

Being God's People Means... Living in Obedience to God's Design

Ex 39:32-43; Rom 12:6-8

SJSM Sermon

Ven Wong Tak Meng | 24-25 May 2025

Ex 39:32-43 Inspection and Blessing of the Tabernacle

- **Then they brought the tabernacle to Moses**
 - the tent and all its utensils, its hooks, its frames, its bars, its pillars, and its bases;
 - the covering of tanned rams' skins and goatskins, and the veil of the screen;
 - the ark of the testimony with its poles and the mercy seat;
 - the table with all its utensils, and the bread of the Presence;
 - the lampstand of pure gold and its lamps with the lamps set and all its utensils, and the oil for the light;
 - the golden altar, the anointing oil and the fragrant incense, and the screen for the entrance of the tent;
 - the bronze altar, and its grating of bronze, its poles, and all its utensils; the basin and its stand;
 - the hangings of the court, its pillars, and its bases, and the screen for the gate of the court, its cords, and its pegs;
 - all the utensils for the service of the tabernacle, for the tent of meeting;
 - the finely worked garments for ministering in the Holy Place, the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons for their service as priests.
- **42 According to all that the LORD had commanded Moses, so the people of Israel had done all the work. 43 And Moses saw all the work, and behold, they had done it; as the LORD had commanded, so had they done it. Then Moses blessed them.**



Mount Sinai

Moses received God's revelation of Himself and how Israel is to be the People of God.

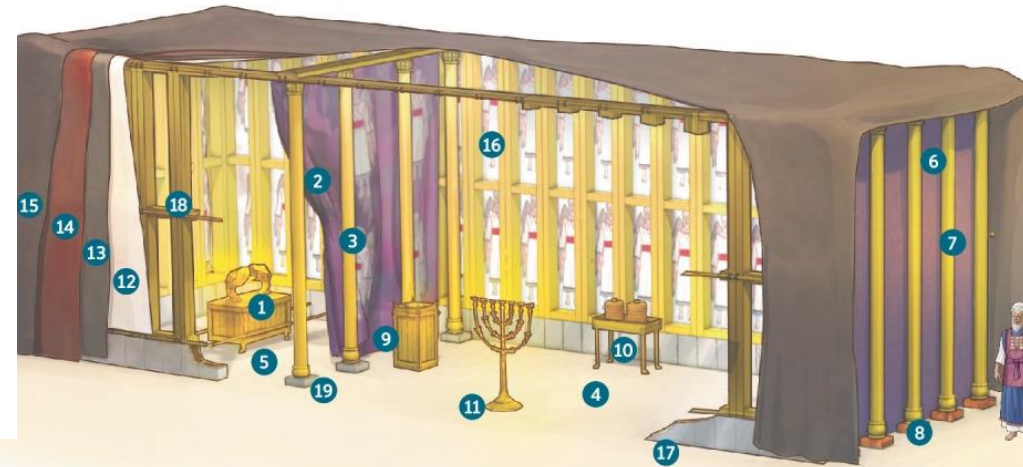
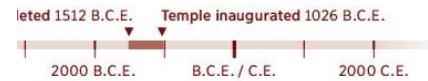


The Tabernacle: A multi-sensory experience of Who God is, and our relationship with Him.

Every item was made by design to reveal God's holiness, compassion, and faithfulness to His people

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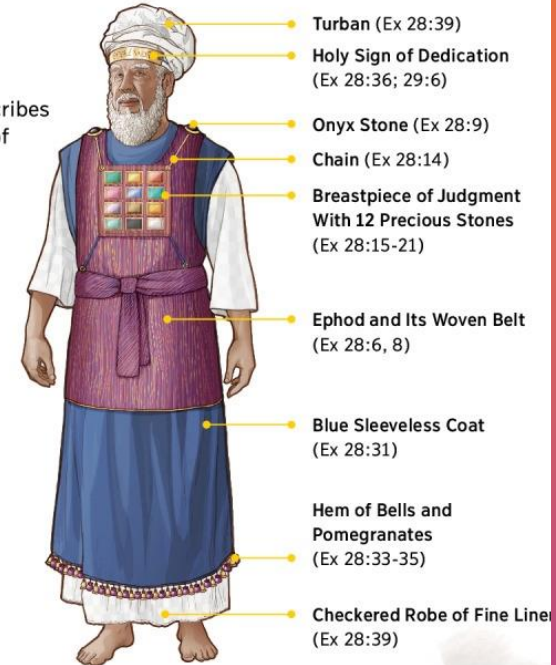
Tabernacle and High Priest



