

STUDIES ON THE TABERNACLE

PREACHED AT NEWTOWNARDS FPC FROM 3RD to 8TH
SEPTEMBER 2006 BY REV RON JOHNSTON

How it was Built



(Exodus 25:1-9; Exodus 35-40)

The Building of the Tabernacle

In the Old testament God had a building for His people. In the New Testament God's people are His building.

The church is His dwelling place (Ephesians 2:20,21; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 6:16; Hebrews 3:6; 1 Peter 2:5).

The Commencement

a) Plan (Exodus 35:4-19)

Willing wise hearted people were to give. God blesses a cheerful giver. They gave their very shoe leather and during their journey in the wilderness their shoes never wore done (Ezekiel 16:10; Deuteronomy 8:4; 29:5).

b) Problem (Exodus 35:20-29; 36:3-7)

They brought too much and had to be restrained from giving.

The Construction

a) Led by spirit filled workers (Exodus 35:30-36:2)

b) List of each item made (Exodus 36:8-39:31)

The Completion

a) Work finished and presented (Exodus 39:21-41)

Note that the expression 'As God had commanded' occurs 10 times in Chapter 39.

There was a variety of tasks to be done.

Some worked with gold, some with silver while others collected and spun goat's hair.

All the jobs were important.

Every believer has a gift from the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12).

b) Work inspected and approved (39:42,43)

As Moses inspected the work that had been done so the Lord Jesus Christ inspects our labours for Him. How wonderful to be able to receive His 'well done'.

The Consecration

a) Setting up of the Tabernacle (Exodus 40:2-11, 17-33)

Everything was put into its proper place.

b) Sanctification of the priests (Exodus 40:12-16; 31,32)

They were cleansed, clothed and consecrated.

c) Sacrifice offered (Exodus 40:29)

d) Supernatural Witness of God (Exodus 40:34-38)

The Tabernacle was still an empty building until suddenly, supernaturally and sovereignly the Glory of God filled the House.

The 'Glory of God' showed that He had accepted their work; that He alone is Sovereign and that He authenticated his servants' claims.

Apostates were destroyed by that 'Glory' (Number 16:12-35)

Unsaved will be destroyed by the Glory of His coming (2 Thessalonians 1:8; revelation 6:15-17)

We saw the Glory of God in the Face of Jesus Christ when we were saved (2 Corinthians 4:6).

We continue to see His glory revealed in scripture (2 Corinthians 3:18).

One day we will see Christ's Glory when He returns (Revelation 21:3; 22:4).

In the meantime we ought to pray that His Glory will fill His Church in revival blessing.

We long for an extraordinary sense of God's Majesty and Holiness to be present at our services.

This is not simply a lecture on the subject of 'What God did in the Tabernacle 3,000 years ago'.

It is a description of what He can still do in your life and in your church.

May the Glory of the Lord fill His Tabernacle (Exodus 40:34).