

Exodus 30:11-Chapter 31 Offerings, Oils and Artist

Intro: Tonight will be our final study in dealing with the instructions for the construction of the Tabernacle

A) Here in Chapter 30 we have already looked at the instructions for the Altar of Incense in the Holy Place

B) And the Bronze Laver for washing in the Courtyard

C) But there are three things in this chapter – we have only sort of breezed over – that I was ready to move on

1) The Lord said don't – this is important – especially for CV in this season of the life of our church

So tonight we are going to look at 3 things in our study 2 are in Chapter 31 and one is in Chapter 31

A) Offerings 30:11-16

Oils 30:22-38

B) Artist 31:1-18

Start with Offerings:

¹¹ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ¹² “When you take the census of the children of Israel for their number, then every man shall give a ransom for himself to the LORD, when you number them, that there may be no plague among them when you number them. ¹³ This is what everyone among those who are numbered shall give: half a shekel according to the shekel of the sanctuary (a shekel is twenty gerahs). The half-shekel *shall be* an offering to the LORD. ¹⁴ Everyone included among those who are numbered, from twenty years old and above, shall give an offering to the LORD. ¹⁵ The rich shall not give more and the poor shall not give less than half a shekel, when you give an offering to the LORD, to make atonement for yourselves. ¹⁶ And you shall take the atonement money of the children of Israel, and shall appoint it for the service of the tabernacle of meeting, that it may be a memorial for the children of Israel before the LORD, to make atonement for yourselves.”

So we read in V.11 God says take a census.

A) Some of your Bible students are thinking – wait didn't King David get in trouble for doing that?

B)I thought the kinds were told not to number the people – so that their confidence wasn't in their Numbers – but the Lord – that is true.

C)But it is ok when the Lord is instructing you to do something.

D)This Census happens in Numbers chapters 1 – Next year

But this census was for a different reason: Had nothing to do with military might

A)This was about the provision needed

B)The point that God is making here is when it comes to building his house – he wants it to be an ALL IN PROCESS

C)Everyone has a part to play in the materials that would be needed in order to bring these instructions to life.

When Paul is talking to the church in Corinth about the subject of giving

A)He says this: When you come together on the 1st day of the week – SUNDAY – let each person bring their gift

B)Each person is to set aside something for the offering.

C)Communicating the idea: We are all in this together

Now why does the Lord call this offering a Ransom?

A)That would be kind of weird right if we announced – the ushers are going to come forward and receive the Ransom payment for tonight

B)Or on Sunday: You can put your Ransom payment in the box in the foyer today or you can give your ransom payment digitally

C)We tend to equate a ransom payment with a kidnapping – right – something bad has happened

This is called a Ransom payment because is an Acknowledgment of Divine Ownership:

A)Numbering the people without recognition of God can breed pride and self-reliance.

B)So The payment reminds the Israelites that their lives are preserved and owned by God rather than the state or themselves

C)In this case it is all the same: Every male – 20 yrs and older Rich and poor give was to give a $\frac{1}{2}$ shekel of Silver

D) $\frac{1}{2}$ shekel is about $\frac{1}{5}$ of an ounce and Silver today is \$53.00 an ounce so a half shekel would be \$10.60 cents

This was the basis of something that was collected every single year.

A)Remember there are 2-3 million people in this group and lets say half of them are males 20 years or older

B)1 Million times \$10.60 = \$10 million 600,000 dollars – Nice operating budget

C)Now if only a $\frac{1}{4}$ of the group is men 20 yrs or older - \$5million 300K

Here is the thing that I think the Lord wants us to see in this: Similar to how He desires the church to function

A)I want my people to not be consumers – just coming to see what they can get – how their needs are to be met

B)I don't want consumers I want participants – I want people who participate in my kingdom – through their time/talent/ treasures

C)Giving is not God's way of raising funds it is his way of raising kids

God says: 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 ⁶The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷**Each one must give** as he **has decided in his heart**, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

So the first thing we see tonight is God's instruction concerning the offerings for how the ministry was going to be supported.

