both to perform on their own account, and to educate others in essential labour. So the need of the nation for teachers and labourers is supplied; as it was also when the time later came for ecclesias to be established.” *HPM Expositor*

2Tim 3:16-17 “All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God... that the man of God may be perfect, *thoroughly furnished unto all good works*” **The object of the Spirit is to be manifest in Works**

Yahweh is always kind and reasonable in His requirements:

2Co 8:12 “For if there be *first* a willing mind, *it is accepted* according to that a man hath, *and* not according to that he hath not”

Mar 12:43-44 “He called *unto him* his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all *they* did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, *even* all her living” (The servant with one pound buried it—Lk 19:15-22).

- It is up to the conscience, according to our ability—

2Co 9:6-7 “This *I say*, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver”

- **Spirit of Wisdom—the Inspired Word Of God**

Joh 6:63 *“The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life”*

Eph 6:17 *“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”*

- **The time for the the willing-hearted to work for Yahweh’s glory will soon be over—we must redeem the time!**

Exo 36:4-6 *“And all the wise men, that wrought all the work of the sanctuary, came every man from his work which they made; And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make. And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing”*

- ❑ “The proclamation made by Moses throughout the camp, putting a stop to the offering of further gifts, indicated that the day of opportunity for the ordinary Israelite to contribute to the tabernacle was at an end. In like manner, there is a day of opportunity for all saints to labour in the things of God, and they should take hold of it, for it does not last forever.
- ❑ “Antitypically this will have its application at the Judgment Seat, for a selection will be made of the best results, and the rest set aside. Paul shows that we can become "labourers together with God." However, the quality of the material we might offer, or the work we might do, shall be tested in that day, and if found to be imperfect, it will be rejected. We then will suffer loss, even though we, ourselves, may be saved (1Cor. 3:9-15). Let us labour while we can, giving of our best, recognizing that our day of opportunity is limited, and that the greatest care should be exercised in what we offer to God” —*HPM Expositor*

The Pattern Accomplished

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

Exo 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.*

- **Christ and the Apostles did not change the Law; they simply fulfilled it by giving it its true meaning. This is the only way the Tabernacle can be built—**(Acts 13:15-27; 24:14; 28:23).

Exo 39:42 *According to all that the LORD commanded Moses,* so the children of Israel **MADE ALL THE WORK.**

Exo 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.

Exo 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.*

Exo 40:34 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, **AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD FILLED THE TABERNACLE.**

- The anti-typical Bezaleel and his works finish the “pattern”!

Joh 17:4 *“I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do”*

Joh 17:21-23 *“That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me”*

Tabernacle Completed

“The rearing of the sanctuary will not be accomplished till the Age to come...‘gold, silver, precious stones’...there will be a rush of participants. ‘Lord, Lord, open unto us.’ But by that time, the number has been made up that is needful for the organization of the Kingdom of God; and we may then see the antitype of what happened in Israel’s camp after the issue of the invitation to bring in materials. ‘The people brought much more than enough for the service of the work, which the Lord commanded to make. And Moses gave commandment...So the people were restrained from bringing. For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much.’ (Exo 36:5-7)” —*Law of Moses, pg 96*