

Called By Name To Build Exodus 31 Verses 1-11

Ex 31:1 ¶ And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 See, I have called by name Bezaleel 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, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, 4 To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, 5 And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship."

God now gives Moses instructions of who is to build the tabernacle and its furnishings. God has a purpose in everything he does. When God brought Israel out of Egypt, God had prepared the Egyptians, through all the plagues, to give to Israel everything they would need to provide the materials for building the tabernacle "the church building" of God.

Did you notice? Bezaleel was of the tribe of Judah, which is the tribe of Israel, from which the Saviour came as prophesied? Bezaleel means *in the shadow or protection of God*. Wherefore, we see the surety, of the prophetic picture of the salvation of God coming to earth. We also begin to see a prophetic picture of the establishment of the New Testament Church and those who God called to build this church, the apostles of Jesus Christ. God is still using the same example today. There is also a prophetic picture of the eternal kingdom of God.

Let's look at the prophetic picture of the coming of Jesus Christ to earth. Jesus is the one wise Masterbuilder who founded the church of salvation by grace, and He is whom the church is founded upon, as seen in **1Co 3:9-17; 9 "For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. 11 ¶ For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. 16 ¶ Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."**

In this text, we see that Jesus is the foundation stone, upon which Paul, as a wise masterbuilder, was building on the foundation of the church of salvation by grace, which embraced the salvation of the Gentiles and the Jews. Paul had that wisdom put in him by Jesus Christ, who is the true Masterbuilder. Likewise, the ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ are called to be wise masterbuilders in the kingdom of God on earth.

We see in this text, in 1 Corinthians, that some build, but not according to God's instructions, and they produce wood, hay, and stubble, which will be burned up when tested by fire. This is a picture of organized religion which has been infiltrated by the serpent, just as he entered the Garden of Eden and changed the word of God's truth, so the serpent is still doing today. When men's actions are for their own glory, gain, or power, they are not building with the Word of God, which has been supplied for us. Just as God provided that Israel would have the necessary materials to build the tabernacle, and all its component parts: God has given us the King James Bible, His Word of Truth, which contains the wisdom, and knowledge, (gold, silver, precious stones) to be used in building upon the sure foundation stone in the continuing building of the kingdom of God on earth.

What fire shall test the works of men? The fire of the Word of Truth, as seen in: **2Th 1:6-12; 6 "Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day."** And further revelation is found in: **Re 19:12-16; 11 ¶ "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. 13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed**

him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

These texts are reminders to us, as we live our lives bearing the name of a child of God: we are to measure all our actions by the Word of God, to insure that we are not using wood, hay, and stubble, as building materials.

God set one, filled with godly wisdom, over the building of the tabernacle and all the components thereof: **Bezaleel**, who is a picture of Jesus Christ. God also has set one Masterbuilder, Jesus the Christ, who is the very wisdom of God, to build the church of salvation by grace. Not only is this one Masterbuilder the one over all the construction of the kingdom of God on earth; He is also the one who has furnished the materials, the people, and the wisdom needed to accomplish the purpose of God, in building the visible kingdom of God on earth.

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; 7 The tabernacle of the congregation, and the ark of the testimony, and the mercy seat that is thereupon, and all the furniture of the tabernacle, 8 And the table and his furniture, and the pure candlestick with all his furniture, and the altar of incense, 9 And the altar of burnt offering with all his furniture, and the laver and his foot, 10 And the cloths of service, and the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to minister in the priest's office, 11 And the anointing oil, and sweet incense for the holy place: according to all that I have commanded thee shall they do."

Having established Jesus, portrayed as Bezaleel, as the Masterbuilder, we see that God also provided some other men who were also filled with the wisdom of God to assist in the building of the tabernacle and its components. Notice **Ex 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;"** Jesus called the apostles to build upon the sure foundation stone of the church of salvation by the grace of God. Jesus filled them with the wisdom of God and the Holy Spirit. God has continued to call ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ, to continue building upon the sure foundation stone.

Why does God call Ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ? To spread the good news that Jesus died to save sinners; to preach the whole truth of God, from the Word of God; preaching unto the salvation of sinners, and the continual work of building the kingdom of God upon the earth. How do we know this is true? Aholiab means **tent of his father**. Where did Israel live at this time? In tents, on their wilderness journey to the land of promise. We are also on a wilderness journey in this world of sin and sorrow. Our bodies are representative of tents, in which the Holy Spirit takes residence in the new birth, by which presence we are filled with the wisdom of God.

Jesus came to earth, and accomplished the Father's will of saving all of God's people. Jesus also laid himself as the true foundation stone, upon which he commanded his apostles to build the visible kingdom of God on earth. These apostles did as they were commanded. They taught the whole truth of Jesus being the Messiah and Saviour of all men, to the salvation of many souls in time. Although, there are no apostles like these in existence today, God still calls forth many ministers by name, and all those in the church who fill the position they are given by the grace of God, in the kingdom of God on earth. We see this manifested in the individual congregations, who are worshipping God in Spirit and in Truth: where the whole truth of God is preached and lived out in the lives of the membership. Though all are not called to be publicly speaking preachers: all are called to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, through the testimony of their lives in the Kingdom of God. These men, in our Exodus text, who God filled with special wisdom, were already studying, and working in the particular fields of work they were called to do. Wherefore, we are to prepare ourselves for service in the Kingdom of God, by reading and studying the King James Bible. Filled with knowledge of the Word of God, God will call us to his purpose for us in the Kingdom of God on earth. Then, being filled with the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit of God in us, we can build upon the sure foundation stone, in accordance with the instructions given to us by the wise Masterbuilder, Jesus Christ, who God called by name to establish the visible kingdom of God on earth, and to be our Saviour and King. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!