

Exodus 25:23-40 / 26:1-37/ 30:1-10
The Holy Place and it's coverings

On Sunday we began looking at the instructions for the building of Tabernacle.

A)This tent structure that the Children of Israel used in the Wilderness for the meeting place with God. See Picture of Tabernacle

B)The Tabernacle set inside of this Courtyard surrounded by a fence

C)It was a modest size Structure – 45 feet long – 15 feet wide and 15 feet high.

D)The Courtyard itself was 150 feet long on both sides – 75 feet wide on both sides and the fence was 7.5 feet high

E)The Tabernacle is a picture of Jesus – pointed to Jesus the one who came and Tabernacled among us

1)The Meeting place between God and man

Now we mentioned on Sunday that the Tabernacle consisted of two chambers – Side view Picture of Tabernacle

A)The inner chamber is where God starts in his description to Moses – Most important the Holy Holies – The Ark and the Mercy Seat

B)The Mercy seat is the place where – the blood was sprinkled – God said I will meet with you. – Day of Atonement

C)The Holy of Holies was 15 feet long / 15 feet wide / 15 ft high – Cube

D)The Vail -

The Next room was the Holy Place: 30 feet long / 15 width / 15 high

A)That is where we pick up tonight – contents of this room V.23

²³ “You shall also make a table of acacia wood; two cubits *shall be* its length, a cubit its width, and a cubit and a half its height. ²⁴ And you shall overlay it with pure gold, and make a molding of gold all around. ²⁵ You shall make for it a frame of a handbreadth all around, and you shall make a gold molding for the frame all around. ²⁶ And you shall make for it four rings of gold, and put the rings on the four corners that *are* at its four legs. ²⁷ The rings shall be close to the frame, as holders for the poles to bear the table. ²⁸ And you shall make the poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold, that the table may be carried with them. ²⁹ You shall make its dishes, its pans, its pitchers, and its bowls for pouring. You shall make them of pure gold. ³⁰ And you shall set the showbread on the table before Me always.

B)The Holy Place is the place where the Priest would come into on a daily basis – to his right would be the [Table of Showbread – Picture](#)

C)Like the Ark it was made of acacia wood and overlaid with pure gold

D)Like the Ark – the acacia wood spoke of the Humanity of Jesus overlaid with pure God – the Gold – Deity of Jesus

1)Fully God and fully man

So resting on the this table of Showbread were placed 12 loaves of unleavened bread.

A)The 12 loaves represented the 12 tribes of Israel

B)The Showbread was called the presence bread – or the bread of faces

C)Creates the Beautiful picture of the nation of Israel – resting in the presence of God. Resting in his provision for them

D)Every time the Priest would come into the Holy Place and see those 12 loaves – reminder to them – they were serving the nation of Israel

But the bread on the Table of Showbread is also a picture of Jesus in his church.

A)We are resting on the finished work of Christ - - The Bread being unleavened bread speaks to us of being without sin – His Work

B) Now the Showbread was changed out every Sabbath day and it would be eaten by the Priest

C) It was what sustained them

Now on the left side of the Tabernacle sat the golden lampstand Pic

³¹ “You shall also make a lampstand of pure gold; the lampstand shall be of hammered work. Its shaft, its branches, its bowls, its *ornamental* knobs, and flowers shall be *of one piece*. ³² And six branches shall come out of its sides: three branches of the lampstand out of one side, and three branches of the lampstand out of the other side. ³³ Three bowls *shall be* made like almond *blossoms* on one branch, *with an ornamental knob and a flower*, and three bowls made like almond *blossoms* on the other branch, *with an ornamental knob and a flower*—and so for the six branches that come out of the lampstand. ³⁴ On the lampstand itself four bowls *shall be* made like almond *blossoms*, *each with its ornamental knob and flower*. ³⁵ And *there shall be* a knob under the *first* two branches of the same, a knob under the *second* two branches of the same, and a knob under the *third* two branches of the same, according to the six branches that extend from the lampstand. ³⁶ Their knobs and their branches *shall be of one piece*; all of it *shall be* one hammered piece of pure gold. ³⁷ You shall make seven lamps for it, and they shall arrange its lamps so that they give light in front of it. ³⁸ And its wick-trimmers and their trays *shall be* of pure gold. ³⁹ **It shall be made of a talent of pure gold,** with all these utensils. ⁴⁰ And see to it that you make *them* according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain.

