

SLAVES SET FREE
A Study in the Book of Exodus
Holy Bible, New International Version ©2011

The Tabernacle

Exodus 25–27

"Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still." Exodus 14:13–14

Day 1: Read Exodus 25:1–22.

1. From whom does God want an offering for the building of his tabernacle? (Ex. 25:2; 35:5, 21–22, 26, 29)

How does this compare with how we are encouraged to give today? (2 Cor. 8:8–12)

2. Why do you think God is adamant that the tabernacle be made exactly according to the pattern he gives? (25:9, 40)

What is the tabernacle a copy or shadow of? (Heb. 8:5)

3. What is to be placed inside the chest of acacia wood (the "ark") when it is finished? (25:21; Heb. 9:4)

What is to be placed on top of the ark? (25:17, 21)

4. What do you think is the significance of placing a mercy seat on top of (or covering) the tablets of the law?

Day 2: Read Exodus 25:23–30.

5. What piece of furniture is commissioned in verses 23–30?
6. What is to be placed on top of it? (25:30)

7. What did the loaves of bread represent, and who go to eat it? (Lev. 24:5-9)

8. How is Jesus a better "bread" than the one on the table of the tabernacle? (Jn. 6:48-51)

Day 3: Read Exodus 25:31-40.

9. What other object is placed in the room with the table? (25:31)

10. What are the lamps there to do? (25:37)

11. Who is the true lamp or light (of whom this man-made one is just a symbol) who "light[s] the space in front of" (25:37) us? (Ps. 27:1; 36:9; Jn. 8:12)

12. The lights are to be kept burning day and night (27:20-21). What is God saying by this for our encouragement?

Day 4: Read Exodus 26:1-37.

13. Describe the curtains of the tabernacle. What does their beauty tell you about God?

14. Do you think they are functional too? How? (26:33)

15. What do the curtains separate the people from? (26:33; Heb. 9:3-4)

16. What is signified by the fact that the curtains separate the people from the ark and mercy seat? (Heb. 9:8)

17. What happened the moment that Christ died? (Matt. 27:51; Mk. 15:38; Lk. 23:45)

Why do you think this detail is important enough for three gospel writers to mention it?

18. What did God do to the curtain, and what does it mean to you? (Heb. 10:19–22)

Day 5: Read Exodus 27:1–21.

19. Which section of the tabernacle is described in this chapter?

20. What is the altar to be used for? (Lev. 1:2)

21. Why do you think this altar is placed in the tabernacle courtyard, so that one must go there before proceeding into the tabernacle itself?

22. Who is the ultimate sacrifice to be offered on the altar? (Heb. 10:5–7)

23. How is Christ the only true and perfect offering, and what does this mean for you? (Rom. 8:1–4)