

171122-4 The Exodus Series, 40, The Tabernacle is Raised – Craig Thurman

The glory of the LORD descends upon the Tabernacle in the wilderness. That I know of, this occasion for the manifestation of His glory on the Tabernacle is manifested in three texts of Scripture. (Ex.40.34; Lev.9.23; Nu.9.15)

Ex.40.33... So Moses finished the work.

34 ¶ Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Le 9:6 And Moses said, This is the thing which the LORD commanded that ye should do: and the glory of the LORD shall appear unto you.

...

23 ¶ And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of the congregation, and came out, and blessed the people: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto all the people.

24 And there came a fire out from before the LORD, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat: which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces.

Nu.9.15 ¶ And on the day that the tabernacle was reared up the cloud covered the tabernacle, namely, the tent of the testimony: and at even there was upon the tabernacle as it were the appearance of fire, until the morning.

Each instance of the appearance of the glory of the LORD upon the Tabernacle refer to the same occasion. In other words, there are not three separate occasions when this glory appeared in this way.

Ex 40:17 And it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was reared up.

Nu 9:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying ...

Though these accounts refer to the same occasion each one specially emphasizes something about the appearance of the LORD's glory. Exodus emphasizes the dedication of the tabernacle. Leviticus, the dedication of the priesthood. And Numbers, the perpetual observance of Passover. Together these reveal one glorious truth: Jesus Christ came our High Priest to offer Himself up for the sins of His people as the Lamb of God.

Heb 2:17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

A summary of the Exodus account: He has a people which came into slavery and under cruel bondage by a great adversary. He came to them as the *Ever-living One, Jehovah, I am that I am*, called them to Himself, and substituted for their firstborn the Passover lamb. By the application of this blood the destroying angel passed over all of their houses. He led them out of bondage *harnessed* by His own Spirit and parted the Red Sea before them. They received His commandments to walk before the Lord or suffer His chastening hand. And the LORD came into their midst in the raising up of the great Tent. In effect they saw Jesus! And the cloudy pillar led them by day and by night to bring them into the land of Canaan. That is the scope of the book of Exodus.

1-14 The LORD describes for Moses the process to rear up the tabernacle.

18-33 is the actual rearing up of the Tabernacle.

1 ¶ And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

2 On the first day of the first month

Which would of course be of the second year (that is, the beginning of the second year).

shalt thou set up the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation.

First, erect the tent. ... and wash.

The LORD forecasting to Moses that the day of the erecting of the tabernacle is nearly come. Verse 17 is that day.

Recount the time that has passed since Israel was delivered from Egyptian bondage. Israel probably departed from Egyptian bondage on the 15th day of the first month, Abib, directly after Passover. (Ex.12.1-3, 6) Then eight weeks later, on the same day (15th) they arrived in the area of Sinai in the third month.

Ex 19:1 In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai.

So, ten months after arriving in Sinai Israel receives these instructions about erecting the Tabernacle. During this time there was at least two periods of forty days when Moses went into the mount to receive the Law from the LORD, and another unspecified period of time when Israel was to be prepared to receive it. This could account for at least three months, maybe even four. This leaves about six and one-half months to instruct, donate, receive, inventory, organize, melt, cast, beat, cut, weave, sew, and embroidery everything for the tent, furniture, vessels and garments. (see *Bible History*, Alfred Edersheim, p.140 on this)

Passover is appears to be 2 weeks away, as we just read, *On the first day of the first month ...*

Nu 9:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying,

2 Let the children of Israel also keep the passover at his appointed season.

3 In the fourteenth day of this month, at even, ye shall keep it in his appointed season: according to all the rites of it, and according to all the ceremonies thereof, shall ye keep it.

3 And thou shalt put therein the ark of the testimony, and cover the ark with the vail.

Put in the ark, understood with the lid of the mercy-seat. As each article is put into place, at every entry Moses and Aaron washed before entering into the tent again. What a difference there is between us and the Lord. He is intrinsically holy. We are *accounted* holy because of the shed blood of Christ, and often we must be washed of our defilement by confession of sin and resorting to the water of His word.

