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Exodus CH 25.

The last section of the Book of Exodus serves as the books conclusion. It does contain further emphasis on obedience, it concentrates on what the LORD promised to do on Israel's behalf. And of course the tabernacle.

We will see once again, a point that many believers miss. Worship is NOT about us, NOT about what we do for GOD. It is about what GOD allows us to do.

The significance of the tabernacle is made clear by the amount of text

that is devoted to it. Not just here in Exodus but also throughout Leviticus and Deuteronomy.

In Leviticus the LORD will before he outlines the sacrificial procedures in Leviticus 1–10.

There will be in that process the golden calf incident, in which Israel breaks the covenant.

Yet, GOD still dwells in their presence, completion of the structure and ordination of the priests and all that demonstrates GOD's mercy.

The tabernacle is called a sanctuary, which simply means a place that is set apart.

The tabernacle is an illustration of what is to come. The incarnation of the Word of GOD:

Logos is from the Greek verb lego = meaning speech, message, doctrine, teaching.

The Word of GOD is Yeshua as in.

**/JOH 1:1, In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with GOD, and the Word was GOD.**

**2 HE was in the beginning with GOD.**

**3 All things came into being through HIM, and apart from HIM nothing came into being that has come into being.**

**4 In HIM there is life, and the life the Light of men.**

**5 Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.**

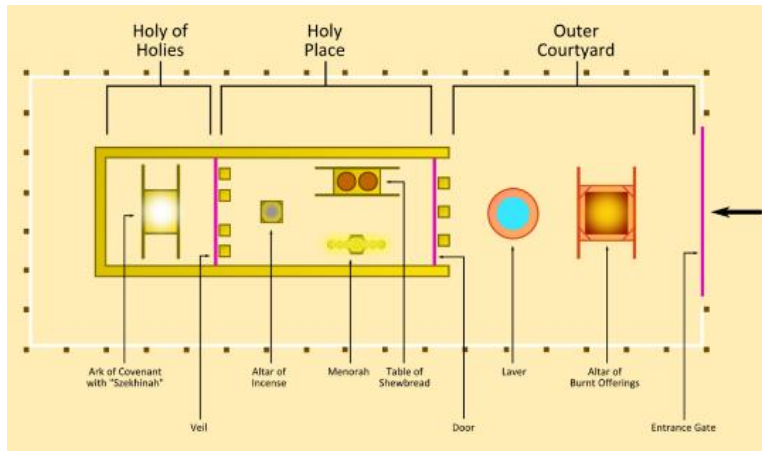
kat-al-am-ban'-o = to take hold or grasp.

**/JOH 1:14, And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld HIS glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father = monog enace = one of a kind) full of grace and truth.**

Word is logos, and this is of course a reference to Yeshua.

When we look at the tabernacle, we are looking at Yeshua. This

tabernacle tells us about GOD that are extremely important.



/We see that GOD desires to be close to HIS people; and, how far GOD is from HIS people.

The tabernacle, in an amazing way, brings GOD very near and yet puts him far away.

It is exactly that, that is removed with Yeshua. We want GOD as near as possible. We want HIM to dwell with us, to be with us. Yet we realize we are sinners and

GOD alone is Holy. What a gift we have in that relationship with the Messiah, Yeshua.

So as we see the tabernacle, think of how far GOD still remained from HIS people and Yest HE lives in us.

**/JOH 15:4-6, Abide in ME, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in ME. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in ME, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without ME you can do nothing.**

Think of it, GOD wants to live right where you live. So don't take what we in the C.A. have.

/That is the one huge difference between the OT and the NT. In the OT GOD dwells in places with the people; in the NT GOD dwells in people wherever they are.

The tabernacle of GOD is no longer a building. It is no longer a temple. GOD does not live in a building anymore.

**/1COR 6:19-20, Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from GOD, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought for a**

**price: therefore glorify GOD in your body.**

Why the change? Well, as we already noted, **The Word became flesh and tabernacled among us.**

Until Yeshua and HIS earthly Ministry, if GOD was going to dwell on earth HE had to have a building. Now HE dwells in us.

