

A Covering Above of Badgers Skins

Exodus 26:14 – 27:21

~ We're still hanging around the construction site of the tabernacle in this report from our Spiritual Safari. In our last report, we saw the ark and the mercy seat; and in this report, we start out with four coverings the tabernacle had. The first covering was fine Egyptian linen that had woven cherubims in it. It never touched the ground, and you could not see it from the outside. It speaks of how the beauty of Christ cannot be seen by the world outside. Christ can only satisfy you if you are one of His own children and in Him. This is one reason that worshipping Christ correctly is so critical. If we can gather with others that they might feed on Christ and behold Him in His beauty; there will Christ be also. He wants us to be with Him, near Him and to know Him! We behold His beauty in worship. David said, "... keep me as the apple of Thine eye and hide me under the shadow of Thy wings." Those wings are in the cherubims we see woven into this linen cloth above. Underneath those wings is a very good place for you and me to be hidden and protected today, too.

The second layer of covering for the tabernacle is goat's hair; and it does touch the ground. This covering speaks of the sin offering; it speaks of the value and worth of Christ to sinners. The goat's hair could be seen by the people outside. Of course, this is what the world sees today as it speaks of the death of Christ. The writer to the Hebrews says, "... for then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself." Sin is the message in the goat's hair; and that message is to go forth to the entire world and be seen.

The third covering we have is the ram's skin dyed red. This speaks of the strength and vigor of Christ and of His sacrifice. These are the outward aspects of His offering. This also speaks of the Lord Jesus Christ as our substitute in death. Lastly, we have the badger skins. The badger's skin speaks of the children of Israel's walk before men on the earth. From the outside, there is no beauty that we should desire the tabernacle, as Isaiah

Exodus 26:14 – 27:21

said. There is no beauty that we should outwardly desire Christ; you will have to get inside the properly constructed tabernacle before you realize His majesty, where you are - and what is to be done there. The world does not see what the believer sees in Christ Jesus – that’s for sure. Modern religion has manufactured an outwardly beautiful tabernacle; but it has absolutely no connection or resemblance whatsoever to this tabernacle....

XXVI

14 And thou shalt make a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering above of badgers' skins.

15 And thou shalt make boards for the tabernacle of shittim wood standing up.

16 Ten cubits shall be the length of a board, and a cubit and a half shall be the breadth of one board.

17 Two tenons shall there be in one board, set in order one against another: thus shalt thou make for all the boards of the tabernacle.

~ This wood is similar to acacia or redwood; and it’s almost indestructible. Then, those boards were completely encased in gold. The bars we’re reading about went down along the boards with rings that the bars were run through to hold them all together. This constitutes the fastening system that structurally supported the tabernacle proper. Every color, every shape, every ornament and every facet of every detail speaks of the Lord Jesus Christ in these tabernacle instructions. Every work and every command are somehow connected to Christ.

It is only the Spirit of God that holds everything together today for us. Church believers need to be held together by Christ. Our relationships must be held together. Friends, our LIVES must be held together by Him. We are told to keep the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace. This is another lovely little picture we have of our Savior and Lord. Speaking of colors, of the different colors mentioned. Blue = Heavenly; Scarlet = blood and sin; Purple, the blending of the two speaks of royalty; all the way down to the

colors and the fasteners of the tabernacle we find Christ presented. All of that was overlaid with gold which speaks of the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is an impressive appearance given when we understand what we are looking at....

18 And thou shalt make the boards for the tabernacle, twenty boards on the south side southward.

19 And thou shalt make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards; two sockets under one board for his two tenons, and two sockets under another board for his two tenons.

20 And for the second side of the tabernacle on the north side there shall be twenty boards:

21 And their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board.

22 And for the sides of the tabernacle westward thou shalt make six boards.

23 And two boards shalt thou make for the corners of the tabernacle in the two sides.

24 And they shall be coupled together beneath, and they shall be coupled together above the head of it unto one ring: thus shall it be for them both; they shall be for the two corners.

25 And they shall be eight boards, and their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board.

26 And thou shalt make bars of shittim wood; five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle,

27 And five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the two sides westward.

28 And the middle bar in the midst of the boards shall reach from end to end.

29 And thou shalt overlay the boards with gold, and make their rings of gold for places for the bars: and thou shalt overlay the bars with gold.