Tabernacle Features

High Priest

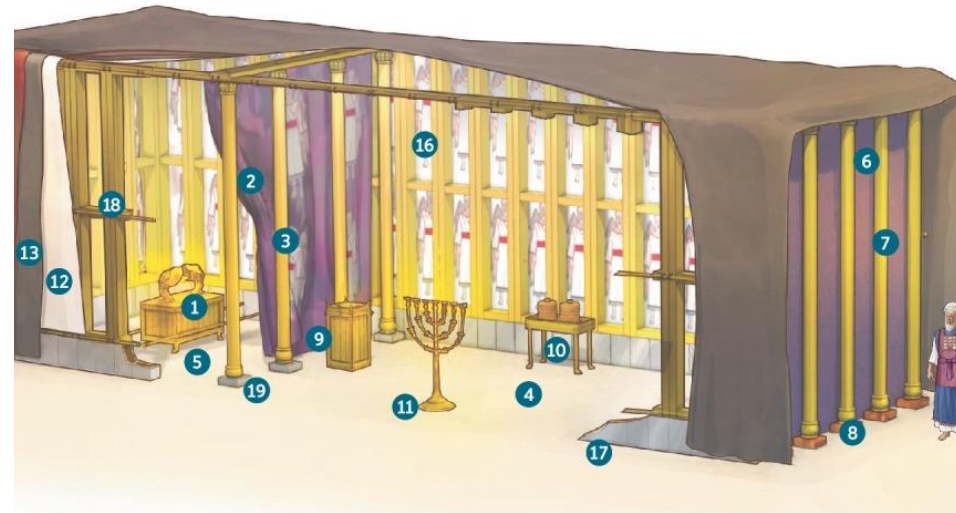
Exodus chapter 28 describes in detail the garments of Israel's high priest



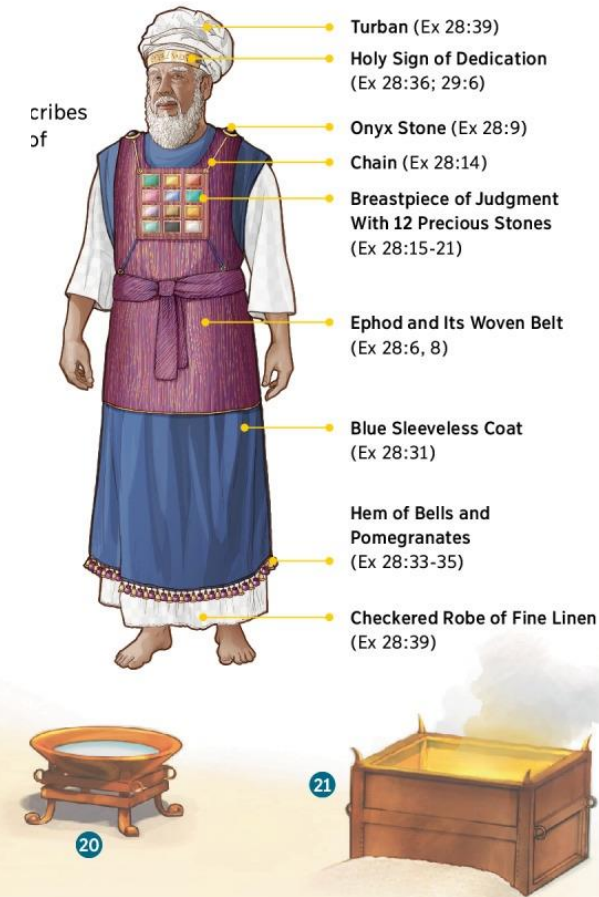
Construction of the Tabernacle involved the whole people of God:

- ✓ Materials from the people
- ✓ Skills of the people
- ✓ Lived out by the people

