

SWORD MINISTRIES (Ephesians 6:17)

EXODUS 24:18; 25:1-9 God begins to give Moses the revelation of the Tabernacle in the wilderness.

THE TABERNACLE FRAMEWORK

EXODUS 26:15-30

Overview of the Tabernacle Framework:

- 48 boards made of shittim wood and overlaid with gold
- 96 sockets of silver to hold the boards upright
- 5 bars braced each of the 3 closed sides
- 5 pillars uphold the curtain door at the entrance
- 4 pillars uphold the veil which separates the rooms

(vv18-23) *'And thou shalt make the boards for the tabernacle, twenty boards on the south side southward'* each board is 1 ½ cubits wide which would make the Tabernacle approximately 45 feet long. *'And thou shalt make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards; two sockets under one board for his two tenons, and two sockets under another board for his two tenons.'* In actual framework, there are 48 boards: 20 boards for the south side; 20 boards for the north side; 6 boards for the west side; 2 boards for the corners on the west end.

(vv23-25) the two corner boards gave added stability to the Tabernacle; each board had 2 tenons (projections) at the bottom, and each tenon would plug into a silver socket as the boards stood upright. All boards combined made one Tabernacle.

Let's look at the 96 silver sockets which the boards stood in (2 sockets for each board): **GENESIS 23:14-16** a shekel weighed less than a half ounce, usually of silver, and in this case the silver was used to purchase a field. We studied the truth that gold represents Deity in the Bible: the Mercy Seat, where God met with Aaron, was pure gold; the Lampstand was pure gold; the streets of the New Jerusalem are pure gold, etc.

Silver represents atonement, redemption, ransom money. The field in **GENESIS 23** was purchased with silver. **EXODUS 21:28-32; 30:11-16** the silver shekel was the ransom for the redemption of a life. Also, every man upon turning 20 years old, had to bring an offering of a half shekel of silver to redeem his soul. Silver thus becomes symbolic of the redemption or atonement of a soul in the Old Testament. Notice carefully that no man could pay for another, and rich and poor paid exactly the same, God is not a respecter of persons.

PSALM 49:1-9 the redemption of a soul is precious, there could never be enough money in the world to redeem even one soul! The silver atonement in the Old Testament typified the blood atonement of the New Testament. **1 PETER 1:17-21** *'Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold... But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without*

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blemish and without spot.' **1 JOHN 1:1-7** *'...and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.'* **1 TIMOTHY 2:1-6** *'...the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.'* **MATTHEW 20:28** *'Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.'* **MATTHEW 26:14-26** Jesus was sold for 30 pieces of silver! In this He fulfilled **ZECHARIAH 11** written some 500 years in advance. **1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-20** the unrighteous will not enter the Kingdom; the price that paid for our righteousness is the blood of Christ.

ROMANS 3:19-26 Jesus Christ is God's ONLY standard for righteousness (**JEREMIAH 23:6; 1 CORINTHIANS 1:30; 2 CORINTHIANS 5:21; PHILIPPIANS 3:9**). If one is to be righteous before God he (she) must meet this standard (**JOHN 3:7**). No one can pay for another; no one can be numbered in the church unless they are redeemed with the price set forth by God: the blood of Christ (**EPHESIANS 1:7; 2:13**).

Each board in the Tabernacle was measured by God's exact standard (**EXODUS 26:16**); each board had two tenons (hands; feet) which stood in silver sockets. These silver sockets were the very foundation of the Tabernacle, the boards literally stood in the silver. No board had its tenons (feet) in the desert sand of this world, but each stood in this silver redemption metal.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:8-11 *'For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.'* **MATTHEW 7:24-29** believers are to stand in the foundation of the blood of Christ. Jesus has done it all concerning your salvation; this truth frees us to live lives of grace, forgiveness towards others, and thankfulness to our Awesome God. **EPHESIANS 4:1-32; 5:1,2**

(vv26-28) *'And thou shalt make bars of shittim wood; five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle... And the middle bar in the midst of the boards shall reach from end to end.'* Each of the 3 enclosed sides had 5 bars, the middle bar reached from end to end. In other words, each board was held in place by the middle bar.

EPHESIANS 4:7-11 *'And He [Jesus] gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers.'* Jesus gave the 5-fold ministry gifts to the church with Jesus Himself being the middle bar, the foundation, the Chief Cornerstone. He personally touches each one of His *'boards.'*

(vv29,30) What a structure! Non-corruptible wood boards overlaid with gold; standing in silver sockets of redemption! 5 stabilizing bars, and gold rings linking it all together. The church today is the Body of Christ; the 5-fold ministry gifts stabilizing us, as we stand in His blood, having His Divine nature! **EPHESIANS 2:18-22**