Ex 40:32 When they went into the tent of the congregation, and when they came near unto the altar, they washed; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Truly, without Him we are nothing. But because we are in Him we are accepted.

Eph 1:6 ...he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

To cover the ark with the vail means to *hang* the vail to conceal it within its holy compartment called the holiest of all.

The vail is a type for the division that stood between us and the throne of God. Throughout Old Testament history there was an unrevealed detail about reconciliation; the mystery how God would reconcile us to Himself.

Heb.9.6 Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God.

7 But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people:

8 ¶ The Holy Ghost thus signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:

That mystery of redemption is revealed with the death of God's only begotten. Notice the descriptive terms at Christ's death of the veil that was now hanging in the Temple.

Mt.27.50 ¶ Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent ...

Mk.15.37 And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost.

38 And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.

Lk.23.45 And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.

46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

Through Christ's rent flesh, meaning in the moment of His death on the cross, all of the people of God were reconciled once for all. Not by deeds, not by faith, but by His death.

Once there was a separation of the people of God from Him, now the way is open.

Ro 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

4 And thou shalt bring in the table, and set in order the things that are to be set in order upon it; and thou shalt bring in the candlestick, and light the lamps thereof.

5 And thou shalt set the altar of gold for the incense before the ark of the testimony, and put the hanging of the door to the tabernacle.

6 And thou shalt set the altar of the burnt offering before the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation.

7 And thou shalt set the laver between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and shalt put water therein.

8 And thou shalt set up the court round about, and hang up the hanging at the court gate.

9 And thou shalt take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle, and all that is therein, and shalt hallow it, and all the vessels thereof: and it shall be holy.

10 And thou shalt anoint the altar of the burnt offering, and all his vessels, and sanctify the altar: and it shall be an altar most holy.

11 And thou shalt anoint the laver and his foot, and sanctify it.

12 And thou shalt bring Aaron and his sons unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and wash them with water.

13 And thou shalt put upon Aaron the holy garments, and anoint him, and sanctify him; that he may minister unto me in the priest's office.

14 And thou shalt bring his sons, and clothe them with coats:

15 And thou shalt anoint them, as thou didst anoint their father, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office: for their anointing shall surely be an everlasting priesthood throughout their generations.

The order:

ark – veil – table – candlestick – incense altar – door hangings – brazen altar – laver – court hangings – gate hangings – anoint the inside accoutrements – anoint the outside accoutrements – wash the priests – dress Aaron – anoint him – sanctify him – dress the sons – anoint them.

In other words this *process* of anointing is to be applied to every son which enters into the priesthood. Like this, there is no N.T. believer which comes into the church of our Lord Jesus Christ which does not receive the anointing of the Spirit of God. In this place the Spirit equips the saints with gifts which complement the whole body. (1Co.12.13, 18)

16 ¶ Thus did Moses: according to all that the LORD commanded him, so did he.

17 And it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was reared up.

Most of what was involved in the rearing up of the tabernacle is describes by what follows.

18-33 is the actual rearing up of the Tabernacle.

Details about the tent 18, 19

18 And Moses reared up the tabernacle, and fastened his sockets, and set up the boards thereof,

For the most part probably meaning that the two tenons for each board was fastened into their sockets and then each board set to its two sockets.

and put in the bars thereof, and reared up his pillars.

Fifteen bars. Two bars went horizontally along the top of each wall, and two bars went horizontally along the bottom. There was only one bar which went the entire distance, horizontally, between the upper and lower bars.

19 And he spread abroad the tent over the tabernacle, and put the covering of the tent above upon it; as the LORD commanded Moses.

The tent refers to the white, fine-twined linen which was the innermost covering. The covering otherwise refers to the other coverings as one: the goats' hair, the rams' skins dyed red, and the badgers' skins.

The placement of the ark/mercyseat with its contents, vss. 20,21

20 And he took and put the testimony into the ark, and set the staves on the ark, and put the mercy seat above upon the ark:

At the moment the only witnesses placed in the ark are the *golden* pot of manna and the two tables of stone.

