

Israel at Mount Sinai

^① ^② ^{*}
19 On the **third** new moon after the people of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that day they came into the ^① **wilderness** of Sinai. **2** They set out from Rephidim and came into the ^① **wilderness** of Sinai, and they encamped in the **wilderness**. There Israel encamped before the mountain, **3** while Moses went up to God. The Lord called to him out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: ^② **4** 'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. **5** Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my ^① **covenant**, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, ^① for all the earth is mine; **6** and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a ^① **holy** nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel." ^②

7 So Moses came and called the elders of the people and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. **8** All the people answered together and said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do." And Moses reported the words of the people to the Lord. **9** And the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I am coming to you in a thick ^① **cloud**, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you forever."

When Moses told the words of the people to the Lord, **10** the Lord said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments **11** and be ready for the ^① **third** day. For on the ^① **third** day the Lord will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. **12** And you shall set limits for the people all around, saying, 'Take care not to go up into the mountain or touch the edge of it. Whoever touches the mountain shall be put to death. **13** No hand shall touch him, but he shall be stoned or shot; whether beast or man, he shall not live.' When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain." **14** So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and consecrated the people; and they washed their garments. **15** And he said to the people, "Be ready for the ^① **third** day, ^② do not go near a woman."

[?] Questions

[!] Literary elements

[➔] Prayer

^{*} Cross References

[!]

Sets of three are significant throughout Scripture!

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1 Corinthians 15:4

[!]

Recurring Motif throughout the Israelite's story: Wilderness

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Why is the Lord reminding them of what He's already done?

The Israelites are a forgetful people, and the Lord's command to remember their origin story will be on pages ahead! But this is a foreshadowing of what is to come.

[!]

Recurring Theme in the Torah: Covenant

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This is one of the very 1st direct statements from God himself that supports monotheism! Monotheism simply means that there is only one God over all the earth! (Christ Centered Exposition: Exodus p. 121)

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Recurring Theme in Scripture: God is holy and desires His people to be holy! We see this word throughout his detailed rules!

[➔]

God thank you for being a God who keeps your promises and stops at nothing to continue your redemption plan! All the earth is yours and we bless your name!

[?]

What does this mean? Does this mean people shouldn't physically be near women? What were women to do during this time?

This was not an attack against women, rather it was a command to abstain from sex in order to set oneself apart to meet with God, "not because of anything presumed to be inherently unacceptable in either sex or women." (ESV Study Bible, p. 175)

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Leviticus 15:16-18

16 On the morning of the ^①third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick ^①cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled. 17 Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain. 18 Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the Lord had descended on it in ^①fire. The smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly. 19 And as the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder. 20 The Lord came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain. And the Lord called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

21 And the Lord said to Moses, "Go down and warn the people, lest they break through to the Lord to look and many of them perish. 22 Also let the priests who come near to the Lord consecrate themselves, lest the Lord break out against them." 23 And Moses said to the Lord, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai, for you yourself warned us, saying, 'Set ^②limits around the mountain and consecrate it.'" 24 And the Lord said to him, "Go ^①down, and come up bringing Aaron with you. But do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the Lord, lest he break out against them." 25 So Moses went down to the people and told them.

^②The Ten Commandments

^①20 And God spoke all these words, saying,
^①2 "I am the Lord your God," ^①who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ^①
3 "You shall have no other gods before me.
4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.



Throughout Exodus, God frequently makes his presence known through the presence of fire and cloud.



Isn't it interesting how God is laying out rules for His people before He gives them the Law? What is the purpose for all of these rules?



Foreshadowing. Here we see a glimpse of Aaron's future role as High Priest! God is preparing him by allowing him to go up to the holy mountain and meet with the Lord. "The top of the mountain was like a 'sanctuary.' Later he would do the same thing in the tabernacle - he would go into the most holy place while the people kept their distance." (Christ Centered Exposition, p. 122)



Why these 10? What sets these ten apart from the rest of the laws God gave them?



These ten commandments aren't exhaustive, as you'll see in future chapters! But they are intended to be overarching laws to help Israel remain faithful to the Lord!



Again, we see God reminding the Israelites of their origin story!

Hebrew expression means "in preference to me," "in my presence," and "in competition with me."

7 "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.



Recurring Holy Number

8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it [!]holy. 9 Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, 10 but the [!]^{*}seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. 11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the [!]seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it [!]holy.



Genesis 2:1-3 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy...

12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

13 "You shall not murder.

14 "You shall not commit adultery.

15 "You shall not steal.

16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.



Compared to the first nine commandments, this commandment when broken, is not an observable action! Notice it's a posture of the heart, that can be the root sin of many of the other commandments listed before it. This shows that God doesn't just want Israel's blind obedience and outward conformity, but He also is after Israel's heart.

[!]17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's." [?]



God thank you for limits. Thank you for keeping us from living in the flesh and ultimately wounding ourselves and others. Your heart for redemption is seen even in your laws! Oh Lord help us to delight in the law of the Lord and to keep its statutes!

18 Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off 19 and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die." 20 Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin." 21 The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was. [?]



Are these laws still applicable today even though we're under a new covenant through Christ?

Laws About Altars

22 And the Lord said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the people of Israel: 'You have seen for yourselves that I have talked with you from heaven. 23 You shall not make gods of silver to be with me, nor shall you make for yourselves gods of gold. 24

There are two mistakes that we want to avoid when approaching this passage. The first is to throw all of the laws out entirely, but the second is to take them at face value and adopt them strictly. "At the same time, God's character is revealed in His law, and this makes these laws relevant. We should seek to learn what these laws mean, then make responsible, Christ-centered, new covenant application." (Christ Centered Exposition, p. 136).

① An altar of earth you shall make for me and sacrifice on it your **burnt offerings** and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In every place where I cause my name to be remembered I will come to you and bless you. 25 If you make me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones, for if you wield your tool on it you profane it. 26 And you shall not go up by steps to my altar, that your nakedness be not exposed on it.'



Recurring Motif: Burnt Offerings

Laws About Slaves

① ② **21** "Now these are the **rules** that you shall set before them. 2 When you buy a Hebrew slave, he shall serve six years, and in the **seventh** he shall go out free, for nothing. 3 If he comes in single, he shall go out single; if he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him. 4 If his master gives him a wife and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out alone. 5 ^③ But if the slave plainly says, 'I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,' 6 then his master shall bring him to God, and he shall bring him to the door or the doorpost. And his master shall bore his ear through with an awl, and he shall be his slave forever.



Recurring Motif. The translation of the word "rules" could also mean "rulings" or "judgments"



Why more rules?

These next few chapters guide the Israelites into being a just society, set apart for the one true God.



Slave also means Servant.



"Just as the rhythm of Israel's life is to be six days of work and then a Sabbath" so it is for the slaves. (ESV Study Bible, p. 177)



Why would a slave choose to stay?

In the context of this writing, debt was the most common reason for servitude, and to employ the indebted or the poor was also seen as a sign of benevolence! The security provided by a good employer could cause some slaves to stay!

7 "When a man sells his daughter as a slave, she shall not go out as the male slaves do. 8 If she does not please her master, who has designated her for himself, then he shall let her be redeemed. He shall have no right to sell her to a foreign people, since he has broken faith with her. 9 If he designates her for his son, he shall deal with her as with a daughter. 10 If he takes another wife to himself, he shall not diminish her food, her clothing, or her marital rights. 11 And if he does not do these three things for her, she shall go out for nothing, without payment of money.

12 "Whoever strikes a man so that he dies shall be put to death. 13 But if he did not lie in wait for him, but God let him fall into his hand, then I will appoint for you a place to which he may flee. 14 But if a man willfully attacks another to kill him by cunning, you shall take him from my altar, that he may die.

*15 "Whoever strikes his father or his mother shall be put to death.

16 "Whoever steals a man and sells him, and anyone found in possession of him, shall be put to death.

17 "Whoever curses his father or his mother shall be put to death.

18 "When men quarrel and one strikes the other with a stone or with his fist and the man does not die but takes to his bed, 19 then if the man rises again and walks outdoors with his staff, he who struck him shall be clear; only he shall pay for the loss of his time, and shall have him thoroughly healed.

20 "When a man strikes his slave, male or female, with a rod and the slave dies under his hand, he shall be avenged. 21 But if the slave survives a day or two, he is not to be avenged, for the slave is his money.

22 "When men strive together and hit a pregnant woman, so that her children come out, but there is no harm, the one who hit her shall surely be fined, as the woman's husband shall impose on him, and he shall pay as the judges determine. 23

But if there is harm, then you shall pay life for life, 24 [!]^{}eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, 25 burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

26 "When a man strikes the eye of his slave, male or female, and destroys it, he shall let the slave go free because of his eye.

27 If he knocks out the tooth of his slave, male or female, he shall let the slave go free because of his tooth.

28 "When an ox gores a man or a woman to death, the ox shall be stoned, and its flesh shall not be eaten, but the owner of the ox shall not be liable. 29 But if the ox has been accustomed to gore in the past, and its owner has been warned but has not kept it in, and it kills a man or a woman, the ox shall be stoned, and its owner also shall be put to death. 30 If a ransom is imposed on him, then he shall give for the redemption of his life whatever is imposed on him. 31 If it gores a man's son or daughter, he shall be dealt with according to this same rule. 32



Exodus 20:12-17, notice that some of these rules are further detailed expectations of how to live out the 10 Commandments!



Exodus 21:26-32 Notice! The same payment for the life of an infant, "life for life" in the womb is the same payment for a life outside the womb, "eye for an eye, tooth for tooth, etc." Even in God's laws we see His love for His creation. (ESV Study Bible, p. 178)



Recurring Motif "Eye for eye."



Matthew 5:38-42 "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you

If the ox gores a slave, male or female, the owner shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned.

Laws About Restitution

33 "When a man opens a pit, or when a man digs a pit and does not cover it, and an ox or a donkey falls into it, 34 the owner of the pit shall make restoration. He shall give money to its owner, and the dead beast shall be his.

35 "When one man's ox butts another's, so that it dies, then they shall sell the live ox and share its price, and the dead beast also they shall share. 36 Or if it is known that the ox has been accustomed to gore in the past, and its owner has not kept it in, he shall repay ox for ox, and the dead beast shall be his.

22 "If a man steals an ox or a sheep, and kills it or sells it, he shall repay five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep. 2 If a thief is found breaking in and is struck so that he dies, there shall be no bloodguilt for him, 3 but if the sun has risen on him, there shall be bloodguilt for him. He shall surely pay. If he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft. 4 If the stolen beast is found alive in his possession, whether it is an ox or a donkey or a sheep, he shall pay double.