This golden lampstand was made of pure gold – hammered and shaped out of one piece of Gold –

A) V.39 One talent of pure gold which is about 75 pounds

B) The price of gold today is \$4,000 per ounce so that would make this lampstand worth about \$4.5 million dollars

C) In the bowls on each stem of the lampstand was oil that provided the source of light for the Holy place – only source of light in the Tab

The Lampstand speaks to us of Jesus as the light of the World

A) Why seven branches? – Completion – perfect – Perfect light

B) Well the source of the light came from the oil – Oil in Scripture is always a symbol of the Holy Spirit

C) So most scholars believe that the seven branches are also a reference to what Isaiah mentions in Isaiah 11:2

1) The sevenfold spirit of God that would rest upon the Messiah

1. The Spirit of the **Lord** (the central shaft)
2. The Spirit of **wisdom**
3. The Spirit of **understanding**
4. The Spirit of **counsel**
5. The Spirit of **might**
6. The Spirit of **knowledge**
7. The Spirit of the **fear of the Lord**

D) In Revelation 4:5, John explicitly sees "seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God."

So this Golden Lampstand – represented God's guiding light through the Holy Spirit leading his people

A) But it pointed toward Jesus being the light of the World – the Ministry of the Holy Spirit that would flow through Him

B) But here is what is really interesting: Jesus says of you and I – his church in Matthew 5:14

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:14-16

C) Jesus the Light of the world – says – You guys are the light of the World – 1 John 1:7 Walk in the light as he is in the Light

D) Jesus seeks to shine through us as we his people are empowered by the Holy Spirit to do good works and serve him.

1) It is the Holy Spirit in us – allows us to Shine brightly for Jesus

Now there is another component of the Tabernacle that was important to the Ministry of the Priest that isn't mentioned here in Ch.25

A)That was the Altar of Incense – but we don't read about it until chapter 30 – so turn there now **Picture of the Altar of Incense**

“You shall make an altar to burn incense on; you shall make it of acacia wood. 2 A cubit shall be its length and a cubit its width—it shall be square—and two cubits shall be its height. Its horns shall be of one piece with it. 3 And you shall overlay its top, its sides all around, and its horns with pure gold; and you shall make for it a molding of gold all around. 4 Two gold rings you shall make for it, under the molding on both its sides. You shall place them on its two sides, and they will be holders for the poles with which to bear it. 5 You shall make the poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold. 6 And you shall put it before the veil that is before the ark of the Testimony, before the mercy seat that is over the Testimony, where I will meet with you.

7 “Aaron shall burn on it sweet incense every morning; when he tends the lamps, he shall burn incense on it. 8 And when Aaron lights the lamps at twilight, he shall burn incense on it, a perpetual incense before the Lord throughout your generations. 9 You shall not offer strange incense on it, or a burnt offering, or a grain offering; nor shall you pour a drink offering on it. 10 And Aaron shall make atonement upon its horns once a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonement; once a year he shall make atonement upon it throughout your generations. It is most holy to the Lord.”

Now we notice right away in v.1 that this Altar was made of Acacia wood and in v.3 it is overlayed with pure gold

A)That consistently points to Jesus – and the burning of incense in the Bible is often connected to prayer

"May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice." **Psalm 141:2:**

B)So the Altar of Incense pictures Jesus as our High Priest – who Hebrews 7:25 ever lives to make intercession for us.

C)Comforting thought Jesus is constantly praying for us !