**With that opening, let's get to CH 25.**

**1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,**

**2 “Tell the sons of Israel to raise an offering for ME; from every man whose heart moves him you shall raise MY offering.**



Teh room aw = offering.

**LXX 25:1 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 25:2 Speak to the children of Israel, and take first-fruits of all, who may be disposed in their heart to give; and ye shall take my first-fruits.**

**3 This is the offering which you are to raise (lah cach = take, receive) from them: gold, silver and bronze,**

**4 blue, purple and scarlet material, fine linen, goat hair,**

**5 rams' skins dyed red, porpoise skins, acacia wood,**

**/LXX 25:5 and rams' skins dyed red, and blue skins, and incorruptible wood,**

**6 oil for lighting, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense,**

**7 onyx stones and setting stones for the ephod (ah fode = garment) and for the breastpiece.**



The stones will be detailed in a few CH's.



/Blue: The origin of the Biblical blue dye is significant. It was usually obtained from a particular type of snail.

When exposed to sunlight, it turns blue. The sun, is necessary to process this specific color. It was a painstaking task to obtain and produce. It takes thousands of

snails to make 1.4 grams of dye, making it precious, rare, and expensive.

Purple is obtained from another snail or sea mollusk.

Scarlet: Has to do with man and the lifeblood that sustains them.

The Hebrew for "man" is "adam" אָדָם and is spelled exactly the same as the Hebrew word for red.

The Hebrew word for blood is "dam" דָּם. Significantly, man and red both contain the word "blood."

The tolah worm, the creature from which the dye, representing red blood, is obtained, has a unique story behind it.

A tolah is a worm or maggot known as the crimson worm.

This creature's life cycle illustrates humanity's salvation through the perfect sacrificed blood of Yeshua.

/When the female of the scarlet worm species was ready to give birth to her young, she would attach her body to the trunk of a tree.

And there she would remain for the rest of her life, she would never leave again.

The eggs deposited beneath her body were thus protected until the larvae were hatched and able to enter their own life cycle.

This worm gives her life to protect her babies with her own body and feeds them with it.



As the mother died, the crimson fluid stained her body and the surrounding wood.

From the dead bodies of such female scarlet worms, the commercial scarlet dyes of Bible were extracted.

/A picture of Yeshua dying on the tree, shedding HIS precious blood that he might bring many sons unto glory, as HEB 2:10 puts it.

PSA 22:6 describes such a worm and gives us this picture of Yeshua on the Cross.

**MY GOD, MY God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping ME, And from the words of MY groaning? . . .But I am a worm (a *tolah* תולע) despised by the people.**

Remember Yeshua was given a purple or scarlet robe Mark and John that call it a purple robe.

It was fore-shadowed by the gate to the Tabernacle. The Tabernacle's only entrance faced east and was a wide curtain colored blue on one end and red on

the other end. The colors blended in the middle to make purple.

The Veil in the Temple that tore at Jesus' crucifixion had the same color scheme: Blue, the color of the Word, scarlet was man, Purple represented the GOD-Man Yeshua, Who, by HIS death, became the only door to GOD the Father.

**JOH 14:6, No man comes to the Father but by me.**

Fine linen: This term translates an Egyptian word. The Egyptians knew (and undoubtedly taught the Jews) how to make fine linen.

Goat hair: Coverings made from this material were typically black



and coarse, similar to our modern felt.

Rams' skins: This customarily had the wool removed and was like fine leather.

**8 Let them construct a sanctuary for ME, that I may dwell among them.**

**9 According to all that I am going to show you, as the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furniture, just so you shall construct it.**

tab-neeth = pattern, plan, form, construction.

The LORD instructed Moses to take a **freewill offering** to supply

specific materials for this dwelling place in the midst of the camp. No mention of a tithe here.

**/2 COR 9:6-7, 6 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for GOD loves a cheerful giver.**

These opening verses provide a key for understanding most of the remainder of the book of Exodus.