5 "If a man causes a field or vineyard to be grazed over, or lets his beast loose and it feeds in another man's field, he shall make restitution from the best in his own field and in his own vineyard.

6 "If fire breaks out and catches in thorns so that the stacked grain or the standing grain or the field is consumed, he who started the fire shall make full restitution.

7 "If a man gives to his neighbor money or goods to keep safe, and it is stolen from the man's house, then, if the thief is found, he shall pay double. 8 If the thief is not found, the owner of the house shall come near to God to show whether or not he has put his hand to his neighbor's property. 9 For every breach of trust, whether it is for an ox, for a donkey, for a sheep, for a cloak, or for any kind of lost thing, of which one says, 'This is it,'

the case of both parties shall come before God. The one whom God condemns shall pay double to his neighbor.

10 "If a man gives to his neighbor a donkey or an ox or a sheep or any beast to keep safe, and it dies or is injured or is driven away, without anyone seeing it, 11 an oath by the Lord shall be between them both to see whether or not he has put his hand to his neighbor's property. The owner shall accept the oath, and he shall not make restitution. 12 But if it is stolen from him, he shall make restitution to its owner. 13 If it is torn by beasts, let him bring it as evidence. He shall not make restitution for what has been torn.

14 "If a man borrows anything of his neighbor, and it is injured or dies, the owner not being with it, he shall make full restitution. 15 If the owner was with it, he shall not make restitution; if it was hired, it came for its hiring fee.

Laws About Social Justice

16 "If a man seduces a virgin who is not betrothed and lies with her, he shall give the bride-price for her and make her his wife. 17 If her father utterly refuses to give her to him, he shall pay money equal to the bride-price for virgins.

18 "You shall not permit a sorceress to live. 19 "Whoever lies with an animal shall be put to death. 20 "Whoever sacrifices to any god, other than the Lord alone, shall be devoted to destruction.

21 "You shall not wrong a sojourner or oppress him, for you were **sojourners** in the land of Egypt. 22 You shall not mistreat any **widow** or **fatherless child**. 23 If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry, 24 and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless.

25 "If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a moneylender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him. 26 If ever you take your neighbor's



It is important to note that the word "seduces" indicates this reference is about consensual sex, not rape. We see in Deuteronomy 22: 25-27 that the consequence of rape is death for the Israelites.



Recurring Theme: Sojourners



And again see the gentle reminder of the Israelites origin story! God is calling the Israelites to show foreigners the same kind of treatment and care they received from Him.



This is a recurring motif throughout Scripture. God cares for the orphan and the widow and calls on His people to!



Psalm 94:6; Isaiah 1:17, 23



James 1:27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world

cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, 27 for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.

28 "You shall not revile God, nor curse a ruler of your people.

29 "You shall not delay to offer from the fullness of your harvest and from the outflow of your presses. The firstborn of your sons you shall give to me. 30 You shall do the same with your oxen and with your sheep: [!]seven days it shall be with its mother; on the eighth day you shall give it to me.

31 "You shall be consecrated to me. Therefore you shall not eat any flesh that is torn by beasts in the field; you shall throw it to the dogs.

23 "You shall not spread a false report. You shall not join hands with a wicked man to be a malicious witness. 2 You shall not fall in with the many to do evil, nor shall you bear witness in a lawsuit, siding with the many, so as to pervert justice, 3 nor shall you be partial to a poor man in his lawsuit.

^{* !} 4 "If you meet your enemy's ox or his donkey going astray, you shall bring it back to him. 5 If you see the donkey of one who hates you lying down under its burden, you shall refrain from leaving him with it; you shall rescue it with him.

[!] 6 "You shall not pervert the justice due to your poor in his lawsuit. 7 Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent and righteous, for I will not acquit the wicked. 8 And you shall take no bribe, for a bribe blinds the clear-sighted and subverts the cause of those who are in the right.

[?] 9 "You shall not oppress a [!]sojourner. You know the heart of a [!]sojourner, for you were [!]sojourners in the land of Egypt.

Laws About the Sabbath and Festivals

10 "For six years you shall sow your land and gather in its yield,



Matt. 5:44-46 But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?



Here we see the heart of God: we are to love our enemies. The Israelites are called to not only keep the law, but to show care and preference toward their enemies!



This is the theme of 23:1-8. Do not pervert justice and try to get around the laws that have been given.



In light of the constant reminders to remember that they, the Israelites, were sojourners, how does that impact your heart? What is your story of redemption? Are/Were you a sojourner?

11 but the ^①**seventh** year you shall let it rest and lie fallow, that the poor of your people may eat; and what they leave the beasts of the field may eat. You shall do likewise with your vineyard, and with your olive orchard.



Which of the 10 Commandments do these next verses give more specifics to?

12 "Six days you shall do your work, but on the ^①**seventh** day you shall rest; that your ox and your donkey may have rest, and the son of your servant woman, and the alien, may be refreshed.

13 "Pay attention to all that I have said to you, and ^①make no mention of the names of other gods, nor let it be heard on your lips.



Which of the 10 Commandments do these next verses give more specifics to?



Which of the 10 Commandments does this rule supplement?

14 "Three times in the year you shall keep a feast to me. 15 You shall keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread. As I commanded you, you shall eat unleavened bread for ^①**seven** days at the appointed time in the month of Abib, for in it you came out of Egypt. None shall appear before me empty-handed. 16 You shall keep the Feast of Harvest, of the ^①^{*}**firstfruits** of your labor, of what you sow in the field. You shall keep the Feast of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in from the field the fruit of your labor. 17 Three times in the year shall all your males appear before the Lord God.



Recurring Motif: Firstfruits



Exodus 34:26; Lev. 2:12, 23:10, 17; Numbers 18:12; Deut. 26:2; Ezek 44:30

18 "You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with anything leavened, or let the fat of my feast remain until the morning.

19 "The best of the ^①**firstfruits** of your ground you shall bring into the house of the Lord your God.

"You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk.

Conquest of Canaan Promised

20 "Behold, ^①I send an angel before you to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared. 21 Pay careful attention to him and obey his voice; do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression, for my name is in him.



Who is this angel?

This angel isn't anything like our culture depicts angels, no he was a warrior angel. There is much speculation on the precise identity of this angel, but the ESV Study Bible believes that it is the same angel that appeared to Joshua in Joshua 5:13-15. (p. 181). But the point is not that there is an angel, rather it's that God is a God who protects and guides his people through whatever means He chooses!

22 "But if you carefully obey his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries.

23 "When my angel goes before you and brings you to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, and I blot them out, 24 you shall not bow down to their gods nor serve them, nor do as they do, but you shall utterly overthrow them and break their pillars in pieces. 25 You shall serve the Lord your God, and he will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you. 26 None shall miscarry or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days. 27 I will send my terror before you and will throw into confusion all the people against whom you shall come, and I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you. 28 And I will send hornets before you, which shall drive out the Hivites, the Canaanites, and the Hittites from before you. 29 I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate and the wild beasts multiply against you. 30 Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and possess the land. 31 And I will set your border from the Red Sea to the Sea of the Philistines, and from the ^①wilderness to the Euphrates, for I will give the inhabitants of the land into your hand, and you shall drive them out before you. 32 You shall make no ^①covenant with them and their gods. 33 They shall not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against me; for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you."

The Covenant Confirmed

24 Then he said to Moses, "Come up to the Lord, you and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and ^①seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship from afar. 2 Moses alone shall come near to the Lord, but the others shall not come near, and the people shall not come up with him."

3 Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the **rules**. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do." 4 And

Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. 5 And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered **burnt offerings** and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord. 6 And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. 7 Then he took the Book of the **Covenant** and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." 8 And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the **covenant** that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words."



Recurring Motif. We've already seen burnt offerings in previous chapters, but the Lord hasn't yet prescribed their practice or informed us of their function! Be on the lookout for this!

9 Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and **seventy** of the elders of Israel went up, 10 and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. 11 And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.



What does it mean "they beheld God?"

This passage depicts a peace offering, a covenant meal! Moses, Aaron, his sons, and the 70 elders saw the God of Israel and didn't die. First off, most scholars agree that they didn't fully see God; rather they only saw a partial vision of Him. Second, God chose not to "send His hand" against them! This meeting was a part of God's ultimate rescue plan and they had an invitation to enter into and keep this covenant with God. And even though the Israelites would fail, God still fulfilled His promises in Jesus.

12 The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." 13 So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. 14 And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them."



Isn't it refreshing to see that we aren't the only people dealing with disputes?

15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the **cloud** covered the mountain. 16 The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the **cloud** covered it six days. And on the **seventh** day he called to Moses out of the midst of the **cloud**. 17 Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a **devouring fire** on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. 18 Moses entered the **cloud** and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.



Recurring Motif: Devouring Fire

God's presence is frequently referred to a "devouring fire" throughout exodus!

Contributions for the Sanctuary

25 The Lord said to Moses, ² “Speak to the people of Israel, that they take for me a contribution. From every man whose heart moves him you shall receive the contribution for me. ³ And this is the contribution that you shall receive from them: gold, silver, and bronze, ⁴ blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, goats’ hair, ⁵ tanned rams’ skins, goatskins, acacia wood, ⁶ oil for the lamps, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, ⁷ onyx stones, and stones for setting, for the ephod and for the breastpiece. ⁸ And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst. ⁹ Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it.

The Ark of the Covenant

¹⁰ “They shall make an ark of acacia wood. Two cubits and a half shall be its length, a cubit and a half its breadth, and a cubit and a half its height. ¹¹ You shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and outside shall you overlay it, and you shall make on it a molding of gold around it. ¹² You shall cast four rings of gold for it and put them on its four feet, two rings on the one side of it, and two rings on the other side of it. ¹³ You shall make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. ¹⁴ And you shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark to carry the ark by them. ¹⁵ The poles shall remain in the rings of the ark; they shall not be taken from it. ¹⁶ And you shall put into the ark the testimony that I shall give you.

¹⁷ “You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold. Two cubits and a half shall be its length, and a cubit and a half its breadth. ¹⁸ And you shall make two cherubim of gold; of hammered work shall you make them, on the two ends of the mercy seat. ¹⁹ Make one cherub on the one end, and one cherub on the other end. Of one piece with the mercy seat shall you make the cherubim on its two ends. ²⁰ The cherubim shall spread out their wings above, overshadowing the mercy seat with their wings, their faces one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubim be. ²¹ And you shall put the mercy seat on the



Why are all these instructions so detailed? And what’s with ALL the instructions? Do they have a deeper meaning?

