# The book of Exodus

The book of Exodus opens with the people of Israel living in Egypt. God has used Joseph to provide support and favor for His people.

The book of Exodus deals with bondage, redemption and deliverance.

God will raise up Moses to deliver his people from their bondage.

We see in this story a parallel of how those who know the Lord were in bondage to sin and Satan. But, God sent a deliverer, His own son, to set us free.

There's more than deliverance involved with this book. God not only wants to set His people free but He wants to lead them into the Promised Land. He had promised them a land flowing with milk and honey. The road to this Promised Land proved too difficult for them.

In like manner, the Lord has promised His people a Promised Land experience. There is a life of joy, peace and victory. Unfortunately, like the Jews, we have difficulty finding that land.

The word "exodus" means departure.

Egypt is a type of the world.

Moses is a picture of Jesus Christ, our deliverer.

The Promised Land is a picture of the victorious Christ life.

### GOD BLESSES HIS PEOPLE

God blessed His people. They multiplied greatly.

Ex. 1:7 And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

Any increase in our lives is a blessing from the Lord.

#### GOD'S PEOPLE IN BONDAGE

Ex. 1:8 Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.

The new Pharaoh was afraid the people of Israel would continue to grow to the point to where they would take over his kingdom. He placed them into bondage and used them as slaves.

Ex 1:10-11 Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land. Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.

# GOD STILL BLESSED HIS PEOPLE

When Pharaoh afflicted God's people, God blessed them even more.

Ex. 1:12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew....

Pharaoh afflicted laid even more burdens on the people of Israel.

Ex. 1:14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in morter, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

#### PHARAOH TRIES TO LESSEN THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL

Pharaoh's attempts to afflict the people of Israel failed. So, he gave orders to the midwives to kill all the male babies of the people of Israel. He was hoping to control their population so he can keep them under his control.

Ex. 1:16 ... When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.

God touches the hearts of the midwives and they disobeyed Pharaoh's command.

Ex 1:17 But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.

#### **GOD RAISES UP A DELIVERER**

A child was born. From the very beginning, it was obvious, this was a special child.

Ex. 2:1-2 And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.

Moses was born. His mother hid him as long as she was able but he as he grew he was more difficult to hide. Moses' mother placed him in an ark (basket) and put the ark in the Nile river.

Ex 2:3 And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.

Moses' sister was keeping watch to see what would happen to Moses.

Ex 2:4 And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came to wash in the river. Moses cries and Pharaoh's daughter has a maid to get him. When she opened the basket, Moses cried, her heart was touched.

Ex 2:5-6 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash *herself* at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it. And when she had opened *it*, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This *is one* of the Hebrews' children.

Moses' sister asks Pharaoh's daughter if she wants her to call a Hebrew woman to nurse the baby.

Ex 2:7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?

Moses' sister goes and gets Moses' mother to nurse the baby. Moses' mother took care of him until he was weaned.

Ex 2:8-9 And Pharaon's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother. And Pharaon's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it.

Eventually Moses was taken to Pharaoh's home and raised as his own child.

Exodus 2:10 And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

# MOSES GOES TO MIDIAN AND GETS MARRIED

Moses sees an Egyptian mistreating one of his brethren (a Jew). When he thought no one was watching, he killed the Egyptian and buried him in the sand.

Ex. 2:11-12 And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren. And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that *there was* no man, he slew the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand.

To his dismay, Moses soon found out he had been seen when he buried the Egyptian.

Ex 2:14 And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known.

Because of Pharaoh's attack, Moses fled to Midian.

Ex. 2:15 Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian: and he sat down by a well.

MOSES MARRIED JETHRO'S DAUGHTER, ZIPPORAH. 3:16-22

PHARAOH DIED

Ex 2:23 And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage.

GOD HEARD THE CRY OF HIS PEOPLE IN EGYPT

Ex 2:24-25 And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.

God does know about our troubles. He does care. When we call on Him, He hears and answers.

#### **GOD CALLS MOSES**

Ex. 3:1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

God spoke to Moses through the burning bush. Ex. 3:2-10

God told Moses He was going to use him to deliver His people from Egyptian bondage.