From there we move to the oils – He starts with the anointing oil V.22

22 Moreover the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 23 “Also take for yourself quality spices—five hundred shekels of liquid myrrh, half **as much sweet-smelling** cinnamon (two hundred and fifty shekels), two hundred and fifty shekels of **sweet-smelling cane**, 24 five hundred shekels of cassia, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, and a hin of olive oil. 25 And you shall make from these a holy anointing oil, an ointment compounded according to the art of the perfumer. It shall be a holy anointing oil. 26 With it you shall anoint the tabernacle of meeting and the ark of the Testimony; 27 the table and all its utensils, the lampstand and its utensils, and the altar of incense; 28 the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the laver and its base. 29 You shall consecrate them, that they may be most holy; whatever touches them must be holy. 30 And you shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may minister to Me as priests. 31 “And you shall speak to the children of Israel, saying: ‘This shall be a holy anointing oil to Me throughout your generations. 32 It shall not be poured on man's flesh; nor shall you make any other like it, according to its composition. It is holy, and it shall be holy to you. 33 Whoever compounds any like it, or whoever puts any of it on an outsider, shall be cut off from his people.’

The first thing to notice here is the people are not just giving money they are giving resources – spices of different sorts

A) Four things we can learn from this – about the anointing of the Holy Spirit on a life

B) 1st it is for Ministry - This oil was called holy anointing oil – holy = set apart

C) Oil with a special purpose – Anoint the vessels in the Tabernacle and to anoint the priest – not for regular use

1) Set apart for this special work of the Ministry.

2nd Note it was made of sweet smelling spices – Cinamon and sweet cane – sort of like a snickerdoodle cookie – I am liking that

A)I can't verify this for sure- but some scholars believe the Cassia mentioned in v.24 would sort of smell like hot buttered popcorn

B)This is Amazing right? Who wouldn't want to be a priest – going around smelling like snickerdoodles and buttered popcorn

But the 2nd point I want you to see is this: There is a sweet fragrance to the work and move of the Holy Spirit.

A)Paul refers to Fruit of the Holy Spirit in Galatians 5 – The Fruit of the Spirit is Love

B)The other traits are Characteristics of love –

- **Joy is love rejoicing**
- **Peace is love resting**
- **Patience (Longsuffering) is love enduring**
- **Kindness (Gentleness) is love serving**
- **Goodness is love doing right**
- **Faithfulness is love trusting**
- **Meekness (Gentleness) is love yielding**
- **Self-Control (Temperance) is love restraint**

C)My point is this: There is a sweet fragrance to the fruit of the Spirit and the anointing of the Holy Spirit

D)It is attractive – it is inviting! Not rancid or repulsive or Bazaar

1)THE FRAGRANCE OF CHRIST – not me – anyone else

3rd thing about this oil V.32-33 it was not to be Imitated

A)There is nothing like it –

B)The idea is that the anointing of the Spirit is a matter of INSPIRATION and not IMITATION

C)Do NOT fall into the error of trying to IMITATE the work of the Spirit

1.) You can NOT learn to prophecy/heal

When I was a first a youth pastor my pastor handed me a box of Greg Laurie cassette tapes –

A) Listen to these and try to preach like this!

B) That was the worst thing he could have done for me – it was so discouraging – I quickly discovered – I am not Greg Laurie

C) Love GL – but I am not him – And I am not supposed to be him – I need to be myself – let God develop my gift

4th thing we see in this is the Anointing oil was not to be used on the flesh

A) The Anointing of the Spirit is not meant to elevate our flesh it is meant to bring glory to God.

B) This is something I think we often struggle with in the church – is we can sometimes equate natural gifting or charisma with anointing

C) And I think God does take our natural personalities and the way that he has wired us – and he uses that – anoints that

D) That is the Beauty of the Body of Christ – not all the same personality and mindset

1) Just look at the Disciples – Jesus probably couldn't have picked 12 more different guys than those dudes

The Beauty in the Body of Christ is that we are all different

A) But this is where this can become a problem – someone starts to lean on their natural gifts to do God's work instead of anointing

B) Instead of being dependent on the Holy Spirit – very subtle

C) But then a Scandal breaks out – seen it happen in our CC movement unfortunately – other parts of the church

D) Men with Huge churches – Big personality -gifted communicators

1) Exposed – affairs or some other horrible sins

And the hard thing has been that when we find out it has been going on for a long time.

A) Start to wonder – was that God? Was it the Holy Spirit ? Or was it just natural gifting

B) I would say it was both – Started off as an anointing of the HS using a man's natural gifts

C) But at some point it turned more into just a natural gifting – and this important point – Don't forget this

1) The Bible says that God's Word will not return void

D) The gospel is the power of God unto Salvation –

1) So God can work through a flawed or even a person in sin

But know this: God also says in his Word - ⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. Galatians 6:7-8

God also said: Numbers 32:23 You sin will find you out

So God can work through someone who is in sin – but their sin eventually is going to be exposed – seen that too many times