“The level of detail in the instructions emphasizes that Israel is to worship the Lord according to his word and that the materials, design, and layout of the tabernacle signify how Israel is to relate to the Lord, who is both holy and in their midst.” (ESV Study Bible p.183)

“God requested specific contributions. The materials for the tabernacle were unique and valuable... God told them exactly what to collect. They [the Israelites] knew what was expected and required. The level of detail demonstrates that God is not approached spontaneously or casually. He [God] is holy.” (Christ Centered Exposition, p. 167)



God you are Holy. You are Mighty. And you are WORTHY of all praise! Thank you for Jesus, who has come down to earth and fulfilled every one of your promises. Thank you for your new covenant that we have in Him. Although we are not worthy to come before you spontaneously, through the redemption of Jesus we can boldly approach the throne as sons and daughters. Thank you for that grace and for always making a way for your people to access you!

top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the testimony that I shall give you. 22 There I will meet with you, and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim that are on the ark of the testimony, I will speak with you about all that I will give you in commandment for the people of Israel.

The Table for Bread

23 "You shall make a table of acacia wood. Two cubits shall be its length, a cubit its breadth, and a cubit and a half its height. 24 You shall overlay it with pure gold and make a molding of gold around it. 25 And you shall make a rim around it a handbreadth wide, and a molding of gold around the rim. 26 And you shall make for it four rings of gold, and fasten the rings to the four corners at its four legs. 27 Close to the frame the rings shall lie, as holders for the poles to carry the table. 28 You shall make the poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold, and the table shall be carried with these. 29 And you shall make its plates and dishes for incense, and its flagons and bowls with which to pour drink offerings; you shall make them of pure gold. 30 And you shall set the bread of the Presence on the table before me regularly.



What is the Bread of the Presence?
It's 12 loaves of flat bread that represented the 12 tribes of Israel!

The Golden Lampstand

31 "You shall make a lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand shall be made of hammered work: its base, its stem, its cups, its calyxes, and its flowers shall be of one piece with it. 32 And there shall be six branches going out of its sides, three branches of the lampstand out of one side of it and three branches of the lampstand out of the other side of it; 33 three cups made like almond blossoms, each with calyx and flower, on one branch, and three cups made like almond blossoms, each with calyx and flower, on the other branch—so for the six branches going out of the lampstand. 34 And on the lampstand itself there shall be four cups made like almond blossoms, with their calyxes and flowers, 35 and a calyx of one piece with it under each pair of the six branches going out from the lampstand. 36 Their calyxes and their branches shall be of one piece with it, the whole of it a single piece of hammered work of pure gold. 37

You shall make [!]seven lamps for it. And the lamps shall be set up so as to give light on the space in front of it. 38 Its tongs and their trays shall be of pure gold. 39 It shall be made, with all these utensils, out of a [?]talent of pure gold. 40 ^{*}And see that you make them after the pattern for them, which is being shown you on the mountain.

[!]The Tabernacle

26 “Moreover, you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen and blue and purple and scarlet yarns; you shall make them with cherubim skillfully worked into them. 2 The length of each curtain shall be twenty-eight [?]cubits, and the breadth of each curtain four cubits; all the curtains shall be the same size. 3 Five curtains shall be coupled to one another, and the other five curtains shall be coupled to one another. 4 And you shall make loops of blue on the edge of the outermost curtain in the first set. Likewise you shall make loops on the edge of the outermost curtain in the second set. 5 Fifty loops you shall make on the one curtain, and fifty loops you shall make on the edge of the curtain that is in the second set; the loops shall be opposite one another. 6 And you shall make fifty clasps of gold, and couple the curtains one to the other with the clasps, so that the tabernacle may be a single whole.

7 “You shall also make curtains of goats’ hair for a tent over the tabernacle; eleven curtains shall you make. 8 The length of each curtain shall be thirty cubits, and the breadth of each curtain four cubits. The eleven curtains shall be the same size. 9 You shall couple five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves, and the sixth curtain you shall double over at the front of the tent. 10 You shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in one set, and fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in the second set.

11 “You shall make fifty clasps of bronze, and put the clasps into the loops, and couple the tent together that it may be a single whole. 12 And the part that remains of the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that remains, shall hang over the back of the tabernacle. 13 And the extra that remains in the



What is a talent?

A talent is approximately 75 pounds



Hebrews 8:5 They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.”



The Tabernacle was God’s dwelling place among his people! This is an amazing, mind-blowing truth that can get lost in these measurements!



What is a cubit?

A cubit is approximately 18 inches

length of the curtains, the cubit on the one side, and the cubit on the other side, shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle, on this side and that side, to cover it. 14 And you shall make for the tent a covering of tanned rams' skins and a covering of goatskins on top.

15 "You shall make upright frames for the tabernacle of acacia wood. 16 Ten² cubits shall be the length of a frame, and a cubit and a half the breadth of each frame. 17 There shall be two tenons in each frame, for fitting together. So shall you do for all the frames of the tabernacle. 18 You shall make the frames for the tabernacle: twenty frames for the south side; 19 and forty bases of silver you shall make under the twenty frames, two bases under one frame for its two tenons, and two bases under the next frame for its two tenons; 20 and for the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side twenty frames, 21 and their forty bases of silver, two bases under one frame, and two bases under the next frame. 22 And for the rear of the tabernacle westward you shall make six frames. 23 And you shall make two frames for corners of the tabernacle in the rear; 24 they shall be separate beneath, but joined at the top, at the first ring. Thus shall it be with both of them; they shall form the two corners. 25 And there shall be eight frames, with their bases of silver, sixteen bases; two bases under one frame, and two bases under another frame.

26 "You shall make bars of acacia wood, five for the frames of the one side of the tabernacle, 27 and five bars for the frames of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the frames of the side of the tabernacle at the rear westward. 28 The middle bar, halfway up the frames, shall run from end to end. 29 You shall overlay the frames with gold and shall make their rings of gold for holders for the bars, and you shall overlay the bars with gold. 30 Then you shall erect the tabernacle according to the plan for it that you were shown on the mountain.

31 "And you shall make a veil of blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen. It shall be made with cherubim skillfully worked into it. 32 And you shall hang it on four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold, with hooks of gold, on four bases of



Lord, where we see details and lists, help us see YOU. Help me to not get lost or consumed by trying to figure out every little unknown, but rather open my eyes to how you are revealing yourself in Scripture!

silver. 33^{*} And you shall hang the veil from the clasps, and bring the ark of the testimony in there within the veil. And the veil shall separate for you the **Holy** Place from the Most **Holy**.[↗] 34 You shall put the mercy seat on the ark of the testimony in the Most Holy Place. 35 And you shall set the table outside the veil, and the lampstand on the south side of the tabernacle opposite the table, and you shall put the table on the north side.

36 "You shall make a screen for the entrance of the tent, of blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, embroidered with needlework. 37 And you shall make for the screen five pillars of acacia, and overlay them with gold. Their hooks shall be of gold, and you shall cast five bases of bronze for them.

The Bronze Altar

27 "You shall make the altar of acacia wood, five cubits long and five cubits broad. The altar shall be square, and its height shall be three cubits. 2 And you shall make horns for it on its four corners; its horns shall be of one piece with it, and you shall overlay it with bronze. 3 You shall make pots for it to receive its ashes, and shovels and basins and forks and fire pans. You shall make all its utensils of bronze. 4 You shall also make for it a grating, a network of bronze, and on the net you shall make four bronze rings at its four corners. 5 And you shall set it under the ledge of the altar so that the net extends halfway down the altar. 6 And you shall make poles for the altar, poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with bronze. 7 And the poles shall be put through the rings, so that the poles are on the two sides of the altar when it is carried. 8 You shall make it hollow, with boards. As it has been shown you on the mountain, so shall it be made.

The Court of the Tabernacle

9 "You shall make the court of the tabernacle. On the south side the court shall have hangings of fine twined linen a hundred cubits long for one side. 10 Its twenty pillars and their twenty bases shall be of bronze, but the hooks of the pillars and their fillets shall be of silver. 11 And likewise for its length on the



Matthew 27:50-51 The ark of the testimony is in the Most Holy Place, separated by a veil. This is a beautiful imagery that is easy to miss. Remember when Jesus died, Scripture tells us that the veil was torn in two? In the tabernacles, even centuries after these instructions were given, there was a veil that separated the Most Holy Place and not everyone could enter into the Holy of Holies. The High Priest was the only one who could enter in on behalf of the people. JESUS, our great High Priest, ripped the veil in two from TOP TO BOTTOM with his last breath. Even in this imagery, these detailed instructions, we see glimpses of our rescue plan being put into place.



In light of the comment above... JESUS, thank you for being our great High Priest. "You tore the veil. You made a way, when you said that is done." Our one and only response to this is worship. Soften our hearts to your rescue plan, Oh Lord, and open our eyes to see your work on these pages!

north side there shall be hangings a hundred cubits long, its pillars twenty and their bases twenty, of bronze, but the hooks of the pillars and their fillets shall be of silver. 12 And for the breadth of the court on the west side there shall be hangings for fifty cubits, with ten pillars and ten bases. 13 The breadth of the court on the front to the east shall be fifty cubits. 14 The hangings for the one side of the gate shall be fifteen cubits, with their three pillars and three bases. 15 On the other side the hangings shall be fifteen cubits, with their three pillars and three bases. 16 For the gate of the court there shall be a screen twenty cubits long, of blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, embroidered with needlework. It shall have four pillars and with them four bases. 17 All the pillars around the court shall be filleted with silver. Their hooks shall be of silver, and their bases of bronze. 18 The length of the court shall be a hundred cubits, the breadth fifty, and the height five cubits, with hangings of fine twined linen and bases of bronze. 19 All the utensils of the tabernacle for every use, and all its pegs and all the pegs of the court, shall be of bronze.

Oil for the Lamp

20 "You shall command the people of Israel that they bring to you pure beaten olive oil for the light, that a lamp may regularly be set up to burn. 21 In the tent of meeting, outside the veil that is before the testimony, Aaron and his sons shall tend it from evening to morning before the Lord. It shall be a statute forever to be observed throughout their generations by the people of Israel.

The Priests' Garments

28 "Then bring near to you Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the people of Israel, to serve me as priests—Aaron and Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. [?]2 And you shall make [!]holy garments for Aaron your brother, [!]for glory and for beauty. 3 You shall speak to all the skillful, whom I have filled with a spirit of skill, that they make Aaron's garments to [!]consecrate him for my priesthood. [!]4 These are the garments that they shall make: a breastpiece,



Hebrews 5:4 And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.