Ex 3:10 Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

Moses offered excuses and tried to get out of doing what God wanted.

Ex. 3:11-12 And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? And he said, Certainly I will be with thee...

How familiar Moses' words are to us. We offer our own excuses when God wants to use us. Just like with Moses, our excuses do not hold water.

God told Moses He would be with him and do the work. The God of Moses is with us today. He will work through us to accomplish His will. How much easier it is when we submit quickly.

Ex 3:2 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

Ex 3:14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

#### MOSES TELLS THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL WHAT GOD SAID

Ex. 3:16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt:

Moses doubted if the people of Israel would believe him.

Ex. 4:1 And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee.

No doubt, there had been other men who claimed to be the one who would deliver Israel. They had come and gone and failed to do anything to free the people. The people probably thought Moses was just like the others, a lot of talk but no action.

# GOD ASSURES MOSES HE WILL BE WITH HIM

God demonstrated to Moses His ability to work through him in order to do what He has called him to do.

GOD TURNS THE ROD INTO A SNAKE

God told Moses to cast his rod on the ground. The rod turned into and snake and Moses fled from it.

Ex 4:3 And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it.

God told Moses to pick the snake up by the tail. When he caught the snake, it turned back to a rod.

Ex 4:4 And the LORD said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand:

God said He would work through Moses in such a way that the people of Israel would believe him.

Ex 4:5 That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.

GOD MAKES MOSES' HAND LEPROUS

God gave Moses another example to further assure him of His power.

Ex 4:6 And the LORD said furthermore unto him, Put now thine hand into thy bosom. And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow.

Ex 4:7 And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh.

God was trying to show Moses He was able to do whatever it takes when the need arises. He would not leave Moses when the troubles came.

Ex 4:8-9 And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign. And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs, neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood upon the dry land.

Moses was still not convinced. He told God he couldn't speak well.

Ex 4:10 And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

God told Moses He would be his tongue and speak through him.

Ex 4:12 Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

Moses continued to argue with the Lord. He asked God to let him choose someone to go with him.

Ex 4:13 And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send.

God was angered but agreed to let Moses' brother Aaron go with him.

Ex 4:14 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.

#### MOSES AND AARON TELL PHARAOH WHAT GOD SAID

Ex. 5:1 And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness.

Pharaoh refused to obey God or to let Israel go.

Ex. 5:2 And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.

Pharaoh made it even more difficult for the people of Israel.

Ex. 5:11-12 Go ye, get you straw where ye can find it: yet not ought of your work shall be diminished. So the people were scattered abroad throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble instead of straw.

# **GOD SENDS 10 PLAGUES TO EGYPT**

Ex. 7:14 And the LORD said unto Moses, Pharaoh's heart is hardened, he refuseth to let the people go.

The 10 plagues were as follows...Water turned to blood, frogs, lice, flies, diseased livestock, boils, hail and fire, locusts, darkness, death of firstborn.

# THE PASSOVER

Ex. 11:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, Yet will I bring one plague *more* upon Pharaoh, and upon Egypt; afterwards he will let you go hence: when he shall let you go, he shall surely thrust you out hence altogether.

Ex. 11:4-5 And Moses said, Thus saith the LORD, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt: And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts.

The Lord told Israel to slay a lamb and put the blood on the doorpost of their house.

Ex. 12:7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

The Lord passed through Egypt. The first born died in every house where there was no blood.

Ex. 12:29-30 And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle. And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead.

#### PHARAOH TELLS ISRAEL TO LEAVE EGYPT

Ex. 12:31 And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said

God led His people. God didn't take the shortest route to the promised land. That route, even though it was shorter, was very dangerous. The people of Israel were not prepared for war.

Ex. 13:17 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not *through* the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt:

Also, by taking the longer route through the wilderness, God was able to show the people of Israel they could trust Him. If He can take care of their needs in the wilderness, He could take care of them in the battle.

He led them with a pillar of smoke during the day and a pillar of fire at night.