The enterprise was to begin with an offering from the heart. **“You are to receive the offering for me**

**from each man whose heart prompts him to give.”**

The LORD would be very specific about the design and artistry of the tabernacle, and so this list of raw materials was also very specific.

/So next, the LORD sets up a house so the HE can dwell with HIS people. The furniture, colors, decorations, and all the instruments or vessels for worship.

The simplest meaning or explanation for the tabernacle is that GOD was going to live with HIS people.

**6 oil for lighting, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense,**

The olive oil for the light was for the golden lampstand and its service, which Aaron's sons were to keep burning all night.

The spices for the anointing oil were myrrh and cinnamon, (we will see that later). They were to anoint everything that would be used in the worship.

GOD later specified that they use these spices in a precise recipe for the fragrant incense for the incense altar in front of the curtain to the most holy place...

Of course, the building because GOD's people were going to move, needed to be a moveable,

portable. This tabernacle is of GOD's design.

We see the LORD has an eye for detail. Not just the big things, but the smaller things down to the hooks that join the curtains together.

Yehovah had redeemed the Israelites from bondage. HE had made a covenant with them and had given them laws.

HE had promised, on condition of their obedience, to accept them as HIS own treasure, as **“a kingdom of priests and a holy nation”**.

Next we see the ark of that promise, thus the ark of the covenant.

**10 “They shall construct an ark of acacia wood two and a half cubits long, and one and a half cubits wide, and one and a half cubits high.**

Aw rone = chest, coffin

AS we have seen briefly, the Ark of the Covenant uses measurements that approximate a Golden Rectangle.

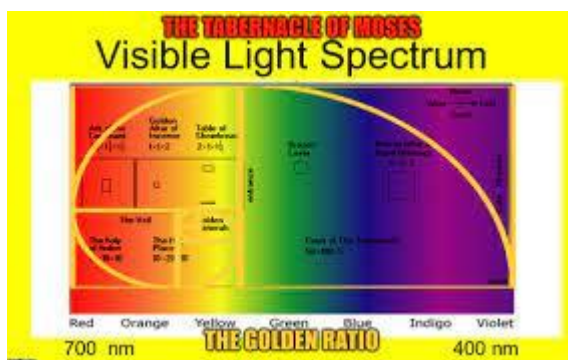
The ratio of 2.5 to 1.5 is 1.666, which is as close to phi (1.618) as you can come with such simple numbers and is certainly not visibly different to the eye.

Cubits...varied...who

/In EXO 27:1-2, we find that the altar GOD commands Moses to

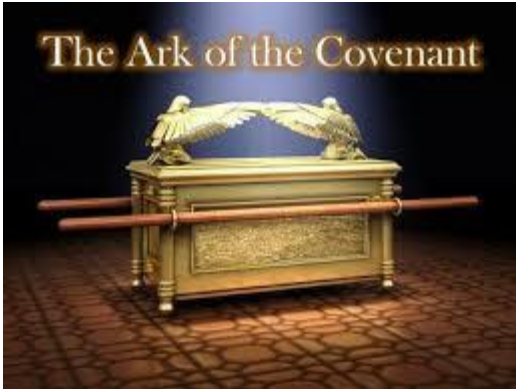
build is based on a variation of the same ratio of 1.6...

The golden ratio is said to be present in the colors of the Tabernacle.



Anyway to be honest it is over my head, however I put it out there because it was not over GOD's head, HE is the creator.

Back to the ark of the covenant:



**/10 “They shall construct an ark of acacia wood two and a half cubits long, and one and a half cubits wide, and one and a half cubits high.**

That is about 4.3 feet x 2.6 feet × 2.6 feet) of acacia wood. Approx because a cubit...

/The acacia wood was a hardwood, but was relatively light in weight, for the framework of the tabernacle and tent, for the structure of the ark. Insects avoided this wood it was prevalent



in that part of the world. It was extremely durable and it is believed that Noah used this for his ark. Not the same Hebrew word BTW for ark = tebah = vessel for Noah.