Aaron is Israel's first high priest and his sons also served with him.



Why do you think God called the garments "holy," designed for glory and beauty? Which of the last two purposes do you tend to find more value in? What does our culture tend to find more value in?



Recurring Motif: Glory & Beauty



1 Peter 2:4-5 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.



Like these priests, WE are a holy priesthood who offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through JESUS. We are set apart, not by our holy garments, but through Christ.



These are the 6 details that the Lord specifies as Priestly garments.

an ephod, a robe, a coat of checker work, a turban, and a sash. They shall make ^① **holy** garments for Aaron your brother and his sons to serve me as priests. 5 They shall receive gold, blue and purple and scarlet yarns, and fine twined linen.

6 "And they shall make the ephod of gold, of blue and purple and scarlet yarns, and of fine twined linen, skillfully worked. 7 It shall have two shoulder pieces attached to its two edges, so that it may be joined together. 8 And the skillfully woven band on it shall be made like it and be of one piece with it, of gold, blue and purple and scarlet yarns, and fine twined linen. 9 You shall take two onyx stones, and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel, 10 six of their names on the one stone, and the names of the remaining six on the other stone, in the order of their birth. 11 As a jeweler engraves signets, so shall you engrave the two stones with the names of the sons of Israel. You shall enclose them in settings of gold filigree. 12 And you shall set the two stones on the shoulder pieces of the ephod, as stones of remembrance for the sons of Israel. And Aaron shall bear their names before the Lord on his two shoulders for remembrance. 13 You shall make settings of gold filigree, 14 and two chains of pure gold, twisted like cords; and you shall attach the corded chains to the settings.

15 "You shall make a breastpiece of judgment, in skilled work. In the style of the ephod you shall make it—of gold, blue and purple and scarlet yarns, and fine twined linen shall you make it. 16 It shall be square and doubled, a span its length and a span its breadth. 17 You shall set in it four rows of stones. A row of sardius, ^① topaz, and carbuncle shall be the first row; 18 and the second row an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond; 19 and the third row a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; 20 and the fourth row a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper. They shall be set in gold filigree. 21 There shall be ^① **twelve stones** ^{*} with their names according to the names of the sons of Israel. They shall be like signets, each engraved with its name, for the twelve tribes. 22 You shall make for the breastpiece twisted chains like cords, of pure gold. 23 And you shall make for the breastpiece two rings of gold, and put the two rings on the two edges of the breastpiece. 24 And you shall put the two cords of gold in



12 Stones – These stones also appeared in the garden of Eden AND in Revelation! "This should not surprise us given what we have learned about the tabernacle. It pointed backward and forward. From glory to glory, we see the story of God dwelling with His people." (Christ Centered Exposition, p. 181)

Ezekiel 28:13, Revelation 21:19-20



Recurring Motif: Twelve. Whenever you see this number in these passages, ask the question, "Does this somehow point to the 12 tribes of Israel?"

the two rings at the edges of the breastpiece. 25 The two ends of the two cords you shall attach to the two settings of filigree, and so attach it in front to the shoulder pieces of the ephod. 26 You shall make two rings of gold, and put them at the two ends of the breastpiece, on its inside edge next to the ephod. 27 And you shall make two rings of gold, and attach them in front to the lower part of the two shoulder pieces of the ephod, at its seam above the skillfully woven band of the ephod. 28 And they shall bind the breastpiece by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue, so that it may lie on the skillfully woven band of the ephod, so that the breastpiece shall not come loose from the ephod. 29 So Aaron shall bear the names of the sons of Israel in the breastpiece of judgment on his heart, when he goes into the **Holy** Place, to bring them to regular remembrance before the Lord. 30 And in the breastpiece of judgment you shall put the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be on Aaron's heart, when he goes in before the Lord. Thus Aaron shall bear the judgment of the people of Israel on his heart before the Lord regularly.

31 "You shall make the robe of the ephod all of blue. 32 It shall have an opening for the head in the middle of it, with a woven binding around the opening, like the opening in a garment, so that it may not tear. 33 On its hem you shall make pomegranates of blue and purple and scarlet yarns, around its hem, with bells of gold between them, 34 a golden bell and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, around the hem of the robe. 35 And it shall be on Aaron when he ministers, and its sound shall be heard when he goes into the **Holy** Place before the Lord, and when he comes out, **so that he does not die.**

36 "You shall make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it, like the engraving of a signet, '**Holy** to the Lord.' 37 And you shall fasten it on the turban by a cord of blue. It shall be on the front of the turban. 38 It shall be on Aaron's forehead, and Aaron shall bear any guilt from the **holy** things that the people of Israel consecrate as their **holy** gifts. It shall regularly be on his forehead, that they may be accepted before the Lord.

39 "You shall weave the coat in checker work of fine linen, and



Recurring theme: Disobedience to these rules leads to death.



Why is this added in here? Why is the consequence of not approaching God with care to detail lead to death?! What does this say about God? And Man?

"Approaching God carelessly can lead to death (19:21-25). Every aspect of the tabernacle service involves intentional actions on the part of the priests and the people that are meant to teach Israel that the Lord is holy. The Lord did not need to be alerted to Aaron's presence by the sound of bells, but they served to greet God reverently when Aaron entered and left the tabernacle." (ESV Study Bible, p. 192)

you shall make a turban of fine linen, and you shall make a sash embroidered with needlework.

40 "For Aaron's sons you shall make coats and sashes and caps.

① **You shall make them for glory and beauty.** 41 And you shall put them on Aaron your brother, and on his sons with him, and shall anoint them and ordain them and consecrate them, that they may serve me as priests. 42 You shall make for them linen undergarments to cover their naked flesh. They shall reach from the hips to the thighs; 43 and they shall be on Aaron and on his sons when they go into the tent of meeting or when they come near the altar to minister in the ^①**Holy** Place, ^①lest they bear guilt and die. This shall be a statute forever for him and for his offspring after him.

Consecration of the Priests

② **29** "Now this is what you shall do to them to consecrate them, that they may serve me as priests. Take one bull of the herd and two rams without blemish, 2 and unleavened bread, unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers smeared with oil. You shall make them of fine wheat flour. 3 You shall put them in one basket and bring them in the basket, and bring the bull and the two rams. 4 You shall bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance of the tent of meeting and wash them with water. 5 Then you shall take the garments, and put on Aaron the coat and the robe of the ephod, and the ephod, and the breastpiece, and gird him with the skillfully woven band of the ephod. 6 And you shall set the turban on his head and put the ^①**holy** crown on the turban. 7 You shall take the anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him. 8 Then you shall bring his sons and put coats on them, 9 and you shall gird Aaron and his sons with sashes and bind caps on them. And the priesthood shall be theirs by a statute forever. Thus you shall ordain Aaron and his sons.

10 "Then you shall bring the bull before the tent of meeting. Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the bull. 11 Then you shall kill the bull before the Lord at the entrance of the tent of meeting, 12 and shall take part of the blood of the



Recurring theme. When they don't follow these rules, the consequence is death.



Chapter 29 is linked to the entire book of Hebrews, as all throughout its pages we see that Jesus is our high priest, who is better than Aaron or any other that followed.

Hebrews 8:1-2 - Jesus is the true and better priest!!
Hebrews 3:1 - Jesus is the high priest of our confession
Hebrews 6:20 - He is a high priest forever
Hebrews 9:11 - He is the high priest of the good things that have come!
Hebrews 10:21 - He is a great high priest over the house of God.



God thank you for our true and better Adam, and our true and better Aaron. Thank you for our High Priest, Jesus Christ! Lord, help us draw near and hold fast to our confession that our Great High Priest proclaimed that "It Is Finished."

"Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea;
A great High Priest, whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heaven He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart."
- Before the Throne of God Above by
Charitie Lees Bancroft

bull and put it on the horns of the altar with your finger, and the rest of the blood you shall pour out at the base of the altar. 13 And you shall take all the fat that covers the entrails, and the long lobe of the liver, and the two kidneys with the fat that is on them, and burn them on the altar. 14 But the flesh of the bull and its skin and its dung you shall burn with fire outside the camp; it is a sin offering.

15 "Then you shall take one of the rams, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the ram, 16 and you shall kill the ram and shall take its blood and throw it against the sides of the altar. 17 Then you shall cut the ram into pieces, and wash its entrails and its legs, and put them with its pieces and its head, 18 and burn the whole ram on the altar. It is a burnt offering to the Lord. It is a pleasing aroma, a food offering to the Lord.

19 "You shall take the other ram, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on the head of the ram, 20 and you shall kill the ram and take part of its blood and put it on the tip of the right ear of Aaron and on the tips of the right ears of his sons, and on the thumbs of their right hands and on the great toes of their right feet, and throw the rest of the blood against the sides of the altar. 21 Then you shall take part of the blood that is on the altar, and of the anointing oil, and sprinkle it on Aaron and his garments, and on his sons and his sons' garments with him. He and his garments shall be [Ⓛ]holy, and his sons and his sons' garments with him.

22 "You shall also take the fat from the ram and the fat tail and the fat that covers the entrails, and the long lobe of the liver and the two kidneys with the fat that is on them, and the right thigh (for it is a ram of ordination), 23 and one loaf of bread and one cake of bread made with oil, and one wafer out of the basket of unleavened bread that is before the Lord. 24 You shall put all these on the palms of Aaron and on the palms of his sons, and wave them for a wave offering before the Lord. 25 Then you shall take them from their hands and burn them on the altar on top of the burnt offering, as a pleasing aroma before the Lord. It is a food offering to the Lord.

26 "You shall take the breast of the ram of Aaron's ordination and wave it for a wave offering before the Lord, and it shall be your portion. 27 And you shall consecrate the breast of the wave offering that is waved and the thigh of the priests' portion that is contributed from the ram of ordination, from what was Aaron's and his sons'. 28 It shall be for Aaron and his sons as a perpetual due from the people of Israel, for it is a contribution. It shall be a contribution from the people of Israel from their peace offerings, their contribution to the Lord.

29 "The ^①**holy** garments of Aaron shall be for his sons after him; they shall be anointed in them and ordained in them. 30 The son who succeeds him as priest, who comes into the tent of meeting to minister in the ^①**Holy** Place, shall wear them ^①**seven** days.

