

## Out of Bondage onto Promise

### Exodus 38-39

- Moses and the Children of Israel are preparing to enter the promise land but before they do God had them prepare the Tabernacle and Sanctuary for their daily worship, prayers, and sacrifices. What's amazing is God used only that which was voluntarily given by the people to construct the Tabernacle and everything that's needed to conduct its worship services. Its like that for us the Church as well, God doesn't want anything that's forced to be used to worship Him, for He doesn't force Himself on us and neither will He make us come to Him and serve unwillingly.

#### V1-31

- So with that approach an amazing thing occurred not only did the people give in abundance but they gave too much and Moses and the leaders have to tell them to stop giving for it was enough. After describing the coverings that's needed on the outside of the Tabernacle, Moses describes the inside of the Tabernacle > **The Ark of Testimony**- the places of forgiveness where the Priest would come and make confession for his and the people's sins.
- This is also where the Mercy seat was located and the blood of the sacrifice sprinkled seven times for the number of completion, and afterward forgiveness was granted. Also inside the Ark of Testimony were the Ten Commandments, proving that there can never be true grace and mercy if truth is not present, which is why Jesus said in > **Jn 4:23** we must worship Him in Spirit and Truth, for the Father is looking for people who have hearts like this.
- Next you had the "**Holy Place**" where the Table of Shewbread sat, this spoke of communion and fellowship, and it was always to be out on the table implying that the Lord is always accessible to all who desire to come to Him. Remember the table was made of Acacia wood which was found only in the desert and it had crowns all around it, and healing balm inside of it just like our Lord. Also the wood was overlayed by pure gold representing both his humanity and His Deity.
- Then there was a "**Golden Lampstand**" that provide light for the Priests to minister Just as Christ provides light to us to minister in a dark world. Finally we saw the "**Altar of Incense**" and the "**Anointing Oil**", the Altar of Incense was all about prayer and how Israel was to stay in constant prayer with God, just as we are to make our requests known to the Lord. The Anointing Oil would give off an aroma signifying that Israel was snow pleasing to the Lord, just as the Holy Spirit which lives in us allows us to give off a sweet smelling aroma that w belong to the Lord.
- **V1-7** What was described earlier were things located in the inner court, the items described now are associated with the outer court. "**The Altar of Burnt offerings**" was the largest most visible piece of the Tabernacle, it was the first things you saw right at the entrance of the court. Why do you think God had Moses put this where everyone could see it immediately?

- Because this place is where their sin had to be dealt with, if not then they couldn't have right fellowship with God, now like so many today, there were those who tried to bypass this truth and so they didn't want to come to the Tabernacle and see the Altar of Burnt offerings, as it was too much of a reminder of how far man was from the glory of God, and people think too highly of themselves to look at something like that, so to many this was a depressing sight.
- It's the same for people today, for us the church our Altar of Burnt offerings is the cross, and many try and bypass it was well, wrongly thinking they aren't that bad where they need someone to die for their sins and be offered to A Holy God. For them the thought is depressing as well, so they avoid coming to the place where their sins may be exposed. But for those who do come instead of shame or despair we receive everlasting joy, knowing our sins are forgiven.
- **V8-21 "The Bronze Laver"** was what the Priest used to wash their hands and feet before entering the Tabernacle, it represented spiritual cleanliness, what's interesting is it was made from the mirrors of women who gathered at the entrance of worship. **1Pet 3:3-4** only those ladies who truly seek to worship at Jesus feet understand fully that inward beauty is to be desired above outward appearance any day, so that their reflection is only a reminder of God's goodness.
- **V22-31 V22** Bezalel made all that the Lord had commanded Moses, and according to **V24-26** commentators suggest that they had 350million worth of Gold and 650 million worth of silver if your into that kind of thing in knowing how God provides for His people. Folks when we are obedient to God you can trust that God is going to be good to us, why? Because He is faithful.

## Chapter 39

### V1-43

- **V1-7 "The Ephod"** worn only by the "**High Priest**" it signified that He was God's instrument and that God would speak to him as he leads the people in righteousness, and Godliness. His main job was to bring people to God and bring God to the people, he wasn't suppose to get involved in politics, social squabbling's, or money matters, he was to keep his focus on what God has said and how the people were to respond. If only we kept our lives that simple huh! We get caught up in so much in this life that it distracts us from what's really important.
- **V8-21 "The Breastplate"** worn over his heart, signifying that his heart only belonged to the Lord and therefore was protected by the Lord. **V22-26 "The Robe"** had a bell attached so that when he ministered inside the Tabernacle if God struck him dead because of sin on his part or the people's they would know, which is why they would tie a rope around his waist when he went in to intercede on behalf of the people not knowing if their sacrifices would be accepted.

- **V27-38 “Tunics, Sashes, Turban”** was made of fine linen and upon his head a turban and a plate of gold in the middle which was engraved with the words that said “**Holiness to the Lord**”, and it was bound to a blue cord and fastened above on the turban just as God commanded Moses. Because there are so many churches and so many people calling themselves men and women of God that we take it for granted how serious God holds anyone who holds these positions.
- **Heb 13:17** says the pastor will have to give an account to the Lord of the flock that he has pastored. **V42-43** at the end Moses inspects all of it, although others had done the work it was still Moses who went over everything to make sure that it was done the way God had explained it to him, and once he had notice it says Moses blesses them for a job well done.