OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

PERIOD THREE

THE HEBREW NATION - THE LAW GIVEN

LESSON 13

Time	PERIOD THREE				THE HEBREW NATION				
Main thought	MAKING A NATION AND TAKING LAND								
Books that tell of each part	EXODUS	LEV	VITICUS	N	IUMBERS	DE	UTERONO	МY	JOSHUA
What this part tells about		SET FREE	MT. SII (LAW GIVEN)		WANDER IN WILDERN		TAKING THE LAND		SETTLING THE LAND







The Egyptians worshipped many gods. The people of Israel saw this in Egypt. They saw many altars made to these gods.

God wanted to teach the people of Israel that He was the only true God. He had to show them that there was only one place for them to worship. They were to worship only One God in only one place. They were to build this place of worship. This place was called "the tabernacle." Tabernacle means, "*to live with.*" The tabernacle was a special tent where God lived with the people. God met with the people at the tabernacle.

1. PLANS FOR THE TABERNACLE

God wanted to be with His people. Because He chose to stay in a special place, that place had to be made right. Moses stayed on the mountain with God for forty days and forty nights. During this time God told him how to make the tabernacle.

• Things needed to make the tabernacle.

The tabernacle had to be moved from place to place as the people moved. It had to be made so it could be taken apart. It had to be light so it could be carried.

What were the people to bring for the tabernacle (Exodus 25:3-7)?

How were the people to give for the tabernacle (Exodus 25:2)?

What does 2 Corinthians 9:7 tell us?

• Things to be made:

• The ark, Exodus 25:10-22.

READ EXODUS 25:10-22.

The ark was a box 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ feet long, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ feet wide, and 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ feet high. It was made from acacia (shittim) wood, covered with gold. The gold is a picture of God, Who is King.

What was to be made for the top of the ark (Exodus 25:17-21)?

The cherubim on the ark were like the cherubim who worship God. The cherubim are the highest created angels.

• Table of shewbread, Exodus 25:23-30.

READ EXODUS 25:23-30.

This table was 3 feet long, 1 ¹/₄ feet wide, and 2 ¹/₄ feet high. It was also covered with gold. Bread was put on this table. The bread was eaten by the priests.

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The bread on this table reminds us of Jesus Christ. He said, " (John 6:35,48).

• Lampstand, Exodus 25:31-40.

READ EXODUS 25:31-40.

The lampstand was made of one piece of gold. It was made very beautifully.

What did Jesus say in John 8:12?

Revelation 1:12-16 speaks about Christ and the lampstand.

• Altar of incense, Exodus 30:1-10.

READ EXODUS 30:1-10.

The altar of incense was $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide and 3 feet high. It was made of wood. The top was covered with gold. Incense was burned on this altar. Incense is made of herbs mixed with oils. It gives a sweet smell when it is burned.

Incense is a picture of prayer (Revelation 5:8).

• The tabernacle tent, Exodus 26:1-37.

READ EXODUS 26:1-37.

The tabernacle tent was made from linen cloth, skins and acacia (shittim) boards. It was made so it could be taken apart. It was 45 feet long and 15 feet wide. It was divided into two parts. One part was called the **holy of holies**. The ark with the mercy seat was in this place. The other part was called the **holy place**. The holy place had the table of shewbread, lampstand and altar of incense in it.

Only the high priest was allowed to go into the holy of holies. The high priest was the priest who was over all the priests. The high priest was to go in there once a year. He was to take blood from the sin offering to atome for the sin of the people.

Only priests could go into the holy place. They were to keep the lamp burning and eat the shewbread. New shewbread was put on the table every Sabbath day (Leviticus 24:5-8).

We need to receive the Bread of Life, Jesus (John 6:35).

• The brass altar, Exodus 27:1-8.

READ EXODUS 27:1-8.

The brass altar was 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet. It stood 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet high. On this altar the animals were sacrificed for the sins of the people.

Brass is a picture of judgment or punishment. The brass altar is a picture of the cross on which Christ took our punishment for sin.

• Bronze basin, Exodus 30:17-21.

The bronze basin or laver is believed to be round. We do not know how big it was. The priests had to wash their hands and feet in it before they could do their work. This is another picture of cleaning from sin.

• The court of the tabernacle, Exodus 27:9-19.

READ EXODUS 27:9-19.

The court of the tabernacle was the open space around the outside of the tabernacle. It was 150 feet long and 75 feet wide.

Curtains made of linen cloth were around the court. They were 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet high.

Linen cloth is a picture of something that has no sin. Because God is holy, the people could not come near Him. The only way they could come into the court was through the gate. The brass altar was near the gate. The people confessed their sin at the altar. At the altar their sin was covered by the death of the animal.

Our sin has been paid for by the death of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God (John 1:29,36).

• Men to build the tabernacle, Exodus 31:1-11.