31 "You shall take the ram of ordination and boil its flesh in a ^①**holy** place. 32 And Aaron and his sons shall eat the flesh of the ram and the bread that is in the basket in the entrance of the tent of meeting. 33 They shall eat those things with which atonement was made at their ordination and consecration, but an outsider shall not eat of them, because they are ^①**holy**. 34 And if any of the flesh for the ordination or of the bread remain until the morning, then you shall burn the remainder with fire. It shall not be eaten, because it is ^①**holy**.

35 "Thus you shall do to Aaron and to his sons, according to all that I have commanded you. Through ^①**seven** days shall you ordain them, 36 and every day you shall offer a bull as a sin offering for ^①**atonement**. Also you shall purify the altar, when you make ^①**atonement** for it, and shall anoint it to consecrate it. 37 **Seven** days you shall make ^①**atonement** for the altar and consecrate it, and the altar shall be most ^①**holy**. Whatever touches the altar shall become ^①**holy**.

38 "Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two lambs a year old day by day regularly. 39 One lamb you shall offer in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer at twilight. 40 And with the first lamb a tenth measure of fine flour mingled with a fourth of a hin of beaten oil, and a fourth of a hin of wine for a



Recurring Theme in Scripture: Man's need for atonement.

drink offering. 41 The other lamb you shall offer at twilight, and shall offer with it a grain offering and its drink offering, as in the morning, for a pleasing aroma, a food offering to the Lord. 42 It shall be a regular burnt offering throughout your generations at the entrance of the tent of meeting before the Lord, where I will meet with you, to speak to you there. 43 There I will meet with the people of Israel, and it shall be sanctified by my glory. 44 I will consecrate the tent of meeting and the altar. Aaron also and his sons I will consecrate to serve me as priests. 45 **I will dwell among the people of Israel and will be their God. 46 And they shall know that I am the Lord their God, who brought them out of the land of Egypt that I might dwell among them. I am the Lord their God.**



Recurring theme: I am the Lord their God.



Exodus 20:2, 25:8; Lev. 26:12; Zech. 2:10; 2 Cor. 6:16; Rev. 21:3

The Altar of Incense

30 "You shall make an altar on which to burn incense; you shall make it of acacia wood. 2 A cubit shall be its length, and a cubit its breadth. It shall be square, and two cubits shall be its height. Its horns shall be of one piece with it. 3 You shall overlay it with pure gold, its top and around its sides and its horns. And you shall make a molding of gold around it. 4 And you shall make two golden rings for it. Under its molding on two opposite sides of it you shall make them, and they shall be holders for poles with which to carry it. 5 You shall make the poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. 6 And you shall put it in front of the veil that is above the ark of the testimony, in front of the mercy seat that is above the testimony, where I will meet with you.

7 And Aaron shall burn fragrant incense on it. Every morning when he dresses the lamps he shall burn it, 8 and when Aaron sets up the lamps at twilight, he shall burn it, a regular incense offering before the Lord throughout your generations. 9 You shall not offer unauthorized incense on it, or a burnt offering, or a grain offering, and you shall not pour a drink offering on it. 10 Aaron shall make **atonement** on its horns once a year. With the blood of the sin offering of **atonement** he shall make **atonement** for it once in the year throughout your generations. It is most **holy** to the Lord."



Can atonement be made however the Israelites want? Is atonement about what we think, or what has been mandated?

The specifics of the High Priest's role in making atonement should give us HOPE, because like the Israelites we do not have to guess what or how to atone for our sins. Just like God made a way for the Israelites, He has clearly laid out a way for us!

The Census Tax

11 The Lord said to Moses, 12 "When you take the census of the people of Israel, then each shall give a ransom for his life to the Lord when you number them, that there be no plague among them when you number them. 13 Each one who is numbered in the census shall give this: half a shekel according to the shekel of the sanctuary (the shekel is twenty gerahs), half a shekel as an offering to the Lord. 14 Everyone who is numbered in the census, from twenty years old and upward, shall give the Lord's offering. 15 The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less, than the half shekel, when you give the Lord's offering to make **atonement** for your lives. 16 You shall take the **atonement** money from the people of Israel and shall give it for the service of the tent of meeting, that it may bring the people of Israel to **remembrance** before the Lord, so as to make **atonement** for your lives."



Recurring Motif: Remembrance

The Bronze Basin

17 The Lord said to Moses, 18 "You shall also make a basin of bronze, with its stand of bronze, for washing. You shall put it between the tent of meeting and the altar, and you shall put water in it, 19 with which Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet. 20 When they go into the tent of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister, to burn a food offering to the Lord, they shall wash with water, **so that they may not die**. 21 They shall wash their hands and their feet, **so that they may not die**. It shall be a statute forever to them, even to him and to his offspring throughout their generations."

The Anointing Oil and Incense

22 The Lord said to Moses, 23 "Take the finest spices: of liquid myrrh 500 shekels, and of sweet-smelling cinnamon half as much, that is, 250, and 250 of aromatic cane, 24 and 500 of cassia, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, and a hin of olive oil. 25 And you shall make of these a sacred anointing oil blended as by the perfumer; it shall be a **holy** anointing oil. 26 With it you shall anoint the tent of meeting and the ark

of the testimony, 27 and the table and all its utensils, and the lampstand and its utensils, and the altar of incense, 28 and the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils and the basin and its stand. 29 You shall consecrate them, that they may be most ^① **holy**. Whatever touches them will become ^① **holy**. 30 You shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may serve me as priests. 31 And you shall say to the people of Israel, 'This shall be my ^① **holy** anointing oil throughout your generations. 32 It shall not be poured on the body of an ordinary person, and you shall make no other like it in composition. It is ^① **holy**, and it shall be ^① **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.'"

34 The Lord said to Moses, "Take sweet spices, stacte, and onycha, and galbanum, sweet spices with pure frankincense (of each shall there be an equal part), 35 and make an incense ^① blended as by the perfumer, seasoned with salt, pure and **holy**. 36 You shall beat some of it very small, and put part of it before the testimony in the tent of meeting where I shall meet with you. It shall be most ^① **holy** for you. 37 And the incense that you shall make according to its composition, you shall not make for yourselves. ^{②*} It shall be for you ^① **holy** to the Lord. 38 Whoever makes any like it to use as perfume shall be cut off from his people."

Oholiab and Bezalel

31 The Lord said to Moses, 2 "See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, 3 and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship, 4 to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze, 5 in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, to work in every craft. 6 And behold, I have appointed with him Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. And I have given to all able men ability, that they may make all that I have commanded you: 7 the tent of meeting, and the ark of the testimony, and the mercy seat that is on it, and all the furnishings of the tent, 8 the table and its utensils, and the pure lampstand with all its utensils, and the altar of



We've seen this recurring theme of holiness throughout this chapter. How are you pursuing holiness in light of being loved by a great and HOLY God? Who's holiness do we proclaim?



1 Peter 1: 14-16 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."



According to this verse, where does ability and intelligence and craftsmanship come from? What areas in your own life do you see God gifting you to serve His people?

incense, 9 and the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the basin and its stand, 10 and the finely worked garments, the ^①**holy** garments for Aaron the priest and the garments of his sons, for their service as priests, 11 and the anointing oil and the fragrant incense for the ^①**Holy** Place. According to all that I have commanded you, they shall do.”

The Sabbath

12 And ^{*}**the Lord said** to Moses, 13 “You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, ‘Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you. 14 You shall keep the Sabbath, because it is ^①**holy** for you. Everyone who profanes it shall be put to death. Whoever does any work on it, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. 15 Six days shall work be done, but the ^①**seventh** day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, ^①**holy** to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day shall be put to death. 16 ^②Therefore the people of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, observing the Sabbath throughout their generations, as a ^①**covenant** forever. 17 It is a sign forever between me and the people of Israel that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the ^①**seventh** day he rested and was refreshed.”

18 And he gave to Moses, when he had finished speaking with him on Mount Sinai, the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God.

The Golden Calf

32 When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, “^{*}Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.” 2 So Aaron said to them, “Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.” 3 So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. 4 And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool



Genesis. Each time the phrase “The Lord spoke/said” is used “in Exodus it is echoing the creation account. The first six are related to creating, and the seventh, here, concerns rest.” (Christ Centered Exposition, p. 189)



Are we still supposed to keep the Sabbath? What does this look like?

There is still a lot of debate on what is permissible on the Sabbath, and even which day the Sabbath is! Yet, what we can all agree on is this: “There is a resting in Christ for God’s people. We find our rest in Jesus, who has done the work for us. There is a resting that takes place now for Christians as well as a permanent ultimate Sabbath in the new creation.” Therefore we can choose to rest in CHRIST. Our intentional Sabbath is less about the details of what type of work you’ll partake in and more about a posture of RESTING in the better work of Christ. (Christ Centered Exposition, p. 189)



Remember Exodus 24:3 when the Israelites proclaimed “We will do everything the Lord has commanded!” It’s amazing how quickly our hearts turn to idol-making while we’re in seasons of waiting!



Also see Acts 7:30-42

and made a golden calf. And they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" 5 When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the Lord." 6 And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.

7 And the Lord said to Moses, "Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. 8 They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them. They have made for themselves a golden calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" 9 And the Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, it is a **stiff-necked people**. 10 Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you."

11 But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, **whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt** with great power and with a mighty hand? 12 Why should the Egyptians say, 'With evil intent did he bring them out, to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your burning anger and relent from this disaster against your people. 13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever.'" 14 And the Lord relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people.

15 Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, tablets that were written on both sides; on the front and on the back they were written. 16 The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets. 17 When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp." 18 But he said, "It is not



Notice, they are claiming to be worshipping The Lord, and yet, they had not followed any of his commands!

As one commentary puts it, "Their hearts craved Egypt, with its false but tangible gods... This scene shows us the importance of knowing God for who He truly is, not how we imagine Him to be. Worship is built on a right perception of God revealed through Scripture." (Christ Centered Exposition p. 194)
"The Essence of Idolatry is the entertainment of thoughts about God that are unworthy of Him." (A. W. Tozer, Knowledge of the Holy, p. 3)



Recurring phrase: A Stiff-necked people.



Exodus 33:5, 32:9, 34:9



Recurring Motif, but this time, Moses is the one who is using God's own words to plead for his people



How could this inform our own prayers?



God, thank you for being a God who keeps His promises and who has made a way for Your People to be saved from disaster! Thank you for bringing us out of our own Egypts and for forgiving us when we make our own golden calves. God you are a gracious God and we praise your name! Lord, keep us from, as Hebrews 2 calls it, "drifting away." Open our eyes to current sins and idols we have that we cannot see! Lord, free us from anything that keeps our hearts from fully loving and serving you. In Jesus Name, Amen.

the sound of shouting for victory, or the sound of the cry of defeat, but the sound of singing that I hear.” 19 And as soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses’ anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. 20 He took the calf that they had made and burned it with fire and ground it to powder and scattered it on the water and made the people of Israel drink it.