Ex. 13:21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:

#### PHARAOH COMES AFTER ISRAEL

Ex. 14:9 But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and overtook them encamping by the sea, beside Pihahiroth, before Baalzephon.

#### ISRAEL DOUBTS GOD

Ex. 14:11 And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt?

#### GOD OPENS THE RED SEA FOR ISRAEL TO PASS THROUGH

Ex. 14:21-22 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground: and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.

GOD CLOSED THE RED SEA ON PHARAOH AND HIS MEN

Ex. 14:23 And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, even all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

Ex. 14:25 And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the LORD fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

Ex. 14:27 And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

ISRAEL SANG A SONG OF PRAISE TO THE LORD

Ex. 15:1 Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

# **ISRAEL COMPLAINS**

Ex. 16:3 And the children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full; for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.

#### GOD PROVIDES QUAIL AND MANNA

Ex. 16:4 Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no.

Ex. 16:13 And it came to pass, that at even the quails came up, and covered the camp: and in the morning the dew lay round about the host.

Ex. 16:15 And when the children of Israel saw it, they said one to another, It is manna: for they wist not what it was. And Moses said unto them, This is the bread which the LORD hath given you to eat.

# GOD PROVIDES WATER FROM THE ROCK

Ex. 17:3 And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?

Ex. 17:6 Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

The New Testament says this rock was a picture of Christ.

1 Corinthians 10:4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

# ISRAEL BATTLES AMALEK / GOD BRINGS VICTORY

Ex. 17:8 Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim.

Israel was fighting, Moses, Aaron and Hur were on the top of the mountain watching the fight. When Moses held his hands up, Israel prevailed. When he let his hands drop down, Amalek prevailed. Moses' arms grew tired so Aaron and Hur held them up.

Ex. 17:9 And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand.

Israel won the battle.

This is the first mention of Joshua.

Ex. 17:13 And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

#### MEN CHOSEN TO SOLVE PROBLEMS OF THE PEOPLE

Ex. 18:13 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening

Moses' father in law told him he had too much of a load and recommends appointing men to help with the matters of judging the problems of the people. (verses 17-23)

Ex. 18:24-26 So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said. And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.

#### ISRAEL GOES TO SINAI

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.

God called Moses to the top of the mountain and revealed His desire for the people of Israel.

#### GOD GIVES THE LAW

Ex. 19:3 And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel;

Chapters 19-24 tell how God gave Moses the law. God tells man what He expects

THE LAW POINTS TO JESUS CHRIST

Gal. 3:24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

The law shows us we cannot live up the God's standards. Therefore, we need a savior.

#### THE TABERNACLE IS DESCRIBED

Chapters 25-27 describe how the Tabernacle is to be built.

God described the Tabernacle structure, the ark and all the furniture that is to be placed in the Tabernacle. He described the clothing the priests were to wear as they ministered in the Tabernacle.

# THE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE PRIESTS Chapters 28-31

A priest was a man who approached God on behalf of himself and/or others.

At first every man was his own priest and presented his sacrifices before the Lord.

Later, the responsibility of being a priest fell to the head of each family.

But, in Exodus, God established a priesthood from Aaron and his sons.

Exodus 28:1 And take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.

The priest is a picture of Christ.

Hebrews 10:12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

The priests were responsible for three things.

- 1. When the Tabernacle was completed the priests were responsible for offering the sacrifices. The same would later be true in the Temple.
- 2. They were responsible to teach the people the law of God.
- 3. When necessary, they were to seek God's will to guide the nation.

#### THE PRIEST'S CLOTHING



THE MITRE Ex. 28:36-39

A head covering of fine linen above a gold plate engraved with the words "Holy to the Lord".

SHOULDER PIECES Ex. 28:9-12

Two onyx stones in gold settings, engraved with the names of the names of the sons of Israel.

THE BREASTPLATE Ex. 28:15-30

The breastplate was made of linen with gold, blue, purple and scarlet yarns. It was held in place with cords of gold attached to golden rings. There four rows of three stones set in the ephod. Each of these stones were engraved with the name of one of the twelve tribes of Israel.

