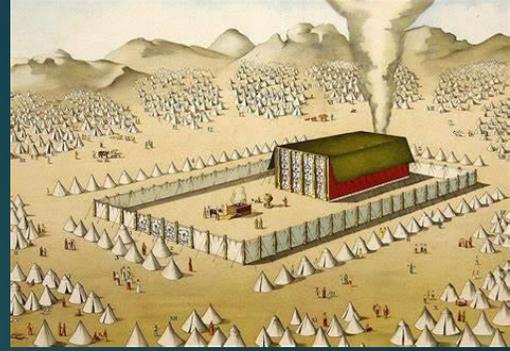




Christ and the Tabernacle

EXODUS 25

People Contributed to God



- ▶ This **contribution** (25:2; 35:5) is not the same as the **tithe** (see Lev. 27:30)
- ▶ The giving here was about the “heart” (see 2 Cor. 9:7), it was not required as a reminder that all they had belongs to God, rather it was a gift of **thanksgiving** to God
- ▶ Also they were giving as there was a **need** (v.3-8), and here the need was a sanctuary

1. God Is In Their Midst



- ▶ Why is a **Sanctuary** needed? (Abraham did not)
- ▶ (v.8) God wants to be in their midst—God's intention all along, to be with His own people
- ▶ Jesus has come to be in the midst of us as **Immanuel** (Matt. 1:23) (a physical presence)
- ▶ The tabernacle is a **picture** of Christ in the midst of God's people, as we study through each item in the tabernacle this is the main theme

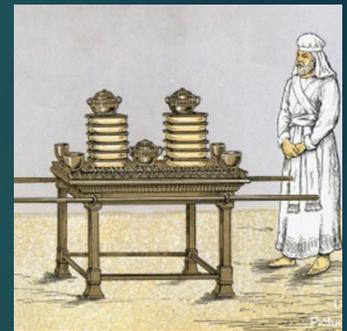
2. The Traveling Ark



- ▶ The ark of the covenant, like the tabernacle, is meant to be **moved** for travel—God wants to journey with His people (Jos. 1:9)
- ▶ What travels along with God's people is His **testimony**, both the written testimony of God and the testimony of God's work
- ▶ Instead of a **throne** of authority, God wants to meet His people with His throne of **mercy** (v.17)
- ▶ He wants to meet us and **speak** with us (v.22)

3. A Table of Testimony

- ▶ There were 12 pieces of bread there representing the 12 tribes of Israel
- ▶ However, it transformed as a picture of the **Lord's table**—as Jesus breaks bread with us as a picture of His sacrifice for our sins (Luke 22:19-20)
- ▶ The Bread of **Presence**—as Christ is always before the Father (Heb. 1:3; Psalm 110:1) and interceding for us (Rom. 8:34)
- ▶ Moreover, Jesus is the **bread of life**—without Him there is no life (John 6:35)



4. The Lampstand before God

- ▶ The Lampstand served as **constant** lighting in the holy place
- ▶ Light itself is a picture of God (John 1:4-5)
- ▶ Jesus is the **Light of the world** (John 8:12) and in Him there is no darkness (any darkness in us?)
- ▶ The world we live in today still belongs to the kingdom of **darkness** (Col. 1:12-14)
- ▶ Will you bring the Light of the world **to** the world?



Conclusion

- ▶ (Heb. 8:5-6; 25:40) Christ is **better** in every way, however by understanding the “copy” we can have a deeper appreciation of Christ Himself
- ▶ Are you **contributing** to what is needed for the building of God’s kingdom?
- ▶ Are you willing to come before the **throne of mercy**?
- ▶ Do you remember that Jesus is your **bread** and are you **relying** on Him daily?
- ▶ Will you let Jesus **shine** in you and through you?

I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never hunger. —John 6:35