21 And Moses said to Aaron, “What did this people do to you that you have brought such a great sin upon them?” 22^{*} And Aaron said, “Let not the anger of my lord burn hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil. 23 For they said to me, ‘Make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ 24 So I said to them, ‘Let any who have gold take it off.’ So they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf.”

25 And when Moses saw that the people had broken loose (for Aaron had let them break loose, to the derision of their enemies), 26 then Moses stood in the gate of the camp and said, “Who is on the Lord’s side? Come to me.” And all the sons of Levi gathered around him. 27 And he said to them, “Thus says the Lord God of Israel, ‘Put your sword on your side each of you, and go to and fro from gate to gate throughout the camp, and each of you kill his brother and his companion and his neighbor.’” 28 And the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And that day about three thousand men of the people fell. 29 And Moses said, “Today you have been ordained for the service of the Lord, each one at the cost of his son and of his brother, so that he might bestow a blessing upon you this day.”

30 The next day Moses said to the people, “You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.” 31 So Moses returned to the Lord and said, “Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold. 32 But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written.” 33 But the Lord said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned



Genesis 3 – Doesn’t this excuse sound much like the one we heard in the garden from Adam?



Literary Theme: Humor.

Although this is a grave circumstance, Aaron’s response is comical, “I threw it into the fire and out came this calf.” As if a golden calf just came walking out of the fire! HA! He’s trying to distance himself from sin, but we’ll see in verse 25 that Moses is NOT buying it.



What is this book that Moses speaks of?

* Dan. 12:1, Luke 10:20, Psalm 69:28

against me, I will blot out of my book. 34 But now go, lead the people to the place about which I have spoken to you; behold, my angel shall go before you. Nevertheless, in the day when I visit, I will visit their sin upon them."

35 Then the Lord ^① sent a plague on the people, because they made the calf, the one that Aaron made.



This points back to Aaron's failed attempt to take responsibility. The High Priest failed, but thankfully we have a High Priest who never fails us or leads us astray

The Command to Leave Sinai

33 The Lord said to Moses, "Depart; go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your offspring I will give it.' 2 I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 3 Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I will not go up among you, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a ^① **stiff-necked people**."

4 When the people heard this disastrous word, they mourned, and no one put on his ornaments. 5 For the Lord had said to Moses, "Say to the people of Israel, 'You are a ^① **stiff-necked people**; if for a single moment I should go up among you, I would consume you. So now take off your ornaments, that I may know what to do with you.'" 6 Therefore the people of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments, from Mount Horeb onward.

The Tent of Meeting

7 Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp, and he called it the ^① **tent of meeting**. And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the ^① **tent of meeting**, which was outside the camp. 8 Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise up, and each would stand at his tent door, and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent. 9 When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses. 10 And when all the people saw the pillar of ^① **cloud** standing at the entrance of the tent, all the



Recurring Location. Note: The location of the Tent of Meeting is outside the camp which directly contrasts the description of the tabernacle which says the Lord is to be in their midst! "This section steps off the main story line and introduces tension in the narrative related to how the covenant breach (cpt. 32) and the Lord's response (cpt. 33) will affect the existence of the sanctuary that has been described (cpt. 25:1-31; 17)." (ESV Study Bible p. 199)

people would rise up and worship, each at his tent door. 11 Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses turned again into the camp, his assistant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent.

Moses' Intercession

12 Moses said to the Lord, "See, you say to me, 'Bring up this people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' 13 Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." 14 And he said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." 15 And he said to him, "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. 16 For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?"

17 And the Lord said to Moses, "This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." 18 Moses said, "Please show me your glory." 19 And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The Lord.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. 20 But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live." 21 And the Lord said, "Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, 22 and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. 23 Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."

Moses Makes New Tablets

34 The Lord said to Moses, "Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and I will write on the tablets the words that were



Again when Moses intercedes for the Israelites, he uses God's own words when begging Him for mercy! God frequently called the Israelites "my people."



"My presence will go" literally means, "My face will go." God is emphasizing again the importance of His closeness and presence! And He promises this intimacy to Moses and His people.



Foreshadowing. He does this very thing in the next chapter in Exodus 34: 6-7!!

on the first tablets, which you broke. 2 Be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to me on the top of the mountain. 3 No one shall come up with you, and let no one be seen throughout all the mountain. Let no flocks or herds graze opposite that mountain." 4 So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the first. And he rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the Lord had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of stone. 5 The Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. 6 The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, 7 keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation." 8 And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped. 9 And he said, "If now I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a **stiff-necked people**, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance."



And here is the fulfillment of God's promise to make "YAHWEH," The Lord, known to Moses (cpt. 33:19). This is the character of God!



This is a foundation passage that is quoted throughout the rest of Scripture in talking about the Lord's character: Neh. 9:17, 31; Ps. 86:15; 103:8; 111:4; 112:4; 116:5; 145:8; Joel 2:13; Deut 5:10, Jer. 32:18; Dan. 9:4-9; 1 John 1:9; Josh: 24:19; Job 10:14; Ps. 57:10; 108:4



YAHWEH, LORD, you are merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving our sins. We are a stiff-necked people, YAHWEH, we thank you for pardoning our sin in JESUS. Thank you for making a way for us to be reconciled to you. Thank you for adopting us as sons and daughters! Lord, never let us forget our origin story, keep us mindful of who we are in light of your redemption!

The Covenant Renewed

10 And he said, "Behold, I am making a **covenant**. Before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been created in all the earth or in any nation. And all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the Lord, for it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.

11 "Observe what I command you this day. Behold, I will drive out before you the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. 12 Take care, lest you make a **covenant** with the inhabitants of the land to which you go, lest it become a snare in your midst. 13 You shall tear down their altars and break their pillars and cut down their Asherim 14 (for you shall worship no other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God), 15 lest you make a **covenant** with the inhabitants of the land, and when they whore after their gods and sacrifice to their gods and you are invited, you eat of his sacrifice, 16 and you take of their daughters for your sons,

and their daughters whore after their gods and make your sons whore after their gods.

17 [?]“You shall not make for yourself any gods of cast metal.



How many times will this commandment have to be stated before God's people will ever learn?

18 “You shall keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread. [!]**Seven** days you shall eat unleavened bread, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month Abib, for in the month Abib you came out from Egypt. 19 All that open the womb are mine, all your male livestock, the firstborn of cow and sheep. 20 The firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. All the firstborn of your sons you shall redeem. And none shall appear before me empty-handed.



Holy number

21 “Six days you shall work, but on the [!]**seventh** day you shall rest. In plowing time and in harvest you shall rest. 22 You shall observe the Feast of Weeks, the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year's end. 23 Three times in the year shall all your males appear before the Lord God, the God of Israel. 24 For I will cast out nations before you and enlarge your borders; no one shall covet your land, when you go up to appear before the Lord your God three times in the year.



Exodus 34:29-35 are the foundation for what Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 3: 8-18!

25 “You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with anything leavened, or let the sacrifice of the Feast of the Passover remain until the morning. 26 The best of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring to the house of the Lord your God. You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk.”

Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end, will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory? For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory. Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it. For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory. Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

^{*}27 And the Lord said to Moses, “Write these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a [!]**covenant** with you and with Israel.” 28 So he was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights. He neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the [!]**covenant**, the Ten Commandments.

The Shining Face of Moses

29 When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain,



How many days did Jesus fast in the New Testament? See Matthew 4:1-11.

Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. 30 Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him. 31 But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. 32 Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the Lord had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. 33 And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.

34 Whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, 35 the people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Sabbath Regulations

35 Moses assembled all the congregation of the people of Israel and said to them, "These are the things that the Lord has commanded you to do. 2 Six days work shall be done, but on the [Ⓢ]**seventh** day you shall have a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on it shall be put to death. 3 You shall kindle no fire in all your dwelling places on the Sabbath day."

Contributions for the Tabernacle

4 Moses said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, "This is the thing that the Lord has commanded. 5 Take from among you a contribution to the Lord. Whoever is of a [Ⓢ]**generous heart**, let him bring the Lord's contribution: gold, silver, and bronze; 6 blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen; goats' hair,⁷ tanned rams' skins, and goatskins; acacia wood, 8 oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, 9 and onyx stones and stones for setting, for the ephod and for the breastpiece.

10 "Let every skillful craftsman among you come and make all



We see later in Scripture, it explicitly states that God is looking at the heart of men, not merely the actions. I love how even here, Moses reflects God's nature by calling out a generous heart, not just empty obedience. The heart always fuels our actions!

that the Lord has commanded: 11 the tabernacle, its tent and its covering, its hooks and its frames, its bars, its pillars, and its bases; 12 the ark with its poles, the mercy seat, and the veil of the screen; 13 the table with its poles and all its utensils, and the bread of the Presence; 14 the lampstand also for the light, with its utensils and its lamps, and the oil for the light; 15 and the altar of incense, with its poles, and the anointing oil and the fragrant incense, and the screen for the door, at the door of the tabernacle; 16 the altar of burnt offering, with its grating of bronze, its poles, and all its utensils, the basin and its stand; 17 the hangings of the court, its pillars and its bases, and the screen for the gate of the court; 18 the pegs of the tabernacle and the pegs of the court, and their cords; 19 the finely worked garments for ministering in the Holy Place, the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, for their service as priests."

20 Then all the congregation of the people of Israel departed from the presence of Moses. 21 And they came, everyone whose **heart** stirred him, and everyone whose spirit moved him, and brought the Lord's contribution to be used for the **tent of meeting**, and for all its service, and for the holy garments. 22 So they came, both men and women. All who were of a willing heart brought brooches and earrings and signet rings and armlets, all sorts of gold objects, every man dedicating an offering of gold to the Lord. 23 And every one who possessed blue or purple or scarlet yarns or fine linen or goats' hair or tanned rams' skins or goatskins brought them. 24 Everyone who could make a contribution of silver or bronze brought it as the Lord's contribution. And every one who possessed acacia wood of any use in the work brought it. 25 And every skillful woman spun with her hands, and they all brought what they had spun in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen. 26 All the women whose **hearts stirred** them to use their skill spun the goats' hair. 27 And the leaders brought onyx stones and stones to be set, for the ephod and for the breastpiece, 28 and spices and oil for the light, and for the anointing oil, and for the fragrant incense. 29 All the men and women, the people of Israel, whose **heart** moved them to bring anything for the work that the Lord had commanded by Moses to be done brought it as a freewill offering to the Lord.



