

Exodus Chapter 40 The New Testament Church Revealed Verses 1-21

Ex 40:1 ¶ "And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 On the first day of the first month shalt thou set up the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation. 3 And thou shalt put therein the ark of the testimony, and cover the ark with the vail. 4 And thou shalt bring in the table, and set in order the things that are to be set in order upon it; and thou shalt bring in the candlestick, and light the lamps thereof. 5 And thou shalt set the altar of gold for the incense before the ark of the testimony, and put the hanging of the door to the tabernacle. 6 And thou shalt set the altar of the burnt offering before the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation. 7 And thou shalt set the laver between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and shalt put water therein. 8 And thou shalt set up the court round about, and hang up the hanging at the court gate."

We point out that everything, that appertained to the temple, had previously been examined by Moses, and was found to be as God had ordered it to be built. Likewise, even before the world was, the finished work of Jesus had been examined by God the Father and found to be as God had ordered. This is verified in ***Eph 1:3-6; 3 ¶ "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved."*** And in ***1Pe 1:18-21; 18 "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: 20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, 21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God."***

We remind everyone that the King James Bible is a testimony of Jesus Christ. The building of this tabernacle and all of its furnishings remind us that the fall of man in sin was no surprise to God, as seen in the reference texts above. In these verses, we see God telling Moses how to set, in its proper place and order, each part of the tabernacle complete. This gives us the picture of the before the world was, God the Father covenanting with God the Son for the establishment of the age of salvation by Grace, and the way of the eternal salvation for all of God's people to be manifested upon the earth, to both Jew and Gentile. It demonstrates that Jesus would be the way of eternal salvation for all of God's people, both Jew and Gentile. It is a picture of the New Testament Church, and Moses is depicted as an emblem of Jesus, through whom all the work was completed.

9 "And thou shalt take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle, and all that is therein, and shalt hallow it, and all the vessels thereof: and it shall be holy. 10 And thou shalt anoint the altar of the burnt offering, and all his vessels, and sanctify the altar: and it shall be an altar most holy. 11 And thou shalt anoint the laver and his foot, and sanctify it. 12 And thou shalt bring Aaron and his sons unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and wash them with water. 13 And thou shalt put upon Aaron the holy garments, and anoint him, and sanctify him; that he may minister unto me in the priest's office. 14 And thou shalt bring his sons, and clothe them with coats: 15 And thou shalt anoint them, as thou didst anoint their father, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office: for their anointing shall surely be an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations. 16 ¶ Thus did Moses: according to all that the LORD commanded him, so did he."

Everything pertaining to the tabernacle, and the priests thereof, was anointed with the anointing oil, which was to make it all holy for its appointed use, only after it was set in its proper place. Anoint has the definition of ***consecrating with oil, to purify or make holy for its appointed use***. This gives us the prophetic picture of how Christ established the age of Salvation by the Grace of God, and the New Testament Church, in accordance with the commandment of God the Father. This prophecies that after the new birth, when one joins the New Testament church, publicly professing faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ and being baptized, they are sanctified to their proper use in the house of the Lord.

It demonstrates that as Moses was commanded to wash Aaron the high priest, first, and dress him in his priestly garments, first, Jesus had to put on the High Priest garments to sanctify the New Testament Church, which has been washed through the pure sinless blood of Jesus, along with all who appertain thereto.

Did you notice that not only was the laver to be anointed, but also the foot of the laver, the base which the laver sat upon? This is prophetic of the washing of the saints' feet as established by Jesus when He instituted the Lord's Supper, and the need to wash one another's feet. This is the first time the tabernacle is set up completely, and Jesus washed the disciples' feet the first time the Lord's Supper was instituted.

We notice that Moses was commanded to wash and dress the priests in their clothes of service. This prophesies that Jesus would choose his apostles, organize the leadership of the New Testament Church, set in place the offices to be occupied, and consecrate those who are to occupy them, along with all of God's children serving in their proper place. Christ has shed his precious sinless blood that we might be forgiven of our sins eternally; whereby, Jesus has washed us in the waters of regeneration, and made us ready to have our clothes of service put upon us, which are the robes of His righteousness, that they may serve him, each in his specified office of service. We know this is true from **Re 1:5-6; 5 "And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, 6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."** We would affirm to you; every child of God has a place of service in the house of God, which is the New Testament Church.

17 "And it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was reared up. 18 And Moses reared up the tabernacle, and fastened his sockets, and set up the boards thereof, and put in the bars thereof, and reared up his pillars. 19 And he spread abroad the tent over the tabernacle, and put the covering of the tent above upon it; as the LORD commanded Moses. 20 And he took and put the testimony into the ark, and set the staves on the ark, and put the mercy seat above upon the ark: 21 And he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the vail of the covering, and covered the ark of the testimony; as the LORD commanded Moses."

One year after God brought the Israelites out of Egypt, the tabernacle was set up. This set in motion the age of the ceremonial and sacrificial law. However, notice, the emblem of Jesus was present, as the tabernacle was set up. Remember that God has one way of saving sinners eternally, which is by his grace.

Notice also, that Jesus, exemplified by the Mercy seat, was hidden from view of all but the high priest. This demonstrates that Jesus was just as necessary for the salvation and forgiveness of sins for this age of the ceremonial and sacrificial law, as Jesus is necessary for the salvation and forgiveness of sins for the new Testament Church, in the age of Salvation by the Grace of God. This was demonstrated in the revelation of Jesus, as the Christ, when the sacrificial law was fulfilled by his death on the cross, and the vail of the temple was rent in twain. That is; the vail between the holy place and the Most Holy Place, where the representation of Jesus was hidden from those under the law covenant, and revealed to the New Testament Church. The place where Jesus remains hidden from the unsaved and stands revealed to each child of God who has been saved by God's sovereign grace.

Remember, the brazen altar upon which the sacrifices for sins were made was in the courtyard of the congregation, before you enter the holy place. Christ had to come and be our sacrifice on the cross before we could be made worthy to enter the holy place as priests to God. We must come by the cross, the brazen altar, before we can enter the holy place, and see into the most holy place. It is inside the holy place, and the most holy place, that we see the beautiful ornamentation that was on display, visible only on the inside.

Wherefore, we have the prophetic picture of the visible New Testament Church, and all its viable components, being sanctified by the finished work of Jesus Christ, the Beloved Son of God, and anointed by the Holy Ghost, which Jesus sent to be our Comforter in his absence on earth.

We have already preached upon **Ex 40:22-32** and the prophetic picture of the Lord's Supper being set forth. You may read those verses at this link; <https://elderclarklee.com/written-messages/> titled 2025-10-05; Exodus Chapter 40; The Lord's Supper Prophesied.

We expect to finish this book soon. May God continue to make our once crucified, now risen and exalted, Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ, manifest to our sight in the Old Testament scriptures: whereby we may rejoice and praise the name of our glorious God and Saviour, we pray in Jesus' name, Amen!