

### DAY 36 - MONDAY - BUILDING THE TABERNACLE

Exodus 36, Matthew 27:50-51, Hebrews 9:23-28

Take some time today to look at the diagram of the Tabernacle in your journal on pages 36 & 37 and focus on the meaning of each thing placed in it.

As you read the details of the building of the Tabernacle, record what God is showing you.

WHAT DO THE DETAILS OF THE TABERNACLE REVEAL TO YOU ABOUT GOD, JESUS AND HUMANITY?

Go to graceclarksville.com/intheword for additional study resources.

#### DAY 37 - TUESDAY - MAKING THE ARK

Exodus 37, Jeremiah 1:11-12, Revelation 1:12-20

#### SYMBOLISM OF THE ARK

Later in Scripture, we learn that there were three things kept in the ark: Aaron's rod that blossomed, a golden bowl full of manna, and the Ten Commandments. These were all appropriate symbols of God's redeeming work among His people. Aaron's rod served as a symbol of the fact that God chose the high priest. Christ is the true and greater Aaron, who was chosen before the foundation of the world to stand as the High Priest among the people of God (Hebrews 4:14-16; Revelation 1:12-20). The manna pointed to Jesus as the bread that came down from heaven to give spiritual sustenance to the souls of the people of God (John 6:1-15; 22-59), and the Ten Commandments stood as the timeless, revealed will of God.

Interestingly, the blood of the sacrifice went on the mercy seat that covered the box and its belongings. It is the blood of Jesus which covers our transgressions of the law of God. When the blood was shed and sprinkled on the mercy seat, the glory of God appeared and He dwelt between the cherubim.

The most intriguing symbols on the ark, however, are the angels, facing one another over the mercy seat. This is, no doubt, a representation of the angels surrounding the throne of God in heaven. However, it was also a picture of that redemption to which all of this was pointing. When the apostles came to the tomb of Jesus they found two angels seated outside: one at the head and the other at the feet where the body of Jesus had lain. The angels were looking into the glorious work of redemption that God had accomplished in Christ. He is the glory of God who, by His resurrection glory, dwells in the midst of angels and men. Truly, the ark has so much to teach us about Jesus Christ, His death, and His resurrection glory.

Written by Nick Batzig - He Reads Truth

HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO WHAT YOU READ TODAY?

HOW DOES IT MOVE YOU TO PRAY?

### DAY 38 - WEDNESDAY - FURNISHING THE COURTYARD

Exodus 38, Psalm 51:14-17, Hebrews 10:1-14

WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT GOD IN THESE PASSAGES?

HOW CAN I PRAISE GOD FOR WHAT THIS SAYS ABOUT HIM?

WHAT BEHAVIOR/EMOTIONS COME WHEN I FORGET THESE THINGS ABOUT GOD?

WHAT IS GOD REVEALING TO ME TODAY THAT I NEED TO LISTEN TO?

### DAY 39 - THURSDAY - MAKING THE PRIESTLY GARMENTS

Exodus 39, Psalm 110:1-4, Hebrews 5:1-10

#### WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

It's possible the craftsmen tasked with the minutiae of the tabernacle felt overwhelmed and even belabored by the tedium of so many details. Obedience can often feel like that. As we shepherd our own children, or serve in other often thankless ways, or pull out our Bibles listening for God's voice again and again, there are times when we all wonder, *Why does all of this matter?* 

The answer rarely seems to come in the moment, but in hindsight we see that routine obedience to the Lord always reveals the gospel thread. He is using our seemingly small acts of surrender to transform these filthy rags into robes of righteousness. As we trust and obey, we can look back and sigh with gratitude, saying, "as the LORD had commanded, so [we have] done it" (Exodus 39:43).

Written by Erin Davis - She Reads Truth

HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO WHAT YOU READ TODAY?

HOW DOES IT MOVE YOU TO PRAY?

#### DAY 40 - FRIDAY - THE GLORY OF THE LORD FILLS THE TABERNACLE

Exodus 40, Matthew 3:16-17, Acts 2:1-4

#### A MINI-EDEN

The tabernacle, like the garden of Eden, is a place where God dwells. Various details of the tabernacle suggest it is like a mini-Eden. Don't get lost in the tedious details of the Tabernacle and miss the beautiful symbolism, even the pieces of furniture in the tabernacle point towards the pattern of creation - six days of work followed by a day of rest. Six pieces of furniture symbolize "work." The seventh piece is the mercy seat, which symbolizes "resting" in God's presence. When the tabernacle is completed according to God's detailed plan and presented to Moses, we see another parallel to creation. After God finished His work at creation, He saw it as good and gave it His blessing much like when Moses finished the work of the Tabernacle and God blessed it. The tabernacle as God's dwelling place is a step toward God's restoration of paradise, a step toward repairing what was broken in Genesis, a work which is to be fully completed one day in the new heaven and earth (Revelation 21-22).

WHAT DOES THE TABERNACLE TEACH US ABOUT GOD'S RESTORATION PLAN?