30 And thou shalt rear up the tabernacle according to the fashion thereof which was shewed thee in the mount.

31 And thou shalt make a veil of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made:

32 And thou shalt hang it upon four pillars of shittim wood overlaid with gold: their hooks shall be of gold, upon the four sockets of silver.

~ The sockets of silver speak of redemption. Notice there are four of them as there are four Gospels. Christ's deity acquires authority over this earth through redemption. Jesus paid for our redemption with His Blood. These pillars have no caps; they are just cut off at the top. Isaiah said, "... as Christ was cut off out of the land of the living." The veil made of fine twined linen was a covering for the ark of the covenant when Israel marched. It speaks of the humanity of Christ; and nothing was as beautiful as that veil. There has been a lot said about the veil; some saying that it was replaced every year. Well, all I can say about that is I don't see those instructions in the record.

The only entrance to the Holy of Holies was through the veil. It is said to have been about five inches thick; which meant two horses could not have torn it apart. The veil speaks of Jesus humanity. When He died on the cross and the earthquake caused the veil to be rent and twain, that speaks of His body being torn and the way to God being opened for us! It's not His life that saves us, friends; it's His death! His spotless life condemns you and me. We see ourselves at the veil in Exodus as unable to pass into the presence

of God. The only way to God today is through Christ. He must have died for your sins. Sincerity and church membership and good works do not play a part in your salvation according to the Bible. Thank God that veil is removed today so that we may enter into the presence of God. Man was on one side and God was on the other side of the veil when Aaron was the high priest. The Lord Jesus Christ is our Holy High Priest today. Jesus saith, "no man cometh unto the Father but by Me." This is just one more absolutely remarkable and glorious picture we are looking at in our Exodus photo album of the Bible....

33 And thou shalt hang up the veil under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the veil the ark of the testimony: and the veil shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy.

34 And thou shalt put the mercy seat upon the ark of the testimony in the most holy place.

35 And thou shalt set the table without the veil, and the candlestick over against the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south: and thou shalt put the table on the north side.

36 And thou shalt make an hanging for the door of the tent, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework.

~ Okay, this is yet another veil. We had a gate to get into the court; and it had a covering that veiled the sight. We have this veil to get into the tabernacle proper and we just examined the veil that led from the Holy Place to the Holy of Holies. Three entrance points is why Christ said "I am the way, the truth and the life." He is all three; and they come to a believer in succession. The gate leads to the brazen altar which speaks of the cross of Christ. If you are going to worship God today, you'll have to worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. We don't worship God any old way we feel like worshipping Him; we have to come in the spirit of truth through the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ is the light which is represented by the veil that was rent and twain. The life of Christ does nothing to bring us to God – only His death and resurrection! These are such wonderful pictures we're looking at in the tabernacle today....

37 And thou shalt make for the hanging five pillars of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold, and their hooks shall be of gold: and thou shalt cast five sockets of brass for them.

XXVII

~ As we continue to move from the inside to the outside of the tabernacle, we now come to the brazen altar. On the outside, the articles are all made of brass. Brass always speaks of judgment in Scripture. The altar and the laver are both brass. Inside the tabernacle, all of the furniture is made of gold. That's because the closer we get to God the more emphasis is placed on the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ. The further we move out from Him, the more the emphasis is placed on the works of Christ on the cross!

It's actually critical that you do not miss these facts - or you are absolutely NEVER going to be content in your Christian life. Impossible. Fellowship with God our Father today follows a strict order of worship - or you won't get in, my beloved. I'm talking to believers. Once again, we're not at the most thrilling place in the Bible, to be sure; and I'm not trying to make it that - because it's just not that thrilling. It is, however, so deeply meaningful for us in our present life. We have to really dig down deep in the Word of God to see these kinds of truths and wondrous facts....

1 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.

2 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.

3 And thou shalt make his pans to receive his ashes, and his shovels, and his basons, and his fleshhooks, and his firepans: all the vessels thereof thou shalt make of brass.

4 And thou shalt make for it a grate of network of brass; and upon the net shalt thou make four brasen rings in the four corners thereof.