But it is also interesting to note that the idea of the Priest coming into the Holy place every day to burn incense is a picture of their prayer for the nation.

A)Remember how on Sunday I mentioned that in Hebrews 8:5 that the Tabernacle served as a Shadow of the Heavenly scene?

B)Well in Revelation 8 it describes a scene in heaven involving this golden altar of incense

³ Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. Revelation 8:4

C)So the incense being offered and the prayers of the priest – were representing the prayers of the people being offered up

I find that very interesting in light of what we read here in V.10

A)That once a year on the day of atonement Aaron would sprinkle the blood from the sin offering **ON THE ALTAR OF INCENSE**

B)What is being pictured there? The idea that even our sins need to be covered by the blood.

C)Because we can pray amiss the Bible says – pray wrong heart – Lord kill my enemies ☺

D)Pray with the wrong motives – His blood covers us – Beautiful

So there we have a description of the Contents of the Holy Place

A)If you would like to read further on this – there is an excellent resource I have used – meticulous detail – **Gleanings from Exodus -Pink -Pic**

B)Classic work – he takes the symbolism to a whole another level – be here all night – truly fascinating

C)But for the sake of time – lets move now to chapter 26 – Coverings

“Moreover you shall make the tabernacle *with* ten curtains *of* fine woven linen, and blue, purple, and scarlet *thread*; with artistic designs of cherubim you shall weave them.

On the inside of the Tabernacle you’d see curtains with embroidered angels. You’d see angels all around you – which is exactly what you’d see in heaven

² The length of each curtain *shall be* twenty-eight cubits, 42 ft and the width of each curtain four cubits. 6Ft And every one of the curtains shall have the same measurements. ³ Five curtains shall be coupled to one another, and *the other* five curtains *shall be* coupled to one another. Together = 42x60 of curtains

This would perfectly cover the frame of the Tabernacle – the roof and cover the backside all the way down to the ground

Now AW Pink points out how the four colors of these curtains point to Jesus in the following ways

A) Blue is the color in the Bible and Jewish customs linked to heaven

B) Jesus came from Heaven – ascended back to heaven – sits now on the throne of heaven

C) Purple speaks of Royalty and Majesty – Kings Robes were always purple –

D) Jesus is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords – Paul in Philippians one day every knee will bow and tongue confess – Jesus.... Lord of Lords

White linen was the color of Purity – Jesus perfect righteousness

A) Portrays Christ Spotless perfection

B) Scarlet is the color of Blood and suffering – Points us to Jesus as the suffering savior

C) The Color Scarlet is the most interesting because of the dye that was used to make the Scarlet color

The dye that was used to make the Color Scarlet was taken from the Tola'ath Worm

A)The Word Scalet in Hebrew is the word Tola'ath and it can mean worm of Scarlet

B)The way that they made scarlet die in those days – they would take the Tola'ath Worm & grind him up –

C)The Blood of the Tola'ath Worm is what was used to make the color Scarlet

Now this is what is most interesting about the Tola'ath Worm

A)This worm would give birth to its young by climbing a tree attaching itself to the tree - [Picture of the Tola'ath Worm](#)

B)There upon the tree its babies worms would be birthed and the exploding of the worm would leave a scarlet stain on the Branch

C)So it literally Dies in the Process of reproduction

Why is that significant? Remember in Psalm 22 the Psalmist is writing depicting the scene of the Cross – 100's of years before Jesus was even born

A)Starts off – My God my God why have you forsaken me? Jesus words

B)And then in V.6 Jesus says: **I am a worm and not a man- I am a Tola'ath and not a man**

C)Just like the Tola'ath worms death on the tree brought life – so too the death of Jesus brings life to all who put their trust in him

But there is one more thing that is significant about this Tola'ath worm

A)When it gave birth to it's babies on the tree – literally exploding in the process – the tree would be left with a blood stain

B)But get this After 3 days that Red blood spot – dries and then takes on a white color like flakes of snow