READ EXODUS 31:1-11.

God chose special men to make the things for the tabernacle. What were the names of these two

men (Exodus 31:2-6)?

With Whom had God filled them (Exodus 31:3)?

2. BUILDING THE TABERNACLE

READ EXODUS 35:1 to 40:8.

Were the people willing to give their things for the tabernacle (Exodus 35:21-25)?

Were the people willing to help make things for the tabernacle (Exodus 35:25)?

Did they get enough for the tabernacle (Exodus 36:5)?

It would be wonderful if more Christians would give like this. Many more people could be won for Jesus Christ.

3. PRIESTS

A. Clothing for the priests, Exodus 28.

READ EXODUS 28.

The priests were special men chosen to go between the people and God. The priests spoke to God for the people. The priests also told the people what God said. Aaron and his sons were the first priests separated for God (Exodus 28:1).

The priests had to wear special clothes for their work. Their clothes were to help the people see how great and wonderful God is.

These priests were a picture of Jesus Christ Who is the High Priest (Hebrews 4:14; Hebrews 8:1).

B. Consecration of the priests, Exodus 29:1-35.

READ EXODUS 29:1-35.

To consecrate a person is to separate him from other people to serve God. The priests had a special service for this. There were seven parts to this service. It was to last for seven days. These parts are:



- Bring an offering to the Lord (Exodus 29:1-3).
- Wash with water (Exodus 29:4).
- Put on special clothes, the priest's clothes (Exodus 29:5,6).
- Pour oil on the priest (Exodus 29:7).
- Priest put his hands on a bull. The animal was killed and the blood was put on the horns of the altar (Exodus 29:10-12).
- Priest put his hands on a ram. The ram was killed and the blood sprinkled around the altar (Exodus 29:15,16).
- Priest put his hands on another ram. The ram was killed and the blood was put on the lobe of the right ear, right thumb and big toe of his right foot. The blood that was left was sprinkled around the altar (Exodus 29:20).

4. PUNISHMENT FOR IDOL WORSHIP

READ EXODUS 32:1 to 34:35.

Moses had been on the mountain for forty days and forty nights. The people thought something happened to him. They wanted someone to lead them. They asked Aaron to make them gods, Exodus 32:1.

What had the people of Israel promised God earlier (Exodus 24:7)?

Aaron knew that the people promised God they would not serve other gods. But he made a calf out of gold, Exodus 32:4. From this we see that Aaron was not a strong man.

God wanted to destroy the people of Israel because they worshipped false gods (Exodus 32:10). He wanted to make Moses a great nation. Did Moses let God do this? What did Moses do?

While Moses was on the mountain, God wrote the ten commandments on two stone tablets. Moses brought these tablets with him when he came down the mountain. What did he do when he saw the people of Israel worshipping a calf (Exodus 32:19)?

The breaking of the tablets was a picture of how the people of Israel broke the ten commandments. The people of Israel broke the ten commandments before they even got the tablets. God showed the people of Israel that they were sinners. They needed God's help.

We see that Moses was a strong man. What did Moses pray (Exodus 32:32)?

Would we be willing to pray like Moses prayed?

God promised to send an angel before Moses and the people of Israel (Exodus 33:2).

Moses went back up into the mountain. God wrote the ten commandments again on stone tablets. God also showed Himself to Moses. Moses was not allowed to see God's face. He could see only His back. What was Moses' face like when he came off the mountain (Exodus 34: 29)?

A Christian who spends much time with the Lord has a shine to his face.

5. IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

- The tabernacle was given to the people of Israel to teach them there is only one true God.
- The tabernacle taught the people that God lived with them.
- The tabernacle taught the people that they were to worship only one God in only one place.
- The golden calf showed the people that they could not obey the ten commandments. It showed the people what happened when God was angry with them.
- Aaron showed how weak he was when he made the calf of gold.
- Moses showed how strong he was when he asked God to forgive the people of Israel.

WORDS TO LEARN

- 1. ark box used in the holy of holies. They kept the stone tablets of the ten commandments in this box.
- 2. atone to make at one, to take away or to cover the sin that is between God and man.
- 3. brass metal made of copper and zinc.
- 4. bronze metal made of copper and tin.
- 5. cherubim the highest created angels.
- 6. consecrate to give to God; to separate from the people so as to serve God.
- 7. court an area around the tabernacle. The area was between the tabernacle and the curtains which were around it. It was like the yard around the house.
- 8. destroy to break down, to pull to pieces so that the thing cannot be used again.
- 9. idolatry the worship of false gods.
- 10. incense herbs mixed with oils that give a sweet smell when burned.
- 11. laver basin.
- 12. mercy seat the cover of the ark the place where God met with the high priest.

- 13. ram a male sheep.
- 14. shewbread unleavened bread which was put on the table in the tabernacle.
- 15. tabernacle the tent church means "to live with."

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