Here it is again! "Everyone whose heart stirred him, and everyone whose spirit moved him." The heart and spirit moving are what produced the generous contribution – not empty obedience!



What a beautiful picture of repentance. Just a few chapters ago, the Israelites were eagerly melting their gold into a false god. Here they are using their resources to make an offering to the Lord.

Construction of the Tabernacle

30 Then Moses said to the people of Israel, "See, the Lord has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; 31 and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, with intelligence, with knowledge, and with all craftsmanship, 32 to devise artistic designs, to work in gold and silver and bronze, 33 in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, for work in every skilled craft. 34 And he has inspired him to teach, both him and Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan. 35 He has filled them with skill to do every sort of work done by an engraver or by a designer or by an embroiderer in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, or by a weaver—by any sort of workman or skilled designer.

36 "Bezalel and Oholiab and every craftsman in whom the Lord has put skill and intelligence to know how to do any work in the construction of the sanctuary shall work in accordance with all that the Lord has commanded."

2 And Moses called Bezalel and Oholiab and every craftsman in whose mind the Lord had put skill, everyone whose heart stirred him up to come to do the work. 3 And they received from Moses all the contribution that the people of Israel had brought for doing the work on the sanctuary. They still kept bringing him freewill offerings every morning, 4 so that all the craftsmen who were doing every sort of task on the sanctuary came, each from the task that he was doing, 5 and said to Moses, "The people bring much more than enough for doing the work that the Lord has commanded us to do." 6 So Moses gave command, and word was proclaimed throughout the camp, "Let no man or woman do anything more for the contribution for the sanctuary." So the people were restrained from bringing, 7 for the material they had was sufficient to do all the work, and more.

8 And all the craftsmen among the workmen made the tabernacle with ten curtains. They were made of fine twined linen and blue and purple and scarlet yarns, with cherubim skillfully worked. 9 The length of each curtain was twenty-eight cubits, and the breadth of each curtain four cubits. All the curtains were the



In light of Exodus 35: 30-35, what do we know about God? What do we know about man's skills and giftings?



Lord! Oh to have a heart moved for Your work that we would give so generously that we'd need to be restrained. Lord, move and stir up a generous spirit in us!

same size.

10 He coupled five curtains to one another, and the other five curtains he coupled to one another. 11 He made loops of blue on the edge of the outermost curtain of the first set. Likewise he made them on the edge of the outermost curtain of the second set. 12 He made fifty loops on the one curtain, and he made fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that was in the second set. The loops were opposite one another. 13 And he made fifty clasps of gold, and coupled the curtains one to the other with clasps. So the tabernacle was a single whole.

14 He also made curtains of goats' hair for a tent over the tabernacle. He made eleven curtains. 15 The length of each curtain was thirty cubits, and the breadth of each curtain four cubits. The eleven curtains were the same size. 16 He coupled five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves. 17 And he made fifty loops on the edge of the outermost curtain of the one set, and fifty loops on the edge of the other connecting curtain. 18 And he made fifty clasps of bronze to couple the tent together that it might be a single whole. 19 And he made for the tent a covering of tanned rams' skins and goatskins.

20 Then he made the upright frames for the tabernacle of acacia wood. 21 Ten cubits was the length of a frame, and a cubit and a half the breadth of each frame. 22 Each frame had two tenons for fitting together. He did this for all the frames of the tabernacle. 23 The frames for the tabernacle he made thus: twenty frames for the south side. 24 And he made forty bases of silver under the twenty frames, two bases under one frame for its two tenons, and two bases under the next frame for its two tenons. 25 For the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side, he made twenty frames 26 and their forty bases of silver, two bases under one frame and two bases under the next frame. 27 For the rear of the tabernacle westward he made six frames. 28 He made two frames for corners of the tabernacle in the rear. 29 And they were separate beneath but joined at the top, at the first ring. He made two of them this way for the two corners. 30 There were eight frames with their bases of silver: sixteen bases, under every frame two bases.

31 He made bars of acacia wood, five for the frames of the one side of the tabernacle, 32 and five bars for the frames of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the frames of the tabernacle at the rear westward. 33 And he made the middle bar to run from end to end halfway up the frames. 34 And he overlaid the frames with gold, and made their rings of gold for holders for the bars, and overlaid the bars with gold.

35 He made the veil of blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen; with cherubim skillfully worked into it he made it. 36 And for it he made four pillars of acacia and overlaid them with gold. Their hooks were of gold, and he cast for them four bases of silver. 37 He also made a screen for the entrance of the tent, of blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, embroidered with needlework, 38 and its five pillars with their hooks. He overlaid their capitals, and their fillets were of gold, but their five bases were of bronze.

Making the Ark

ⓘ
37 Bezalel made the ark of acacia wood. Two cubits and a half was its length, a cubit and a half its breadth, and a cubit and a half its height. 2 And he overlaid it with pure gold inside and outside, and made a molding of gold around it. 3 And he cast for it four rings of gold for its four feet, two rings on its one side and two rings on its other side. 4 And he made poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold⁵ and put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark to carry the ark. 6 And he made a mercy seat of pure gold. Two cubits and a half was its length, and a cubit and a half its breadth. 7 And he made two cherubim of gold. He made them of hammered work on the two ends of the mercy seat, 8 one cherub on the one end, and one cherub on the other end. Of one piece with the mercy seat he made the cherubim on its two ends. 9 The cherubim spread out their wings above, overshadowing the mercy seat with their wings, with their faces one to another; toward the mercy seat were the faces of the cherubim.

Making the Table



Much of what is recorded in chapters 36-40 feels redundant, but do not miss its beauty. Throughout Exodus we've seen commandments given with detailed specificity on HOW to build the Tabernacle. And throughout the book we've seen a people who have not been great at following the instructions of the Lord. Here, we are given a detailed recording of Bezalel's work. What is important to note is that the Israelites and Bezalel are being obedient to God in these chapters!

Christ Centered Exposition puts it this way, "If we had never heard the story of the exodus this section would not really appear redundant. There would actually be suspense. Would God dwell among a sinful people in the tabernacle? These final chapters bring the book to a climactic finish." (p. 217)

10 He also made the table of acacia wood. Two cubits was its length, a cubit its breadth, and a cubit and a half its height. 11 And he overlaid it with pure gold, and made a molding of gold around it. 12 And he made a rim around it a handbreadth wide, and made a molding of gold around the rim. 13 He cast for it four rings of gold and fastened the rings to the four corners at its four legs. 14 Close to the frame were the rings, as holders for the poles to carry the table. 15 He made the poles of acacia wood to carry the table, and overlaid them with gold. 16 And he made the vessels of pure gold that were to be on the table, its plates and dishes for incense, and its bowls and flagons with which to pour drink offerings.

Making the Lampstand

17 He also made the lampstand of pure gold. He made the lampstand of hammered work. Its base, its stem, its cups, its calyxes, and its flowers were of one piece with it. 18 And there were six branches going out of its sides, three branches of the lampstand out of one side of it and three branches of the lampstand out of the other side of it; 19 three cups made like almond blossoms, each with calyx and flower, on one branch, and three cups made like almond blossoms, each with calyx and flower, on the other branch—so for the six branches going out of the lampstand. 20 And on the lampstand itself were four cups made like almond blossoms, with their calyxes and flowers, 21 and a calyx of one piece with it under each pair of the six branches going out of it. 22 Their calyxes and their branches were of one piece with it. The whole of it was a single piece of hammered work of pure gold. 23 And he made its ^①**seven** lamps and its tongs and its trays of pure gold. 24 He made it and all its utensils out of a talent of pure gold.

Making the Altar of Incense

25 He made the altar of incense of acacia wood. Its length was a cubit, and its breadth was a cubit. It was square, and two cubits was its height. Its horns were of one piece with it. 26 He overlaid it with pure gold, its top and around its sides and its horns. And he made a molding of gold around it, 27 and made two rings

of gold on it under its molding, on two opposite sides of it, as holders for the poles with which to carry it. 28 And he made the poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold.

29 He made the holy anointing oil also, and the pure fragrant incense, blended as by the perfumer.

Making the Altar of Burnt Offering

38 He made the altar of burnt offering of acacia wood. Five cubits was its length, and five cubits its breadth. It was square, and three cubits was its height. 2 He made horns for it on its four corners. Its horns were of one piece with it, and he overlaid it with bronze. 3 And he made all the utensils of the altar, the pots, the shovels, the basins, the forks, and the fire pans. He made all its utensils of bronze. 4 And he made for the altar a grating, a network of bronze, under its ledge, extending halfway down. 5 He cast four rings on the four corners of the bronze grating as holders for the poles. 6 He made the poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with bronze. 7 And he put the poles through the rings on the sides of the altar to carry it with them. He made it hollow, with boards.

Making the Bronze Basin

8 He made the basin of bronze and its stand of bronze, from the mirrors of the ministering women who ministered in the entrance of the **tent of meeting**.



Who are these ministering women?

Making the Court

9 And he made the court. For the south side the hangings of the court were of fine twined linen, a hundred cubits; 10 their twenty pillars and their twenty bases were of bronze, but the hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver. 11 And for the north side there were hangings of a hundred cubits; their twenty pillars and their twenty bases were of bronze, but the hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver. 12 And for the west side were hangings of fifty cubits, their ten pillars, and their ten bases; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver. 13 And for the front to the east, fifty cubits. 14 The hangings for one side of the

gate were fifteen cubits, with their three pillars and three bases. 15 And so for the other side. On both sides of the gate of the court were hangings of fifteen cubits, with their three pillars and their three bases. 16 All the hangings around the court were of fine twined linen. 17 And the bases for the pillars were of bronze, but the hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver. The overlaying of their capitals was also of silver, and all the pillars of the court were filleted with silver. 18 And the screen for the gate of the court was embroidered with needlework in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen. It was twenty cubits long and five cubits high in its breadth, corresponding to the hangings of the court. 19 And their pillars were four in number. Their four bases were of bronze, their hooks of silver, and the overlaying of their capitals and their fillets of silver. 20 And all the pegs for the tabernacle and for the court all around were of bronze.

Materials for the Tabernacle

^{1?} 21 These are the records of the tabernacle, the tabernacle of the testimony, as they were recorded at the commandment of Moses, the responsibility of the Levites under the direction of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest. 22 Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made all that the Lord commanded Moses; 23 and with him was Oholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, an engraver and designer and embroiderer in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen.