URIM AND THUMMIM Ex. 28:30

It isn't known for certain what the Urim and Thummim were or how they were to be used. They could possibly have been two precious stones that were used to discern God's will. They were held within the breastplate next to the heart of the priest.

THE EPHOD Ex. 28:6-14

The Ephod was a linen garment made of gold, blue, purple and scarlet yarns. It was held by a woven waistband

ROBE Ex. 28:31-35

Under the Ephod, the priest wore a robe of blue. Golden bells and pomegranates were attached to the bottom of this robe.

God chose those who were greatly skilled to make the clothing the priests were to wear. These garments were considered holy and were to be treated with the utmost respect.

# THE PEOPLE BREAK GOD'S LAW BY MAKING A GOLDEN CALF

Ex. 32:1 And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

Moses was on the mount talking with God.

The people wondered why he was taking so long and what has happened to him.

They made an image of a calf and worshiped it.

Ex. 32:2 And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me.

Ex. 32:6 And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.

While Moses was communing with God, they turned their backs on Him and His law.

# GOD DEALS WITH ISRAEL'S SIN

Ex. 32:7 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted *themselves*:

God said He will destroy the people and use Moses to raise a new nation.

Ex. 32:9-10 And the LORD said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people: Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation. Moses prayed for Israel.

Ex. 32:11 ....LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people...

Moses came down the mountain and God dealt with the sin of the people. He broke the tablets of stone where God had written the ten commandments.

Ex. 32:19 And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.

Ex. 32:26-28 Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him. And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour. And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.

# THE TWO TABLETS OF STONE REPLACED

Ex. 34:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first: and I will write upon these tables the words that were in the first tables, which thou brakest.

Moses' face shone with the presence of God.

Ex. 34:29 And it came to pass, when Moses came down from mount Sinai with the two tables of testimony in Moses' hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moses wist not that the skin of his face shope while he talked with him.

# THE TABERNACLE IS BUILT

In chapters 35-40 the Tabernacle was actually built.

The Tabernacle was built from offerings of God's people.

Ex. 35:5 Take ye from among you an offering unto the LORD: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the LORD; gold, and silver, and brass,

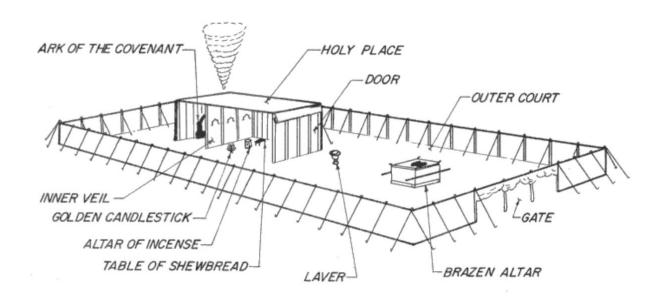
The Tabernacle was completed.

Ex. 40:1-2 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, On the first day of the first month shalt thou set up the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation.

The glory of God filled the Tabernacle.

Ex. 40:34-35 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 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.

#### THE TABERNACLE



# THE PURPOSE OF THE TABERNACLE

Why did God command Moses to build the Tabernacle?

TO GIVE THEM A PLACE TO MEET WITH GOD AND WORSHIP

Exodus 25:21–22 And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee. And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.

TO TEACH THEM THE HOLINESS OF GOD

TO PREVIEW THE WORK OF CHRIST

Everything in the Tabernacle points to Jesus and His work on Calvary.

# THE MATERIALS USED TO CONSTRUCT THE TABERNACLE

The exact amounts are difficult to determine because of converting to pounds.

gold 3,140 lbs.

oil for the light

goat's hair

silver 9,575 lbs. brass 7,540 lbs.

ram's skins dyed red precious stones

badger's skins sweet incense

fine linen

shittim wood

spices for anointing oil

The people brought so much Moses had to tell them to stop.

Exodus 36:6-7 And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing. For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much.

#### INSIDE THE TABERNACLE

The common Israelite could enter the court but only the priests could go into the Holy Place and only the high priest could go into the Holy Of Holies once a year on the Day of Atonement.

When an individual wanted to approach God he would go to the Tabernacle.