C)The Picture is incredible – Jesus declared I am a worm – and fastened himself upon a tree – the Cross

1) Where His blood was shed for you and for me – that He might birth us – that we might be born again – birthed into his family

D) He sacrificed His life so that we might live

E)And three days after His blood was shed – He rose again so that we who's sins were red like scarlet could be made as white as snow

1)Amazing Symbolism

4 And you shall make loops of **blue yarn** on the edge of the curtain on the selvedge of one set, and likewise you shall do on the outer edge of the other curtain of the second set. 5 Fifty loops you shall make in the one curtain, and fifty loops you shall make on the edge of the curtain that is on the end of the second set, that the loops may be clasped to one another. 6 And you shall make fifty clasps of gold, and couple the curtains together with the clasps, so that it may be one tabernacle. The lesson here is many parts but one tent. Today, we are the Tabernacle of God on the earth – and we too, are made up of many members, yet one body.

This colorful linen curtain was the innermost layer on the Holy Place, but on top of that were three outer layers... of goats' hair, of ram's skin, and of badger skin.

7 "You shall also make curtains of goats' hair, to be a tent over the tabernacle. You shall make **eleven curtains**. Goat's hair was black and coarse. It had the appearance of felt. So the colorful linen was covered by black, ugly goats' hair.

8 The length of each curtain shall be thirty cubits, **45ft** and the width of each curtain four cubits; **6ft** and the eleven curtains shall all have the same **measurements**. The second layer was just a little larger than the linen lining. All 11 curtains together totaled 45 feet by 66 feet.

9 And you shall couple five curtains by themselves and six curtains by themselves, and you shall double over the sixth curtain at the forefront of the tent. 10 You shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in one set, and fifty loops on the edge of the curtain of the second set. 11 And you shall make fifty

bronze clasps, put the clasps into the loops, and couple the tent together, that it may be one. The clasps that held the linen together were made of gold. The clasps for the outer curtains were made of bronze. In V.18 Sockets of Silver

Pink **The Metals:**

- The **gold** typifies Christ's divine nature,
- The **bronze/brass** symbolizes His strength to endure the fiery judgment of God.
- **The silver** points to His work of redemption (as the metal of atonement money),

In the Old Testament the redemption price was always paid with silver.

Thus, it's no surprise to see the Tabernacle resting on a foundation of silver.

12 The remnant that remains of the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that remains, **shall hang over the back of the tabernacle.** 13 And a cubit on one side and a cubit on the other side, of what remains of the length of the curtains of the tent, shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle, on this side and on that side, to cover it.

14 “You shall also make a covering of ram skins dyed red for the tent, and a covering of badger skins above that. **The ram's skin was like fine leather** **The badger skin was ugly and dark – but it was also durable and waterproof.**

According to Ezekiel 16:10 badger skin was used for sandals.

15 “And for the tabernacle you shall make the boards of acacia wood, standing upright. 16 Ten cubits 15 ft shall be the length of a board, and a cubit and a half 21/4 ft shall be the width of each board. 17 Two tenons shall be in each board for binding one to another. Thus you shall make for all the boards of the tabernacle. The word “**tenons**” literally means “hands”. They were connectors. Apparently, these gold-plated boards were like tongue and groove panels.

18 And you shall make the boards for the tabernacle, twenty boards for the south side. 19 You shall make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards: two sockets under each of the boards for its two tenons. 20 And for the second side of

the tabernacle, the north side, there shall be twenty boards 21 and their forty sockets of silver: two sockets under each of the boards. 22 For the far side of the tabernacle, westward, you shall make six boards. 23 And you shall also make two boards for the two back corners of the tabernacle. 24 They shall be coupled together at the bottom and they shall be coupled together at the top by one ring. Thus it shall be for both of them. They shall be for the two corners.

