

Exodus Chapter 36 Commentary

Ex 36:1 ¶ "Then wrought Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whom the LORD put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, according to all that the LORD had commanded. 2 And Moses called Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whose heart the LORD had put wisdom, even every one whose heart stirred him up to come unto the work to do it: 3 And they received of Moses all the offering, which the children of Israel had brought for the work of the service of the sanctuary, to make it withal. And they brought yet unto him free offerings every morning. 4 And all the wise men, that wrought all the work of the sanctuary, came every man from his work which they made;"

I want us to see the prophetic picture of the New Testament Church in the building of the tabernacle and all its furnishings. To get us oriented for the scene, we will point out that Moses is a type of God the Father, Bezaleel is a type of God the Son, and Aholibah is a type of God the Holy Ghost.

How did the New Testament Church come into existence? God, the Father, sent God, the Son, and God, the Holy Ghost, to establish the age of salvation by the grace of God, and to establish the New Testament Church. God the Son and God the Holy Spirit were the ones who God the Father filled with wisdom to oversee all the work and the skills to do everything that needed to be done, which wisdom they taught to others to carry this work forward.

Notice that everyone involved in this scenario was of a willing heart. Jesus was willing to come and teach others as well as the holy Ghost. And everyone who is born of the grace of God, and saved eternally, is also of a willing heart to carry out the work necessary for the New Testament Church to function as God has purposed.

"And they brought yet unto him free offerings every morning." This reminds us that as a part of the willing hearted of the New Testament Church, we are to bring our offerings of the sacrifice of our praise to God every day, beginning in the morning. This reminds us of the scripture in **Mt 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."** We should always begin our days with worship and thanks to God.

5 "And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make. 6 And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So, the people were restrained from bringing. 7 For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much."

Herein, we see the finished work of Jesus Christ. Under the law service it was necessary that every day offerings of sacrifice be brought to the tabernacle, or temple, to sanctify God's people to himself. When did the need of this end? When Jesus had given himself as the true sacrifice for the eternal remission of sins, of which we are given a picture in **Heb 9:12 "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us."** With the eternal redemption of God's chosen people, the need to bring the works of your own hands was ended. Remember, the law service demanded works for the redemption of their sins. However, the redemption of sins, in this age of Salvation by the Grace of God, does not need that we bring our works, and actually condemns us bringing our works for eternal salvation, being accomplished by Jesus Christ, now we only bring the finished work of Jesus Christ as a sacrifice of praise to God.

Notice, all that had already been brought was more than enough. We declare unto you that the finished work of Jesus Christ was more than enough to accomplish the will and work of God the Father, which God the Father gave God the Son to accomplish.

8 ¶ "And every wise hearted man among them that wrought the work of the tabernacle made ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: with cherubims of cunning work made he them. 9 The length of one curtain was twenty and eight cubits, and the breadth of one curtain four cubits: the curtains were all of one size. 10 And he coupled the five curtains one unto another: and the other five curtains he coupled one unto another. 11 And he made loops of blue on the edge of one curtain from the selvedge in the

coupling: likewise, he made in the uttermost side of another curtain, in the coupling of the second. 12 Fifty loops made he in one curtain, and fifty loops made he in the edge of the curtain which was in the coupling of the second: the loops held one curtain to another. 13 And he made fifty taches of gold, and coupled the curtains one unto another with the taches: so, it became one tabernacle."

These curtains were the inner curtains that were seen upon entering into the completed tabernacle. We notice that they were fashioned in such a way to be coupled together one to another, so that it became one tabernacle. This gives us the prophetic picture of the New Testament Church, comprised of the separate bodies of believers, who believe completely in the finished work of Jesus Christ. Each individual congregation of people who are worshiping God in Spirit and Truth, are connected together by the grace of God and for one congregation, the New Testament Church.

14 ¶ "And he made curtains of goats' hair for the tent over the tabernacle: eleven curtains he made them. 15 The length of one curtain was thirty cubits, and four cubits was the breadth of one curtain: the eleven curtains were of one size. 16 And he coupled five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves. 17 And he made fifty loops upon the uttermost edge of the curtain in the coupling, and fifty loops made he upon the edge of the curtain which coupleth the second. 18 And he made fifty taches of brass to couple the tent together, that it might be one. 19 And he made a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering of badgers' skins above that."

Here we have the outer covering of the tabernacle, which is not comely, nor made of precious things, as the inside of the tabernacle was made of precious things and was very elaborate in its beauty. This fulfills a prophesy we find in *Isa 53:2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. 3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. 4 ¶ Surely, he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*" Even when the people looked upon the outside of Jesus's prepared body, they saw nothing to attract them to him.

This is true of the New Testament Church. What do you mean? The eyes of those who are blinded by the power of Satan see no beauty in the Church. However, those who enter into the fellowship of the New Testament Church come inside and they see the richness of the beauty of the finished work of Jesus Christ.