DOES READING GOD'S WORD IN CONTEXT OF THE ENTIRE STORY CHANGE YOUR PERSPECTIVE?

RECORD ANYTHING GOD PRESSES ON YOUR HEART IN THIS TIME

### DAY 41 - SATURDAY - GRACE DAY

Use today to rest, pray, and reflect on this week's reading.

#### Meditate on this verse:

"You do not want a sacrifice, or I would give it; you are not pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifice pleasing to God is a broken spirit, you will not despise a broken and humbled heart, God."

Psalm 51:16-17

#### As you reflect on what you've read this week:

- 1. What themes did you see emerge?
- 2. What was the biggest thing that God revealed to you this week?
- 3. What next step do you need to take based on what He revealed to you this week?

#### THE STORY IS NOT FINISHED

As we come to the end of Exodus, to the climax. It's been a long road for the people of Israel. A lot has happened in the beginning and middle of this story: 400 years of slavery, baby Moses set adrift in the reeds of the Nile, the plagues, the Passover, the parting of the Red Sea, the wilderness wanderings, the giving of the Law, the gold calf, the manna, the water from the rock, the pillar of cloud and fire. And through everything, the Lord has been teaching His people how to worship Him—how to build a tabernacle, how to furnish it, how to staff it, and how to behave in it.

We've let the storyteller tell the story in the way he wants to tell it, and now we've come to the end. What happens?

God's glory descends. We're not talking about a sunbeam, or even a flood of light. We're talking about a glory so intense not even Moses could enter–Moses who saw the burning bush, Moses whom God Himself had passed in front of.

For the entire book of Exodus, God has made His presence known through symbols—pillars in the sky, food from heaven, water from stone, and so forth. But here, God's glory descends, and it is unlike anything the people have seen. The display of power and authority is overwhelming. The sense of security against any outside foe is strong.

But as glorious as Exodus's last scene is, we know the Storyteller is not finished. Exodus is a wonderful set-up for Easter week because we're reminded that God's ultimate deliverance did not end with people in a desert, or with His glory filling a tent. God's presence among His people is most gloriously displayed in the incarnation of Jesus, who came to us, born of a virgin, for the purpose of doing what we celebrate at Easter–defeating sin and death forever.

As you finish reading Exodus, let the power and glory of the Lord's presence wash over you. But remember, this is not the final act. There is more. Read on. Let the Storyteller tell the story in the way He wants to tell it.

Written by Russ Ramsey - He Reads Truth

### **EXODUS REFERENCED IN THE NEW TESTEMENT**

EXODUS	THE NEW TESTEMENT
1:8	Acts 7:18
2:14	Acts 7:27-28
2:22	Acts 7:6
3:5	Acts 7:33
3:6	Matt. 22:32; Mark 12:26; Luke 20:37; Acts 3:13; 7:32
3:7-10	Acts 7:34
9:16	Rom. 9:17
12:11	Luke 12:35
12:46	John 19:36
13:2, 12, 15	Luke 2:23
16:18	2 Cor. 8:15
19:5-6	1 Pet. 2:9
19:12	Heb. 12:20
20:11	Acts 4:24; 14:15
20:12	Matt. 15:4; Mark 7:10; Eph. 6:2
20:12-16	Matt. 19:18; Mark 10:19; Luke 18:20
20:13	Matt. 5:21; James 2:11
20:13-17	Rom. 13:9

EXODUS	THE NEW TESTEMENT
20:14	Matt. 5:27; James 2:11
20:17	Rom. 7:7
21:17	Matt. 15:4; Mark 7:10
21:24	Matt. 5:38
22:27	Acts 23:5
23:20	Matt. 11:10; Mark 1:2; Luke 7:27
24:8	Heb. 9:20
25:40	Heb. 8:5
32:1	Acts 7:40
32:6	1 Cor. 10:7
32:23	Acts 7:40
33:19	Rom. 9:15
34:34	2 Cor. 3:16

### DAY 42 - PALM SUNDAY

Luke 19:28-44, Zechariah 9:9, Psalm 118:25-29

As we enter Holy Week, let's reflect on the story of deliverance we have seen in Exodus, God delivered the people of Israel from oppression and tyranny into the freedom of His presence. Easter tells us the same story on a grander scale, a story of our deliverance from the slavery of sin into the freedom He offers through His son Jesus.

#### THE STORY CONTINUES

As we look toward the Easter resurrection, we prepare to celebrate God's great act of restoring fellowship with Him. Though we are far from worthy and have broken relationship with Him at every turn, the Lord in His grace set things right. The Bible is a story of God's commitment to save the people He loves. Through the resurrection of Christ, we will one day be raised to finally dwell in the full glory of God (Revelation 21:3).

Written by Katie Stottard - She Reads Truth

WHAT DO TODAY'S PASSAGES TEACH US ABOUT JESUS?

HOW HAS YOUR LIFE BEEN CHANGED BY JESUS?

TAKE SOME TIME TODAY TO PRAISE HIM FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE FOR YOU.