**11 You shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and out you shall overlay it, and you shall make a gold molding around it.**

Now this will be left to the artisans who were trained in Egypt but were under the indument of the HS.

**12 You shall cast four gold rings for it and fasten them on its four feet, and two rings shall be on**

**one side of it and two rings on the other side of it.**



**13 You shall make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold.**

They were to cover the ark with pure gold, both inside and out. The gold molding around it would have been decorative, but it probably also functioned as a rim to secure the lid.

The four gold rings, the dimensions of the poles that fit

into them, and the four feet seem to have been left to the builders.

/We don't know exactly what it looked like. Although I do believe its location is known today...story for another day.

The poles were also made of acacia wood and overlaid with ordinary gold, pure gold used for the rest...tah hore = clean or pure.

**14 “You shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to carry the ark with them.**

**15 The poles shall remain in the rings of the ark; they shall not be removed from it.**

The poles were to remain in the rings of this ark. In this way the LORD's meeting place would remain truly mobile.

Also notice the metals used were gold, silver and bronze. Bronze is sometimes translated copper.

The gold was of two grades as we just noted: pure gold for the ark, cover, lampstand, table, and incense altar.

And then what we could call ordinary gold for the cherubim, the molding and poles of the ark, the table and incense altar, and the gilding of the planks and pillars of the frame for the tent of meeting.

The exact difference I do not know but there was a difference.

**Next we see the covenant, the testimony.**

**16 You shall put into the ark the testimony which I shall give you.**

The tablets with the commandments have not yet been given to Moses (CH 31 – 34)

**17 You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold, two and a half cubits long and one and a half cubits wide.**

So this mercy seat was kap-po'-reth (first time this noun was used) from the verb kawfar = to cover. So the mercy seat was a cover, a

lid for the ark. And it would be where the blood of the sacrifice would be applied, sprinkled as a propitiation or covering for the sin.

**18 You shall make two cherubim of gold, make them of hammered work at the two ends of the mercy seat.**

**19 Make one cherub at one end and one cherub at the other end; you shall make the cherubim of one piece with the mercy seat at its two ends.**



Cherub or ker roob is first mentioned in GEN 3 when they guard the garden after the original couple were removed.

**20 The cherubim shall have their wings spread upward, covering the mercy seat with their wings and facing one another; the faces of the cherubim are to be turned toward the mercy seat.**

As we have already noted, the builders were talented artisans and they were indued by the HS.

/They were to make the two cherubs of hammered gold . . . of one piece with the cover, wings touching, facing each other,

actually looking down on the Mercy Seat.

Their wings formed a canopy, overshadowing the cover. We are not told of the features of the cherubim in any further detail.

Ezekiel pictures the Cherubim with four faces each (man, lion, ox, eagle; EZE 10:14) and also with two faces (man and lion); EZE 41



Their functions are to guard holy things and attend to the LORD.



In GEN 3, the cherubim guarded the entrance to the garden of Eden, in order to protect the couple from the tree of life.



**LXX 21 And thou shalt set the propitiatory on the ark above, and thou shalt put into the ark the testimonies which I shall give thee.**

**22 And I will make myself known to thee from thence, and I will speak to thee above the propitiatory (the appeasement) between the two cherubs, which**

**are upon the ark of testimony,  
even in all things which I shall  
charge thee concerning the  
children of Israel.**

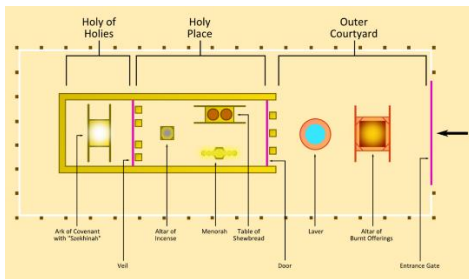
This cover is just that, a covering,  
an atonement for our sin. And it of  
course points to the Messiah Who  
becomes our propitiation =  
covering forever.