And Moses called **Bezalel** and **Oholiab** and every **craftsman** in whose mind the LORD had put skill, **everyone** whose heart stirred him up to come to do the work... all the contribution that the **people of Israel** had brought (Ex 36:2)



Features

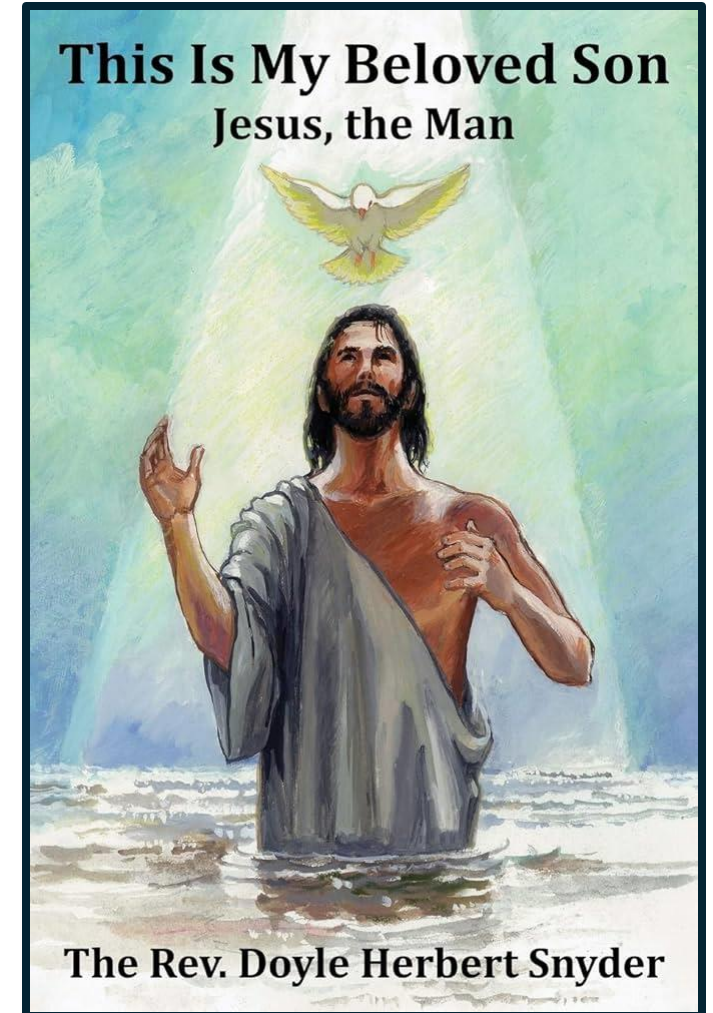


**What spiritual lessons
can we learn from the
construction and
blessing of the
Tabernacle?**



1. God displays His glory and character supremely through His Son Jesus Christ

- Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days **he has spoken to us by his Son...** (Heb 1:1-2)
- For in **him the whole fullness of deity** dwells bodily... (Col 2:9)
- And **the Word became flesh and dwelt among us**, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)



2. Christ reveals Himself to the world through us, His Body



- ...you yourselves like **living stones** are being built up as a **spiritual house**... a people for his own possession, **that you may proclaim the excellencies of him** who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. (1 Pet 2:5-9)
- ...just as I have loved you, you also are to **love one another**. **By this all people will know that you are my disciples**, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)

3. Christ lives today through the **grace-filled quality** of our relationships, our deeds and our words (Rom 12:6-8)

“Charism” (Gk “charismata” or Eng “spiritual gift”): **Any word or action which brings to concrete expression God’s gracious outreach to humankind, which serves as “a means of grace.”** (J.D.G. Dunn)

**Radical
Hospitality**

**Salt of the
earth**

**Light of the
World**

- **Prophecy, Service, Teaching, Exhortation**, in proportion to our faith
- **Contribution** with generosity
- **Leadership** with zeal
- **Acts of Mercy**, with cheerfulness,
- Etcetera...

3. ... **grace-filled witness** enabled by a **grace-filled walk with God (Rom 12:6-8)**



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...life acceptable to God is never one lived out of one's own resources but **always lived in dependence on God** ... whether charisms are wholly “supernatural” or ...“natural” (Dunn)