20 "And he made boards for the tabernacle of shittim wood, standing up. 21 The length of a board was ten cubits, and the breadth of a board one cubit and a half. 22 One board had two tenons, equally distant one from another: thus, did he make for all the boards of the tabernacle. 23 And he made boards for the tabernacle; twenty boards for the south side southward: 24 And forty sockets of silver he made under the twenty boards; two sockets under one board for his two tenons, and two sockets under another board for his two tenons. 25 And for the other side of the tabernacle, which is toward the north corner, he made twenty boards, 26 And their forty sockets of silver: two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board. 27 And for the sides of the tabernacle westward he made six boards. 28 And two boards made he for the corners of the tabernacle in the two sides. 29 And they were coupled beneath, and coupled together at the head thereof, to one ring: thus, he did to both of them in both the corners. 30 And there were eight boards; and their sockets were sixteen sockets of silver, under every board two sockets. 31 And he made bars of shittim wood; five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle, 32 And five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the tabernacle for the sides westward. 33 And he made the middle bar to shoot through the boards from the one end to the other. 34 And he overlaid the boards with gold, and made their rings of gold to be places for the bars, and overlaid the bars with gold."

In these verses we have the structure that held up the outer and inner curtains of the tabernacle. This sets forth to us the prophetic picture of the New Testament Church being founded upon Jesus the Cornerstone and upholding the inner and outer curtains by the doctrines that Jesus taught the apostles. One way we can consider these boards and how they were assembled together is the teachings of Jesus Christ and the apostles. They are

interconnected just as demonstrated when the scribes pharisees questioned Jesus of the greatest commandment, seen in **Mt 22:36 "Master, which is the great commandment in the law? 37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."** And then Jesus added the new commandment seen in **Joh 13:34 "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another."**

Do you realize; if you fulfill the first of the Ten Commandments "**thou shalt have no other gods before me**" you will always be found inside the tabernacle beholding the beauty of the finished work of Jesus Christ. We get a glimpse of this picture when Moses was in the mount with God and had no need of food or water for that forty-day period, and when Moses came down from the mountain, he was so filled with the essence of God that his face shone.

35 ¶ "And he made a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen: with cherubims made he it of cunning work. 36 And he made thereunto four pillars of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold: their hooks were of gold; and he cast for them four sockets of silver. 37 And he made an hanging for the tabernacle door of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, of needlework; 38 And the five pillars of it with their hooks: and he overlaid their chapters and their fillets with gold: but their five sockets were of brass."

This vail was the first vail which separated the court of the congregation from the holy place. There was another vail made that separated the holy place from the most holy place, wherein was the ark of the covenant with the two tables of stone within, which was covered by the mercy seat. What does this have to do with the New Testament Church? The court of the congregation was where the brazen altar was upon which the offerings for the sacrifice for sins were made. The holy place was the place where the priests took the portions they were given of these sacrifices, and therein they ate the meats and partook of the bread.

Having been made kings and priests to God by the finished work of Jesus Christ, we enter through the court of the congregation and see the brazen altar and realize that it was the sacrifice of Jesus that gave us the privilege of entering the New Testament Church. Since Jesus has made us kings and priests to God, we are given the privilege of entering into the holy place to partake of the body of the sacrifice, the body of Jesus, and the eat the bread of life.

However, it does not end there for us. Remember when Jesus gave up his life on the cross? What happened? We find in **Mt 27:50 ¶ "Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. 51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;"** Which vail was rent int wain? The vail between the holy place and then most holy place. The vail between the courtyard and the holy place is still in place. What is the significance of this? The world of the unregenerate still cannot see into the holy or the most holy place. How do we know this? Because who was allowed into the holy place? The priest only. This is why we are made priests and kings to God. Being made priests, by the gift of the new birth and choosing to become disciples of Christ, we can enter into the holy place and view the Mercy seat, our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ. What was accomplished with this rending of the vail, which separated the holy place from the most holy place? Remember that to enter the holy place you had to pass by the altar of sacrifice, a picture of Jesus on the cross. When we can see the cross of Christ, we have been made able to enter the holy place. When we enter the holy place, we are able to see the most holy place, where we see our risen and exalted Saviour in the Mercy seat, which is representative of Jesus Christ. This rending of the vail put us in direct communion with God the Father. Thus, we see that Jesus did come to earth in a prepared body. That he lived the perfect life, fulfilled all the law commandments, and was sinless. We get to behold the beauty of the inner curtains and the golden walls, ceilings, and floors, which is reflective of the beauty and purity of our Saviour and Lord.

Before the rending of the vail of the most holy place, we find that God communicated with his people Israel from above the mercy seat and under the wings of the cherubims that overshadowed it. This give us the picture that the New Testament Church is now communicated with through the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit power of revelation of salvation by the grace of God. This is the beauty of being inside the tabernacle, the New Testament Church, as priests and kings to God the Father. Hallelujah! Amen!