The priests will do this once a  
year, that is sprinkling of the blood  
on the mercy seat. But the blood of  
Yeshua has removed our sins  
forever.

The mercy-seat became the throne  
of GOD in the midst of HIS  
people, the place where HE not  
only bore witness to HIS people,

but where HE also dispensed HIS mercy.

/The covering of the ark was a type of Yeshua, Who is the true Mercy-seat. Through HIS blood came the perfect redemption for us, and HE now stands as our Mediator between GOD, whose throne is above the cherubim, and sinful men.



## The Table of Showbread

**23 You shall make a table of acacia wood, two cubits long and one cubit wide and one and a half cubits high.**

**24 You shall overlay it with pure gold and make a gold border around it.**

**25 You shall make for it a rim of a handbreadth around it; and you shall make a gold border for the rim around it.**

**26 You shall make four gold rings for it and put rings on the four corners which are on its four feet.**

**27 The rings shall be close to the rim as holders for the poles to carry the table.**

**28 You shall make the poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold, so that with them the table may be carried.**

On the table, 12 loaves were stacked in two piles. These represented the entirety of Israel as represented by the 12 tribes. We will see that as well.

/GOD's desire to have fellowship with the entire human race. Each tribe was responsible to bake one loaf each week to be presented to the priests to place on the table. Well, that will come later.



**29 You shall make its dishes and its pans and its jars and its bowls**

**with which to pour drink offerings; you shall make them of pure gold.**

**30 You shall set the bread of the Presence on the table before Me at all times.**

Within the holy place were the symbols of GOD's provision (the light of the lampstand, the bread of the LORD's presence and sustenance, and the incense altar.

Remember the tabernacle speaks of Yeshua.

**/The Table of Showbread = Then Yeshua declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and**

**whoever believes in ME will never be thirsty.**

The lampstand = **JOH 8:12,**  
**When Yeshua spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows ME will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”**

Exodus established that living under GOD’s law, forgiveness, and meeting with the living LORD were the foremost purposes of the tabernacle. Describing the Ark first indicates it’s superior and ultimate important position.

BTW overall there are something like 50 CH’s devoted to the Tabernacle in the Scriptures.

Contrast that with just a few regarding the creation of all.

/The table, lampstand, and incense altar were the only furnishings in the holy forecourt of the tent.

The table had plates, dishes, pitchers, and bowls that likely held the bread, incense, oil for the lamps, and probably wine for the daily celebration or libation.

We will see more details of the use of the table of showbread later.



## **The Golden Lampstand**



**/31 Then you shall make a lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand and its base and its shaft are to be made of hammered work; its cups, its bulbs and its flowers shall be of one piece with it.**



**32 Six branches shall go out from its sides; three branches of the lampstand from its one side and three branches of the lampstand from its other side.**

**33 Three cups shall be shaped like almond blossoms in the one branch, a bulb and a flower, and three cups shaped like almond blossoms in the other branch, a bulb and a flower—so for six branches going out from the lampstand;**

**34 and in the lampstand four cups shaped like almond blossoms, its bulbs and its flowers.**

**35 A bulb shall be under the first pair of branches coming out of it, and a bulb under the second pair of branches coming out of it, and a bulb under the third pair of branches coming out of**

**it, for the six branches coming out of the lampstand.**

**36 Their bulbs and their branches shall be of one piece with it; all of it shall be one piece of hammered work of pure gold.**

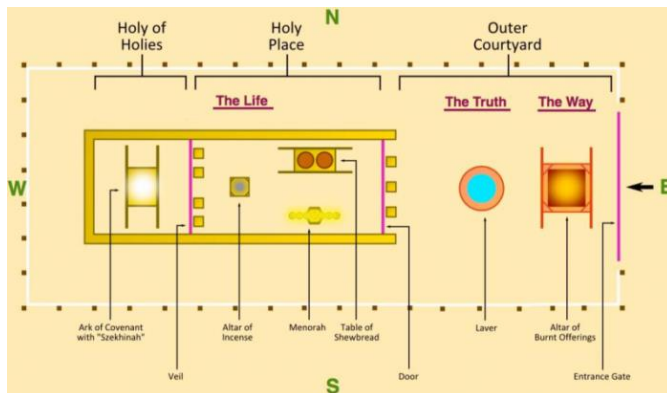
**37 Then you shall make its lamps seven in number; and they shall mount its lamps so as to shed light on the space in front of it.**