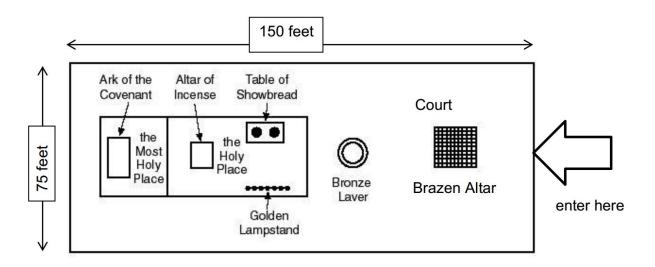
He would bring a suitable sacrifice to present before the Lord and enter through the gate.

The gate is a picture of Jesus. He said "I am the way"

# THE COURT WAS INSIDE THE TABERNACLE

As the worshipper entered the Tabernacle he would see an open area. This was called the Court. The total size of the court was 150' X 75'

Exodus 27:9 And thou shalt make the court of the tabernacle: for the south side southward there shall be hangings for the court of fine twined linen of an hundred cubits long for one side:



# THE BRAZEN ALTAR WAS INSIDE THE TABERNACLE

When the worshipper walked through the court the first piece of furniture he would see was the brazen altar. It reminded him how sinful he was and how unworthy he was to approach God.

It was made of shittim wood and covered with brass.

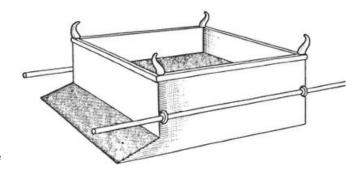
Long poles were used to carry the brazen laver. Man was not to touch it.

Exodus 27:1–2 And thou shalt make an altar of shittim wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar shall be foursquare: and the height thereof shall be three cubits. And thou shalt make the horns of it upon the four corners thereof: his horns shall be of the same: and thou shalt overlay it with brass.

This altar was the largest piece of furniture in the Tabernacle. It was 7 ft. 6 in. long, 7 ft. 6 in. wide and 4 ft. 6 in. high.

This was the place where the sacrifices God demanded were presented.

The priests would catch the blood in a basin, and pour the blood at the foot of the altar.



All the sacrifices offered only covered their sin until the supreme sacrifice would be offered.

These sacrifices point to Jesus.

Hebrews 10:4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

Hebrews 10:11–12 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

# THE BRAZEN LAVER WAS INSIDE THE TABERNACLE

This is where the priests would wash their hands and feet.

ONLY THE PRIESTS COULD ENTER THE HOLY PLACE OR THE HOLY OF HOLIES.

Before he entered he had to wash his hands and feet. He did this at the Brazen Laver.

Exodus 30:18–21 Thou shalt also make a laver of brass, and his foot also of brass, to wash withal: and thou shalt put it between the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar, and thou shalt put water therein. For Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet thereat: When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water, that they die not; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD: So they shall wash their hands and their feet, that they die not: and it shall be a statute for ever to them, even to him and to his seed throughout their generations.



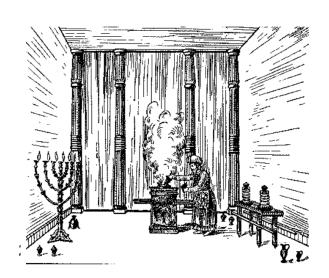
The women's "looking glasses" were used to line the inside of the brazen laver.

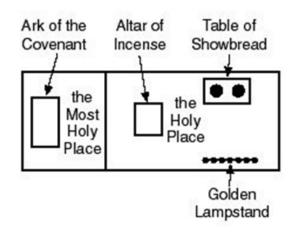
Exodus 38:8 And he made the laver of brass, and the foot of it of brass, of the lookingglasses of the women assembling, which assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

The laver was filled with water. As the priest washed his hands he would look into the water. With the looking glasses lining the inside of the laver, he would see his reflection. It would remind him how unworthy he was to approach a holy God.