24 All the gold that was used for the work, in all the construction of the sanctuary, the gold from the offering, was twenty-nine talents and 730 shekels, by the shekel of the sanctuary. 25 The silver from those of the congregation who were recorded was a hundred talents and 1,775 shekels, by the shekel of the sanctuary: 26 a bekaa head (that is, half a shekel, by the shekel of the sanctuary), for everyone who was listed in the records, from twenty years old and upward, for 603,550 men. 27 The hundred talents of silver were for casting the bases of the sanctuary and the bases of the veil; a hundred bases for the hundred talents, a talent a base. 28 And of the 1,775 shekels he made hooks for the pillars and overlaid their capitals and made fillets for them. 29 The bronze that was offered was ^{1?} **seventy** talents and 2,400



This is an actual official record of those who worked on the tabernacle and the specific materials used.



Why is this important? What can we learn about the character of God in vs. 21-31? What do we learn about man?

shekels; 30 with it he made the bases for the entrance of the ^①**tent of meeting**, the bronze altar and the bronze grating for it and all the utensils of the altar, 31 the bases around the court, and the bases of the gate of the court, all the pegs of the tabernacle, and all the pegs around the court.

① **Making the Priestly Garments** ↻

39 From the blue and purple and scarlet yarns they made finely woven garments, for ministering in the Holy Place. They made the holy garments for Aaron, ^①**as the Lord had commanded Moses.**

2 He made the ephod of gold, blue and purple and scarlet yarns, and fine twined linen. 3 And they hammered out gold leaf, and he cut it into threads to work into the blue and purple and the scarlet yarns, and into the fine twined linen, in skilled design. 4 They made for the ephod attaching shoulder pieces, joined to it at its two edges. 5 And the skillfully woven band on it was of one piece with it and made like it, of gold, blue and purple and scarlet yarns, and fine twined linen, ^①**as the Lord had commanded Moses.**

6 They made the onyx stones, enclosed in settings of gold filigree, and engraved like the engravings of a signet, according to the names of the sons of Israel. 7 And he set them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod to be stones of remembrance for the sons of Israel, ^①**as the Lord had commanded Moses.**

8 He made the breastpiece, in skilled work, in the style of the ephod, of gold, blue and purple and scarlet yarns, and fine twined linen. 9 It was square. They made the breastpiece doubled, a span its length and a span its breadth when doubled. 10 And they set in it four rows of stones. A row of sardius, topaz, and carbuncle was the first row; 11 and the second row, an emerald, a sapphire, and a diamond; 12 and the third row, a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; 13 and the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper. They were enclosed in settings of gold filigree. 14 There were twelve stones with their names according to the names of the sons of Israel. They were like signets, each



Again, just like the recording of the making of the Tabernacle, this passage can feel redundant. BUT to a reader who has never heard the Israelites story, they would still be asking the question, "Did the Israelites obey God? Did they also make the Garments like they were commanded? Did God dwell with his people?"



God, give us fresh eyes to approach these last pages of Exodus to see the miracle of Your Redemption story!



Recurring statement showing us that the Israelites are obeying God's commands!

engraved with its name, for the twelve tribes. 15 And they made on the breastpiece twisted chains like cords, of pure gold. 16 And they made two settings of gold filigree and two gold rings, and put the two rings on the two edges of the breastpiece. 17 And they put the two cords of gold in the two rings at the edges of the breastpiece. 18 They attached the two ends of the two cords to the two settings of filigree. Thus they attached it in front to the shoulder pieces of the ephod. 19 Then they made two rings of gold, and put them at the two ends of the breastpiece, on its inside edge next to the ephod. 20 And they made two rings of gold, and attached them in front to the lower part of the two shoulder pieces of the ephod, at its seam above the skillfully woven band of the ephod. 21 And they bound the breastpiece by its rings to the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue, so that it should lie on the skillfully woven band of the ephod, and that the breastpiece should not come loose from the ephod, ^① **as the Lord had commanded Moses.**

22 He also made the robe of the ephod woven all of blue, 23 and the opening of the robe in it was like the opening in a garment, with a binding around the opening, so that it might not tear. 24 On the hem of the robe they made pomegranates of blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen. 25 They also made bells of pure gold, and put the bells between the pomegranates all around the hem of the robe, between the pomegranates— 26 a bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate around the hem of the robe for ministering, ^① **as the Lord had commanded Moses.**

27 They also made the coats, woven of fine linen, for Aaron and his sons, 28 and the turban of fine linen, and the caps of fine linen, and the linen undergarments of fine twined linen, 29 and the sash of fine twined linen and of blue and purple and scarlet yarns, embroidered with needlework, ^① **as the Lord had commanded Moses.**

30 They made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote on it an inscription, like the engraving of a signet, "Holy to the Lord." 31 And they tied to it a cord of blue to fasten it on the turban above, ^① **as the Lord had commanded Moses.**

32 Thus all the work of the tabernacle of the ^①**tent of meeting** was finished, and ^①**the people of Israel did according to all that the Lord had commanded Moses**; so they did. 33 Then they brought the tabernacle to Moses, the tent and all its utensils, its hooks, its frames, its bars, its pillars, and its bases; 34 the covering of tanned rams' skins and goatskins, and the veil of the screen; 35 the ark of the testimony with its poles and the mercy seat; 36 the table with all its utensils, and the bread of the Presence; 37 the lampstand of pure gold and its lamps with the lamps set and all its utensils, and the oil for the light; 38 the golden altar, the anointing oil and the fragrant incense, and the screen for the entrance of the tent; 39 the bronze altar, and its grating of bronze, its poles, and all its utensils; the basin and its stand; 40 the hangings of the court, its pillars, and its bases, and the screen for the gate of the court, its cords, and its pegs; and all the utensils for the service of the tabernacle, for the ^①**tent of meeting**; 41 the finely worked garments for ministering in the Holy Place, the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons for their service as priests. 42 ^①**According to all that the Lord had commanded Moses, so the people of Israel had done all the work.** 43 And Moses saw all the work, and behold, they had done it; ^①**as the Lord had commanded,** so had they done it. Then Moses blessed them.

The Tabernacle Erected

40 The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 2 "On the first day of the first month you shall erect the tabernacle of the ^①**tent of meeting**. 3 And you shall put in it the ark of the testimony, and you shall screen the ark with the veil. 4 And you shall bring in the table and arrange it, and you shall bring in the lampstand and set up its lamps. 5 And you shall put the golden altar for incense before the ark of the testimony, and set up the screen for the door of the tabernacle. 6 You shall set the altar of burnt offering before the door of the tabernacle of the ^①**tent of meeting**, 7 and place the basin between the ^①**tent of meeting** and the altar, and put water in it. 8 And you shall set up the court all around, and hang up the screen for the gate of the court.

9 "Then you shall take the anointing oil and anoint the tabernacle



At this moment, we all should let out a giant cheer because the Israelites had finally obeyed. They did all that the Lord had commanded Moses.

But what I love is that after obedience, came a blessing from Moses. Scripture doesn't divulge the details of that blessing. But I love the visual picture that obedience preceded blessing.

and all that is in it, and consecrate it and all its furniture, so that it may become holy. 10 You shall also anoint the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils, and consecrate the altar, so that the altar may become most holy. 11 You shall also anoint the basin and its stand, and consecrate it. 12 Then you shall bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance of the ^①**tent of meeting** and shall wash them with water 13 and put on Aaron the holy garments. And you shall anoint him and consecrate him, that he may serve me as priest. 14 You shall bring his sons also and put coats on them, 15 and anoint them, as you anointed their father, that they may serve me as priests. And their anointing shall admit them to a perpetual priesthood throughout their generations.”

^①16 **This Moses did; according to all that the Lord commanded him, so he did.** 17 In the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was erected. 18 Moses erected the tabernacle. He laid its bases, and set up its frames, and put in its poles, and raised up its pillars. 19 And he spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent over it, ^①**as the Lord had commanded Moses.** 20 He took the testimony and put it into the ark, and put the poles on the ark and set the mercy seat above on the ark. 21 And he brought the ark into the tabernacle and set up the veil of the screen, and screened the ark of the testimony, ^①**as the Lord had commanded Moses.** 22 He put the table in the ^①**tent of meeting**, on the north side of the tabernacle, outside the veil, 23 and arranged the bread on it before the Lord, ^①**as the Lord had commanded Moses.** 24 He put the lampstand in the ^①**tent of meeting**, opposite the table on the south side of the tabernacle, 25 and set up the lamps before the Lord, ^①**as the Lord had commanded Moses.** 26 He put the golden altar in the tent of meeting before the veil, 27 and burned fragrant incense on it, ^①**as the Lord had commanded Moses.** 28 He put in place the screen for the door of the tabernacle. 29 And he set the altar of burnt offering at the entrance of the tabernacle of the ^①**tent of meeting**, and offered on it the burnt offering and the grain offering, ^①**as the Lord had commanded Moses.** 30 He set the basin between the tent of meeting and the altar, and put water in it for washing, 31 with which Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet. 32 When they went into the tent of meeting, and when they approached the altar, they



Recurring statement. Moses and the Israelites “strict obedience to God’s commands demonstrated their repentance after the golden calf disaster and made possible the fulfillment of God’s promise to dwell among them.” ESV Study Bible p. 208

In other words, THIS is their victory lap. It’s the next to last scene in the book where we start to wonder if the main characters will do the right thing. Do they overcome their sins? Do they obey God? And we see over and over again that they did “as the Lord had commanded.” Every time we see that phrase our spirits should hope; they should let out a small cheer. Because although it’s the Israelites redemption story, it’s ours too!

washed, ^① **as the Lord commanded Moses.** 33 And he erected the court around the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the screen of the gate of the court. ^① **So Moses finished the work.**



AMEN & AMEN!!

The Glory of the Lord

34 Then the ^① **cloud** covered the ^① **tent of meeting**, and the ^① **glory** ^① **of the Lord filled the tabernacle.** 35 And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, ^① **and** ^① **the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.** 36 Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. 37 But if the ^① **cloud** was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. 38 ^① For the ^① **cloud** of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and ^① **fire** was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.



Recurring statement. The repetition here emphasizes that the Lord's presence, with all its glory, came and dwelled among his people.



We will be seeing this phrase "the glory of the Lord" in these next few weeks – keep an eye out for it!



What does this say about the character of God?



The Cloud and Fire have represented God's presence on the Mountain and NOW they are among the people. The glory of the Lord was brought to the Israelites, and one day, the glory of the Lord would come to mankind through a God-child, Jesus. May the story of Exodus remind us that He is a God who redeems. He is a God who keeps His promises.