Ex 16:33 And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations.

Heb 9:4 Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had

manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant
...

De 10:5 And I turned myself and came down from the mount, and put the tables in the ark which I had made; and there they be, as the LORD commanded me.

There is one remaining witness to be placed in the ark, which is Aaron's rod that budded. This will be at the rebellion of Korah which event is yet future. (Nu.17.10)

21 And he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the vail of the covering, and covered the ark of the testimony; as the LORD commanded Moses.

The placement of the table, its items, and bread, vss.22, 23.

22 And he put the table in the tent of the congregation, upon the side of the tabernacle northward, without the vail.

23 And he set the bread in order upon it before the LORD; as the LORD had commanded Moses.

The placement of the candlestick, its items, oil, and lighting, vss.24, 25.

24 And he put the candlestick in the tent of the congregation, over against the table, on the side of the tabernacle southward.

25 And he lighted the lamps before the LORD; as the LORD commanded Moses.

The placement of the incense altar with burning incense, vss. 26, 27.

26 And he put the golden altar in the tent of the congregation before the vail:

27 And he burnt sweet incense thereon; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Set up the door.

28 And he set up the hanging at the door of the tabernacle.

Placement of the brazen altar and the offerings, v.29.

29 And he put the altar of burnt offering by the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation, and offered upon it the burnt offering and the meat offering; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Placement of the laver and Moses, Aaron, and four sons washing, vss.30-32.

30 And he set the laver between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and put water there, to wash withal.

31 And Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet thereat:

32 When they went into the tent of the congregation, and when they came near unto the altar, they washed; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Reared up the court with its hangings.

33 And he reared up the court round about the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the hanging of the court gate. So Moses finished the work.

And the glory of the LORD condescended upon the tabernacle.

34 ¶ Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Two things to note: the cloud *covered* the tent, and the glory of the LORD *filled it*. There was the external glory that the children of Israel beheld, and there was the internal glory hidden from their eyes. (*Bible History*, Alfred Edersheim, p.140) Every believer can behold the external glory of Christ, but it is only those faithful servants *in the house* of the Lord that behold that inner glory.

Ps 27:4 One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

The glory of God came upon and filled the human form, that holy thing born of Mary. And his name was called, Jesus.

Lu 1:35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Joh 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

From this time forward the cloud

36 And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys:

37 But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up.

38 For the cloud of the LORD was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

Christ, like a shepherd, leads His people along day and night, through all of life's journey. By following Him he reveals to us the heavenly Father.

In this book we have seen God:

Call His people, Israel out to Himself. (Ex.3.14-17)

Deliver them from Egyptian bondage by the Passover lamb.

Destroy the Adversary.

Part the Red Sea.

Make the bitter waters sweet.

Send manna from heaven.

Give water out of the Rock.

Defeat the enemy.

Give His Law.

Prophecy of the coming of Christ. (Instructing Moses to build the tab)

Provide the means for Christ's coming. wilderness. (Rec. the mats)

Present Christ come to Israel (And raise up that tent.)

There is good reason why all of the glory goes to God. He does it all!

All Glory to Jesus

by John Peterson

'All glory to Jesus, begotten of God, the great I AM is He;
Creator Sustainer but wonder of all, the Lamb of Calvary.

'To think that the guardian of planets in space, the Shepherd of the stars,
Is tenderly leading the church of His love by hands with crimson scars!

'The King of all kings and the Lord of all lords, He'll reign with glory then;
Some day He is coming His kingdom to claim, and every knee shall bend!'

A couple of closing remarks:

My first notes in preparation for the study through the book of Exodus are dated Tuesday, December 1, 2015. December 1, 2017 is next Thursday. The first message was delivered on Wednesday, December 23, 2015. We have been studying through this great book of the Bible for two full years. There are 1,163 pages of notes, which cover a total of 66 messages. I want to thank God for your prayers and faithfulness to spend this time together to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have been very blessed! God bless you all.