So God's anointing is for the ministry

- A sweet aroma
- It was not to be imitated
- Not for the Flesh

Now the 2nd oil mentioned here in this chapter was the incense oil V.34

³⁴ And the LORD said to Moses: "Take sweet spices, (the Lord has a sweet tooth -sweetness about his ministry) stac/te and ony/cha and gal/ba/num, and pure frankincense with *these* sweet spices; there shall be equal amounts of each. ³⁵ You shall make of these an incense, a compound according to the art of the perfumer, salted, pure, *and* holy. ³⁶ And you shall beat *some* of it very fine, and put some of it before the Testimony in the tabernacle of meeting where I will meet with you. It shall be most holy to you. ³⁷ But *as for* the incense which you shall make, you shall

not make any for yourselves, according to its composition. It shall be to you holy for the LORD. ³⁸ Whoever makes *any* like it, to smell it, he shall be cut off from his people.”

Now all of these spices we read about here used to make the incense all have emissions from plants,

A) And because they're oil-based, there's a vegetable oil in each one.

B) So they will burn quite readily, that's why they could make incense out of it.

C) They could grind it up. It would harden even like in a little rock form but it would always burn because of that oil in it.

Note: Like the anointing oil this also has a Ministry purpose – used for the Lord ³⁷ But *as for* the incense which you shall make, you shall not make any for yourselves, according to its composition. It shall be to you holy for the LORD. ³⁸ Whoever makes *any* like it, to smell it, he shall be cut off from his people.”

Now why couldn't they take some of this incense and bring it home?

A) In fact why couldn't they sell it outside the Tabernacle, have a little taste of the Tabernacle, take some home with you for four shekels.

B) Imagine commercial adds for this.... Asked Chat GPT for help –

C) Some scents turn heads – this one turns heart toward God ☺

I think that this is what God is doing here is he is not wanting to lower the worship of God in this way.

A) He wants us to realize that worship is not for personal pleasure

B) Worship does something to us – Often it does lift our moods – it does make us feel better – definitely can change our perspective

C) But the Goal of worship is not any of those things – The Goal of worship is to Give God the Glory – worship = worthship he deserves

D) Worship is about Who He is not How I feel!

E)Worship regardless of my feelings – HE IS WORTHY

Offerings, Oils – finally Artist Chapter 31

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 2 “See, I have called by name Bez/alel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. 3 And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, 4 to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, 5 in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship.

6 “And I, indeed I, have appointed with him **A/holi/ab** the son of **A/his/amach**, of the tribe of Dan; and I have put wisdom in the hearts of all the gifted artisans, that they may make all that I have commanded you: 7 the tabernacle of meeting, the ark of the Testimony and the mercy seat that is on it, and all the furniture of the tabernacle—8 the table and its utensils, the pure gold lampstand with all its utensils, the altar of incense, 9 the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the laver and its base—10 the garments of ministry, the holy garments for Aaron the priest and the garments of his sons, to minister as priests, 11 and the anointing oil and sweet incense for the holy place. According to all that I have commanded you they shall do..

Now when it came to the construction of the Tabernacle – God had two gifted guys in mind to do the work. Bez/a/el and A/ho/liab

A)First guy mentioned in Bez/a/el – He is an artist – He is gifted

B)When God is calling someone to a work he often starts with a natural gifting – This guy seems to be naturally gifted in art

C)Someone who is called to be Worship leader – is going to have a voice to sing – God given – natural gift – good voice

I would love to be on the Worship team – Singer – Can’t sing! No Rhythm – clap – constantly off Key -flat

A)If I tried out – Joe and Rachel – we love your heart – but singing is not your gift

B)So God often starts with natural God given gift

C)Then he moves to Desire: Move on your heart

⁴Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4

You delight in him and he starts moving your desires toward his desires for you.

A)Never imagined being a Pastor – but God was stirring my heart toward his Word – study it

B)The day of my calling – No practice- down at the Beach – wish I could do this more –

1)That night called me to consider giving up playing ball – get into the Word more

C)Discovered he had already given me natural leadership gifts – as much as I ran from them.

D)School – teams – always picked to be captian – or a leader of some sort

So He starts with a natural gift – then often a desire and then comes an Supernatural anointing

A)V.3 And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, 4 to design artistic works,

B)God says I have called this guy and what I have put into him I now want to draw out of him

C)When God is calling someone he often takes a natural gifting and adds to it a supernatural calling and enabling

He equips us with what we need to do what he has called us to do! Makes sense right?

A)If you join the armed services, let's say the Marines would they say, "Well, we're glad that you joined the Marines

B)But you have to buy your own gun, your own bullets and your own tank."

C)No they supply you with what you need and the training to do it

If you were to join the Air Force would they say, "We have F-18s on sale for \$20 million this week."