5 And thou shalt put it under the compass of the altar beneath, that the net may be even to the midst of the altar.

6 And thou shalt make staves for the altar, staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with brass.

7 And the staves shall be put into the rings, and the staves shall be upon the two sides of the altar, to bear it.

8 Hollow with boards shalt thou make it: as it was shewed thee in the mount, so shall they make it.

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:

10 And the twenty pillars thereof and their twenty sockets shall be of brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets shall be of silver.

11 And likewise for the north side in length there shall be hangings of an hundred cubits long, and his twenty pillars and their twenty sockets of brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver.

12 And for the breadth of the court on the west side shall be hangings of fifty cubits: their pillars ten, and their sockets ten.

13 And the breadth of the court on the east side eastward shall be fifty cubits.

14 The hangings of one side of the gate shall be fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three.

15 And on the other side shall be hangings fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three.

16 And for the gate of the court shall be an hanging of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework: and their pillars shall be four, and their sockets four.

17 All the pillars round about the court shall be filleted with silver; their hooks shall be of silver, and their sockets of brass.

18 The length of the court shall be an hundred cubits, and the breadth fifty every where, and the height five cubits of fine twined linen, and their sockets of brass.

19 All the vessels of the tabernacle in all the service thereof, and all the pins thereof, and all the pins of the court, shall be of brass.

~ I hope you read all of the text very carefully so we can discuss its deeper meanings as we close this leg of our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God. Our overall picture is that of God indwelling the tabernacle and sitting upon the mercy seat while looking out and upon His chosen people who came to the brazen altar worshipping Him. All of the furniture in the outer court speaks of sin. The sin question must be settled outside before one can enter the Holy Place. The furniture in the Holy Place all speaks of communion with God in worship. There's no sin in there because sin was all taken care of outside. We do have a remembrance of sin as everything is sprinkled with blood. So, how does man get from the outside to the inside, spiritually speaking?

The first requirement is a substitute in death for your sins. If you want to live and not die, a sacrifice will have to be made on that brazen altar for your sins. Sometimes this altar is called the table of the Lord. It's also the altar of burnt offerings. It is the place where God deals with the sinner. It speaks of the cross of Christ Who died in our stead. Paul said, ".... Christ has given Himself an offering for us; a sweet-smelling savor." This altar was made by man, but the pattern came directly from God! The cross is the chosen altar of sacrifice of God Himself. Christ was delivered for crucifixion in the full council and foreknowledge of God the Father. Christ is more than just a good man, friends. Christ is the lamb slain from the foundation of the world. There is just no approach to God except in passing by the brazen

altar. Not only must the victim be brought but the victim must be claimed and declared as their substitute.

Next, you move on the laver to be washed before entering the Holy Place. A complete order of worship followed; which we will get to on safari. It was when darkness came over the cross for the last three hours that Christ paid for the sins of the world. For as many as receive Christ gave He them the right to be called sons of God; even unto them who do no more or less than simply believe in His name. Man cannot please or appease God; even the Levite priests had to come this way. The way of the cross leads home - but there is no other way! If we do not pass by the brazen altar, we have no access to God whatsoever....

20 And thou shalt command the children of Israel, that they bring thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamp to burn always.

21 In the tabernacle of the congregation without the vail, which is before the testimony, Aaron and his sons shall order it from evening to morning before the LORD: it shall be a statute for ever unto their generations on the behalf of the children of Israel.

~ Well, the light of Christ still shines today. The difference is: Christ has returned to Heaven, and He says WE are to be the light in this present evil world. That's the reason God led us out of the darkness and bondage in Egypt. Of course, only the Spirit of God living through us can enlighten and use us. The first picture of Christ we will see when we get to Revelation is of Him walking through the midst of the lamp stands. Christ keeps the witness and maintains the light today. We have conclusive evidence that God is dealing with those who are His own.

We still have two more articles of furniture to examine, and one is the altar of incense. That's coming up later when we find out who will be permitted to worship God. The other is the brazen laver where we get cleaned up. Have you been washed and cleansed by the Spirit of God? Only Christ can wash you clean today. Only after being washed can we be permitted to enter and worship Him! What a picture we have of Christ today! We didn't really go anywhere in this report; we just sat around and looked at some

old pictures of the Lord Jesus Christ. What a great day! I hope you had as much fun as I did ~

^^^