**38 Its snuffers and their trays shall be of pure gold.**

**39 It shall be made from a talent of pure gold, with all these utensils.**

**40 See that you make them after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain.**

/In the holy place, on the south side of the tent of meeting, stood the lampstand, opposite the Table of the Presence or showbread.



The lampstand (menorah) was made of 75 pounds of pure gold. The text does not give exact dimensions, leaving the design to the artisans.

According to tradition, it was 3 - 4 feet tall. The ceiling of the holy

place was about 15 feet high, so it wasn't too tall.

It had a central shaft from which Six branches extended, three on each side, opposite each other. The seventh lamp was in the center on top of the shaft. Seven the number of completion. And as we have seen the lamp represented Yeshua Who is the light of the world.

/Within the Tabernacle of Moses the only source of light was the oil-lit menorah. The symbolism of the menorah teaches us about our true source of light, Yeshua, Who lights our path as we make our journey back to the presence of GOD.

Unlike the recognizable Hanukkah menorah with 9 branches, the Tabernacle menorah had 7 branches. Menorah means to Shine or a lampstand that shines or lights.

The menorah arms were decorated with a design of almond buds, blossoms, and flowers reminiscent of an almond tree, the first tree in Israel to blossom in springtime.

Symbolic of Yeshua, Who was the first fruits of the resurrection.

By tradition, the decorations on the menorah also represented the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden.

The shapes were probably made by pouring the molten gold into a

mold to get the general form, and then hammering the gold into shape. Related to the Messiah...Savior.

At the top of each of the seven branches was an oil lamp, which provided the only source of light for the Tabernacle.



/Only the purest of olive oil was used as fuel for the lamps to light the Holy Place.

The Olive oil was made by crushing the olives with a huge rolling stone. The first oil to

emerge was colored a dark red, almost the color of blood.

Only the first pressing, which was the highest of quality, was used for lighting the temple menorah and anointing the priests. This pure oil would burn clean and clear because it had very few contaminants that would cause smoke.

Just before his crucifixion, the Savior prayed in what we often call the Garden of Gethsemane.

The word gethsemane in Hebrew actually means an olive press, meaning that Yeshua prayed in a garden that had an olive press.



/When describing this prayer, Luke wrote of the event, LUK 22:44, **“And being in an agony HE prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground”** (Luke 22:44). Isaiah wrote prophetically:

**ISA 53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.**

/Just as the incredible pressure of the olive press is used to bring forth light, healing and anointing, so too the suffering of the Savior brought forth the power of the

atonement that gives light to those in darkness. Spiritual healing to those in need and anointing to GOD's people.

Every morning and evening, these oil lamps were to be cared for to ensure that they were always burning.



/Aaron, the first high priest, was the first to have this responsibility. Aaron would trim away the burned portions of the wick and replace the spent oil. This twice daily service to trim, fill, and tend to the

menorah coincided with the morning and evening prayers and sacrifices.

So, we wrap up CH 25, I don't want to miss the medals. The medals are important, I don't want to miss that.

/The bronze speaks of humanity and humanities relationship with the creator. Of course, the pure gold speaks of the deity of the LORD GOD. The silver speaks of the metal that is the link between the bronze and the gold.

Silver is always in scripture the metal of ransom, the metal of redemption.

The silver shekel was what the Israelite used to redeem the first-born son. Our LORD was sold for thirty pieces of silver. 30 pieces of silver was the price of a slave.

This chapter includes all the furnishings of the holiest and the holy place except the altar for incense, the description of which is found in 30:1–6 (as if an afterthought).

We will continue.