A)Same thing in the body of Christ – God Equips and supplies the Called

B)That is the Beauty of it – God is not going to call you to something that he hasn't equipped you for

C)But here is what I love about this: Bez/a/el is not being called to preach a Bible study – not being called to lead worship

D)Not being called to something that is upfront – He is being called to something that is more behind the scenes – no one sees – see the results

1)Setting up this Sanctuary – cleaning floors – Volunteers

But note this: He is called to do something extremely practical – but he is still anointed by the Spirit of God

A)Reminds me of the deacons in Acts 6 – remember that scene – the Widows – the Apostles

**B)Not good that we leave the word of God and prayer³Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.
Acts 6:3-4**

C)The same Holy Spirit and anointing that Peter needed to preach and John needed to write the gospel of John and Revelation 1-3 John

D)Is the same anointing these guys needed to serve in a very practical way. – SO AWESOME AND BEAUTIFUL

This is the body of Christ.

A)Some of you are Bezalel's – gifted in Wood working – gifted with Artistic things

B)Some of you are great organizers – Stacy H – events – amazing

C)God is going to start calling some of you to use your gifts to serve in very practical ways – Bless the body –

Love Bezalel – but then there is this other guy – Aholiab v.6 6 “And I, indeed I, have appointed with him A/holi/ab

A)Aholiab is called to be Bezalel's #2 - His assistant foreman – his helper

B)God says and I have put wisdom in the hearts of all the gifted artisans

C)Gifted these guys with wisdom – Knowledge applied –

Ever work with someone who knows how to do something?

A)May dad was a great athlete but he was not skilled in Wood working or cars – that stuff

B)Come help – come watch – trial and error – ok I am learning how not to do it

C)Bless his heart – He figured things out – Great Shed – panted - \$millionaire

I am thankful for Youtube – Learned some things –

A)Floor in a bed room - came out ok – Glad there was a bed to cover up the mistakes - My wife's love language

B)Awesome to be around guys who just know how to do things – some self taught – it is a gift

C)Aholiab like Bezalel has a gift – he has wisdom

But here is what I love about this guy he has accepted the role of being #2

A)famous conductor once said – the hardest spot to fill in the Orchestra is 2nd violin

B)Not many people want to be #2 – They want to be David – King – not Jonathan the guy who gives up everything to help David fulfill ..calling

C)I have been very blessed in being the pastor here – For 20 yrs – Steve H has been my #2

Such an incredible blessing – Hands down the best #2 a guy could ever want.

A)I have had other pastors tell me horror stories of difficulties they have had with their #2 – Nightmares

B)Steve has been an incredible blessing to me – Kept this place going

C)What makes him a great #2 – He didn't want to be a number 1 –

1)Doesn't want to preach – or be seen –he is content to be behind the scenes

God was calling Aholiab to be with him-with Bezalel

A)And that is also what God often does – He calls a guy to come alongside someone else – another man – Gal another woman

B)A great calling to be a #2 -It is Ok to be the helper –

C)One of the saddest thing to me in ministry is when I see someone who is a great #2 who gets pressured to be a #1 take a church

1)Plant a church – and they flounder – because that is not their calling

One last thing we want to see before we go tonight

12 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 13 “Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: ‘Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you. 14 You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, 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. 15 Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on

the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. 16 Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. 17 It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.' ”

18 And when He had made an end of speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God.

Now God has already talked about the Sabbath in Ch. 16 and again in Chapter 20

A) Why does he bring it up again here in Chapter 31 – included in his instructions for the tabernacle ?

B) I think the reason is this: For all of these guys who would be involved in building this things and doing all the work to construct

1) There would be a temptation to think – We need to get this done so we are going to work on the sabbath.

C) We are doing this for God – right ? This will just be a season ?

Ever said that about something? Just a season – but the season has turned into a 10 year lifestyle

**A) Not going to church on Sundays because of ____ it will just be a season
Six years have gone by and you are very disconnected from fellowship**

B) You and your wife get too busy to do Date nights and to build and work on your marriage – just a season – Kids are so busy

1) 4 years have gone by and – you are so distant from each other –

C) More like roommates in your home

See I think God knows are tendency to do that – to think – I just need to get this done – no time for devotions – season

A) We are going through life no longer having any intimacy with God – not being led by the Holy Spirit

B)So he puts in this reminder at this point – Keep the Sabbath

C)It is important for your physical and spiritual well being to put aside this one day out of the week – Stop pause

1)Enjoy me – Enjoy my creation – Enjoy family – Spouse

D)You want to be more like me – Follow my example – Amen?