



“The Tabernacle, A Completed Work” (Exodus 31-40)

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Intro: I don't know that I've ever enjoyed a Bible study more than I did last Wednesday on The Tabernacle. And thank you for all the encouraging comments of how the Lord used that study to encourage you as well. The notes and pictures from last week's message are on our website.

We continue tonight with the same subject, the Tabernacle, but a much different emphasis.

Read 31:1-11; It is fascinating to me how God chooses and gifts people for what He wants to accomplish in the world. Note again vv.2, 3, & 6. God has chosen each one of us to accomplish a work for Him in this world.

Eph. 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared *in advance* for us to do.

See Psalm 139:13-16

AN INDIVIDUAL WORK

- Acts 20:24...I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.
- Gal.2:7...I had been entrusted with the task of preaching the gospel to the Gentiles, just as Peter had been to the Jews.
- Hebrews 10:7...In the volume of the book it is written of me...
- The common red line throughout the Bible is Jesus; See Luke 24:27, 44; Rom.3:21 (Seed of the woman in Gen.3, Melchizedek in Gen.14, the sacrifice of Gen.22, the Passover Lamb of Exodus, the prophet like Moses in Deuteronomy, the Rock that accompanied the Israelites in the wilderness, , Joshua who leads us into the Promised Land, prophecies about Him fill the Psalms, the child of the virgin in Isa.7, the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace in Isa.9, the Branch from the stump of Jesse in Isa.11, the humble and compassionate servant in Isa.42, he will not shout or cry out, his voice you will not hear in the streets, a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, the Suffering Servant in Isa.53, despised and rejected by men, pierced for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities, & in Isa.61 he is the one the Spirit has anointed to preach good news to the poor, bind up the brokenhearted, proclaim freedom for the captives & release from darkness for the prisoners.
- The message in the Tabernacle is the message of the gospel (summarize with pic from my office).

A CORPORATE WORK

- Rom.12:6-8; I Cor.12:7-11; Eph.4:11-12
- Eph.4:16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself in love, as each part does its work.
- The universal church is identified by local churches where God-ordained leadership has been established.

THE LEAST WE CAN DO: GIVE

- Parable of the talents (Matt.25:24-27)
- Read Ex.35:4-9, 20-29; 36:2-7
 - God has given us everything we need for the work He has called us to accomplish.
 - Where God leads, God feeds, where God guides, God provides.
 - Preacher who said to his congregation: “We have everything we need for what God has called us to do. The only problem is its still in your pockets!”
- II Cor.8:7...just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, and in your love for us – see that you excel in this grace of giving.
- It is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35)
- The tithe (Gen.14:20; Heb.7; Gen.28:22; Matt.23:23)
- It is my conviction that the tithe is given to the Lord through the local church; I Cor.9:4-6, 11, 14; I Tim.5:17-18, 9-10; Also II Cor.8:16-21.
- Faithfulness in giving allows God to bless us financially
 - Prov.3:9-10; II Cor.9:10-11
- Faithfulness in giving is a stepping stone to spiritual blessing/usefulness
 - Luke 16:11
- Learn to give sacrificially
 - II Cor.8:1-3; I Kings 17:7-16; Mark 12:43

THE MOST WE CAN DO: GO ALL IN

- Commit to Prov.3:9
- Follow the leading of the Lord in sacrificial giving
- Rom.12:1 Therefore I urge you brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.
- Whatever you do, do it with all your heart (Col.3:17, 23-24)
- If you do what you can, God will do what you cannot.

FINISH THE WORK

- Col.4:17 Tell Archippus: “See to it that you complete the work you have received in the Lord.”
- II Tim.4:7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.
- Summarize Ex.36-40; Read Ex.40:33
- Giving (II Cor.8:11)
- Serving

THINGS THAT MAY KEEP US FROM FINISHING THE WORK

- The work itself

- Too small (Zech.4:6-10)
- Too big (Num.11:14-15)
- Weariness
 - Gal.6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
 - Heb.12:2-3
 - He had less than three years of formal education, failed in business in '31. He was defeated for State Legislature in '32, failed again in business in '34. Finally elected to State Legislature in '35, ran for Speaker and lost by a landslide, He was defeated again for Elector in '40, and for Congress in '43. Elected in '46, he lasted only a two year term, being defeated in a re-election attempt in '48. Failing in business once again, he ran for Senate, but was defeated in '55. Ran for President in '56 and was crushed. Defeated for Senate again in '58. Then in '60 (1860), Abraham Lincoln won – going on to become perhaps the greatest political leader in American history.
 - John Mark, Acts 13
- The world
 - Opposition from the world (Nehemiah)
 - Love of the world (II Tim.4:10)

CONCLUSION

- See All In (Batterson), pp.93-96, 109