# THE HOLY PLACE WAS INSIDE THE TABERNACLE

The priest would go through a veil and step into the Holy Place. The Holy Place was the first "room" inside The Tabernacle This room was 30 ft. X 15 ft. X 15 ft





#### THERE WERE THREE PIECES OF FURNITURE INSIDE THE HOLY PLACE

**FIRST** 

On the left side of the Holy Place was the GOLDEN CANDLESTICK

Ex 25:31-40 And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same. And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side: Three bowls made like unto almonds, with a knop and a flower in one branch; and three bowls made like almonds in the other branch, with a knop and a flower: so in the six branches that come out of the candlestick.....



The candlestick was made of beaten gold.

The light was to never go out. The priest would attend to the wick and replenish the oil twice a day.

This candlestick is a picture of Christ. He is the light of the world that shines in darkness.

John 8:12 ..., I am the light of the world:...

#### **SECOND**

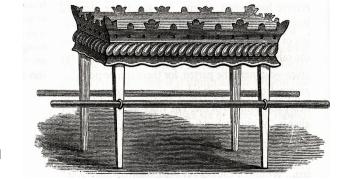
On the right side of the Holy Place was the TABLE OF SHEWBREAD

Exodus 25:23 Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof.

The table was approximately 3 ft. long, 18 inches wide and 27 inches high. It was covered with gold.

There were 12 loaves of bread, two rows of six, placed on the table. The bread was unleavened.

The priests were to replace the bread once a week on the Sabbath.



The priests ate this bread as they carried out their duties in the Tabernacle.

This is a picture of Christ. He is the bread of life.

John 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

# **THIRD**

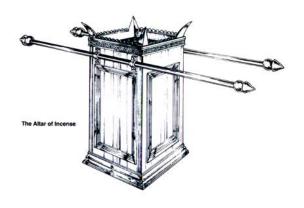
In the center of the Holy Place was the ALTAR OF INCENSE

The Altar of Incense is a picture of prayer. It was 18 inches wide and long and 36 inches tall. It was made of shittim wood and covered with gold.

The priest would burn incense on this altar every morning and every evening. This produced a wonderful aroma that would fill the Holy Place.

The Altar of Incense speaks of our prayer life. We are to pray without ceasing.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing.



The Altar of Incense also speaks of Jesus' intercessory prayer for us.

Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Hebrews 9:24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, *which are* the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

#### INSIDE THE TABERNACLE WAS THE HOLY OF HOLIES

The Holy of Holies was the last room in the Tabernacle. It measured 15 ft. x 15 ft. x 15 ft.

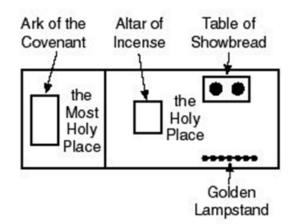
This was the area where the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat were placed.

No one but the High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies. THE VEIL

There was a curtain that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies.

When Jesus died this separation was taken away. The veil in the Temple was torn from top to bottom when Jesus died. This shows we have a way to God, but only by Jesus Christ.

Matthew 27:51 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;



# THE ARK OF THE COVENANT Ex. 25:10-16

The Ark of the Covenant was a rectangular box 4 ft. x 1 ½ ft. x 1 ½ ft.

It was made of shittim wood and covered with g God told Moses to put three things in this box.

- 1. A pot of manna (Ex. 16:32-33)
- 2. Aaron's rod that budded (Num. 17)
- 3. The tables of the law (Ex.25:16)

Hebrews 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;

Long staves were made and covered with gold.



# THE MERCY SEAT

The lid of this box was called The Mercy Seat.

Exodus 25:17 And thou shalt make a mercy seat of pure gold: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof.

There were two cherubims placed on top of the Mercy Seat, one on each end and facing each other.

Exodus 25:19-20 And make one cherub on the one end, and the other cherub on the other end: even of the mercy seat shall ye make the cherubims on the two ends thereof. And the cherubims shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and their faces shall look one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubims be.

These cherubims were a symbol of God's presence.

God said He would meet with them at this Mercy Seat.

Exodus 25:22 And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.

The Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat is a type of Christ.

The people of Israel carried the Tabernacle with them as they traveled through the wilderness.