25 So there shall be eight boards with their sockets of silver—sixteen sockets—two sockets under each of the boards.

26 “And you shall make bars of acacia wood: five for the boards on one side of the tabernacle, 27 five bars for the boards on the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the far side westward. **These bars provided horizontal support for the side boards.**

28 The middle bar shall pass through the midst of the boards from end to end.

29 You shall overlay the boards with gold, make their rings of gold as holders for the bars, and overlay the bars with gold. 30 And you shall raise up the tabernacle according to its pattern which you were shown on the mountain.

Apparently, the bars ran the length of the Tabernacle’s side turning the boards into one wall.

Lesson here for us

A)The Tabernacle was built to stand firm in the middle of a shifting, windy desert wilderness.

B)The silver sockets provided a heavy, unmovable foundation. In the Bible, silver is frequently associated with the "shekel of redemption" ([Exodus 30:11-16](#)).

C)The Application: The Church and the believer are meant to stand upright and unshakeable,

1) even when the culture or our circumstances shift like desert sand.

D)We can only do this because we are grounded in the heavy foundation of Christ’s redemption.

1)Our standing before God is bought with a price.

Now one thing we haven't mentioned was the floor – the floor was dirt which reminded the people of Israel this world was not their home.

A) See in the Tabernacle the beauty was all above. There was no reason to look down.

B) When you approached the Tabernacle from outside it looked ugly, and dark, and unimpressive –

C) But from the inside it was beautiful... Angels embroidered on purple, blue, and scarlet linen.

D) It was a kaleidoscope of color, art, and shiny gold.

And remember the Tabernacle was a picture of Jesus...

A) Sunday - Isaiah 53:2 says of Jesus, "He didn't have an impressive form or majesty that we should look at him, no appearance that we should desire him."

B) There was nothing attractive about Jesus' physical appearance. He looked like an ordinary guy, but on the inside He was beautiful.

C) He had an attractive purity, and a golden character.

And the same is true for those of who follow Jesus.

A) On the outside you might be less than impressive – you're just an ordinary guy/gal -

B) But on the inside – it is another story – **Paul puts it this way in 2 Corinthians 4:7 – God has put his treasure in earthen vessels**

C) His Spirit in our hearts – New Creation on the inside

D) On the outside nothing special – But on the inside – God calls us **Ephesians 2:10 His masterpiece** IN CHRIST

Now as we come to V31 God describes the making of the Veil – Hung between the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies

31 “You shall make a veil woven of blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen. It shall be woven with an artistic design of cherubim. 32 You shall hang it upon the four pillars of acacia wood overlaid with gold. Their hooks shall be gold, upon four sockets of silver. 33 And you shall hang the veil from the clasps. Then you shall bring the ark of the Testimony in there, behind the veil. The veil shall be a divider for you between the holy place and the Most Holy. 34 You shall put the mercy seat upon the ark of the Testimony in the Most Holy. 35 You shall set the table outside the veil, and the lampstand across from the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south; and you shall put the table on the north side.

Thirty feet into the Holy Place God had Moses hang this veil.

A)It separated the Holy Place from the innermost court – the Holy of Holies

B)The Veil was 15 ft high 15ft wide: A Wall – Boundary – No entrance

C)Only the High Priest could enter through the veil into God’s presence and the Holy of Holies – and only once a year.

But we read in Matthew 27:51 that when Jesus died on the Cross – it is finished – the “the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom...”

A)Jesus abolished this limited access.

B)He opened the door into God’s Holiest.

C)In Christ we can now come boldly to His throne of grace, and live in His presence!- Don’t take that for granted

D)According to Hebrews 10:19-20, the veil is also representative the body of Jesus.

1)The only way to God is through the torn and crucified body of Jesus.

Verse 36 describes the door that led from the outer court into the Holy Place.

36 “You shall make a screen for the door of the tabernacle, woven of blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen, made by a weaver. 37 And you shall make for the screen five pillars of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold; their hooks shall be gold, and you shall cast five sockets of bronze for them.

