

**CONSTRUCTION AND  
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE  
TABERNACLE**

**EXODUS 25-39**

# INTRODUCTION

- Witsius said “God created the whole world in six days, but He used forty days to instruct Moses about the tabernacle. Little over one chapter was needed to describe the structure of the world, but six were used for the tabernacle.”

# PLANNING OF THE TABERNACLE

- God himself planned the whole project and showed the blue print to Moses on the mount Sinai. He designed the Tabernacle and provided all the resources. Ex 25-31 and 35-39

# PROJECT TEAM

- The Architect: God Ex 25:1-8
- Project manager: Moses Ex 25 and 39:32-42
- Chief builder: Bezalel Ex 31:1-11
- Assistant: Oholiab
- Members: Every skilled and willing person. Ex 35:30-36:7

# PROVISION OF THE RESOURCES

- God provided the people. He gave them skills and the power of the Holy Spirit. Ex 31:1-11;35:30-36:7
- God provided all the material needed through the people by prompting them. Ex 25 and 35

# DESIGN OF THE TABERNACLE

- God gave the details of the project to Moses on the mount Sinai and showed him how to make.
- He gave him the list of everything and what material need to be used.

# **DIMENSIONS OF THE TABERNACLE COURTYARD**

- The total area of the tabernacle was 150 feet long and 75 feet wide.
- There was a 7.5 feet tall fence around it, which was made of curtains attached to bronze poles.

## CONT.

- The whole area was covered with linen curtains. Ex 27:9-19
- The main gate was 30 feet wide in the east.
- The entrance to the tabernacle was from the east.



# DESCRIPTION OF THE TENT

- In the courtyard the main structure was the Tent of meeting. Ex 26
- It was 45 feet long, 15 feet wide and 15 feet high.
- It was divided in two parts. Holy of Holies and Holy place.

# MATERIALS USED FOR THE TENT

- Curtains made of finely twisted linen.
- Colors were blue, purple and scarlet.
- Acacia wood used for the boards.
- Gold used to overlay all the wood.

# COVERING OF THE TENT

- The tent was covered with four layers of the curtains.
- First layer was of linen.
- Second layer was goat skin.
- Third layer was ram skin dyed red.
- Fourth layer was skin of sea cow.

## CONT.

- Gold and silver were the only metals used in the Holy of Holies and Holy place.

# ARTICLES IN THE HOLY OF HOLIES

- Holy of Holies was 15 feet long 15 feet wide and 15 feet high room which was the home for The Ark of Covenant.
- Only high priest was allowed to enter this room once a year.

# ARK OF THE COVENANT

- It was made of the acacia wood and overlaid with gold. Ex 25:10-22.
- It was 3.75 feet long, 2.25 feet wide and 2.25 feet in height.
- Rings and molding made of gold.

# ARK OF COVENANT

- Poles to carry the Ark were made of acacia wood overlaid with gold.
- Atonement cover was made of gold. It was 3.75 long and 2.25 feet wide.

# ARK OF COVENANT

- It was also called mercy seat.
- On the top of the atonement cover were two Cherubs facing each other looking down on the cover. Ex 25:17-22



# ARK OF THE COVENANT

- Inside the ark were following things:
- Tablets of ten commandments.
- Manna from the wilderness.
- Budding rod of Aaron.

# HOLY PLACE

- Holy place was 30 feet long, 15 feet wide and 15 feet tall.
- It was separated from the Holy of Holies by the thick curtain.
- Levites served in this area every day. Numbers 3

# ARTICLES IN THE HOLY PLACE

- The Table of Showbread. It was 3 feet long, 1.5 feet wide and 2.25 feet high.
- It was made of acacia wood and covered with gold. Ex 25:23-30
- It was kept on the north side.

# ARTICLES IN THE HOLY PLACE

- Lampstand Ex 25:31-40
- It was made up of pure gold. 34 kilogram of gold was used.
- It was placed on the south side of the holy place.

# ARTICLES IN THE HOLY PLACE

- The Alter of Incense Ex 30:1-10
- It was 1.5 feet long, 1.5 feet wide and 3 feet tall.
- It was made of acacia wood and covered with gold.
- It was kept in front of the curtain.

# ARTICLES IN THE COURTYARD

- The total size of the courtyard was 150 feet long and 75 feet wide.
- It has one gate 30 feet wide in the east side.
- It was place where sacrifices were performed by the priests.

# ARTICLES IN THE COURTYARD

- The Alter of Burnt Offering. Ex 27
- It was 5 feet long, 5 feet wide and 4.5 feet high.
- Made of acacia wood and overlaid by bronze.
- It was kept in the middle of the courtyard.

# ARTICLES IN THE COURTYARD

- Basin for washing Ex 30:17-21
- It was made of bronze.
- It was filled with water for cleaning.
- It was kept in between the alter and tent of meeting.



# PROBLEM IN CONSTRUCTION

- Israel rebelled against Moses and God and went in to idol worship.  
Ex 32
- God was angry and wanted to destroy the whole nation.

# CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TABERNACLE

1. It was very functional facility. It solved the problem of portability and holy God living among the sinful people.
2. It displayed fabulous wealth and beauty.

# CHARACTERISTICS CONT.

- About one metric Ton Gold was used.
- Approximately 3.4 Tons of silver.
- About 2.4 Tons of bronze
- Fine linen and six months of work by many people.

# CHARACTERISTICS CONT.

3. Everyone was involved in the building of the Tabernacle.

4. The tabernacle testified to the character of God. God's excellence, Holiness, beauty, perfection and sovereignty is revealed.

# CHARACTERISTICS CONT.

5. The tabernacle was composed of many elements, but the unity of all, in design, function and purpose was emphasized.

6. The tabernacle was God's idea, God's initiative and His design.

# CHARACTERISTICS CONT.

7. The tabernacle gave sensorimotor experience to the worshipers. They could feel, hear, see, touch, smell and participate in the worship of God.

# APPLICATION

- We should appreciate good art.
- When we are working for God, we should do our best. He likes perfection.
- When God ask to do something, He will provide everything.

# APPLICATION

- We should get involved in the work of God.
- We should seek and follow God's direction in any building project.