

The Book of Exodus

The Divine Plan for the Tabernacle

Part 3: The Tabernacle and Its Furniture

Text: Exodus 25:23 – 26:37

- I. The Design of the Tabernacle (Exodus 26)
- A. The Tabernacle was comprised of three major components.
 - B. First was the enclosure called the “dwelling-place” and usually translated as “tabernacle.”
 - 1. It was a rectangular structure – 30 cubits long by ten cubits wide.
 - 2. It was open on one end and enclosed on the other three by boards overlaid with gold (26:15-30).
 - C. Next was the covering of goats’ hair that served as a tent over the tabernacle (26:7-13).
 - D. Finally, there were coverings of rams’ skins and badgers’ skins that overlaid the tent of goat’s hair (26:14).
 - E. Inside the tabernacle, underneath the coverings and the tent, were ten curtains that formed the inner covering of the ‘dwelling-place’ (26:1-6).
 - F. Also, there was a vail that hung within the tabernacle to divide it into two rooms, the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place (26:31-35).
 - G. Lastly, there was curtain that covered the entrance into the Tabernacle (26:36-37).
 - H. There was meaning and symbolism in this design.
 - 1. On the inside of the Tabernacle were seen fine linens of blue, purple, and scarlet woven with images of angels within.
 - 2. Above this, the tent of goats’ hair was beautiful and almost as fine as silk.
 - 3. Above this, the covering of rams’ skins was dyed red.
 - 4. On top, the covering of badgers’ skins was coarse and rough.
 - 5. Thus, from the outside, the Tabernacle did not appeal to the eyes.
 - 6. Yet, within, it was a place of beauty and light – symbolizing the truth about things spiritual and typifying the church.
 - 7. The covering of red rams’ skins symbolized the blood of Christ which, though unseen, covers the Lord’s church and all who enter into it.
- II. The Furniture of the Tabernacle (Exodus 25:23-40; 27:1-8; 30:1-22)
- A. The Altar of Sacrifice (27:1-8)
 - B. The Laver of Water (30:17-22)
 - C. The Table of Shewbread (25:23-30)
 - D. The Lampstand (25:31-40)
 - E. The Altar of Incense (30:1-10)
 - F. The Ark of the Covenant

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