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Pastor Rick Kabrick
Exodus CH 37.

We have seen the first 36 CH's of this fascinating book of Exodus. Let's get right to CH 37. As there is really no need to review. I will remind us all that betz al el is a primary character.

A man ah holy ab also is mentioned, but Betzalel, it seems, was given the role of prime builder, craftsman, artisan...pretty cool right?

1 Now Bezalel made the ark of acacia wood; its length was two and a half cubits, and its width

one and a half cubits, and its height one and a half cubits;

2 and he overlaid it with pure gold inside and out, and made a gold molding for it all around.

3 He cast four rings of gold for it on its four feet; even two rings on one side of it, and two rings on the other side of it.

4 He made poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold.

5 He put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to carry it.



So the ark is made of acacia wood, but covered inside and out with pure gold. Ark is aw rone = chest, coffin, it denotes gathering something. And of course we know what will be in it.



The LORD's instruction to “make an ark” became a reality as “Bezalel made the ark.”

Then Bezalel made the atonement cover of pure gold for the ark, with the two cherubim.

This is “the mercy seat”. The ark of pure gold was the contrast to the peoples idea of the golden calf.

The people this time used gold as GOD intended, NOT to an idol, but to honor the LORD.

The ark cover was not an idol, but a symbol of the LORD’s forgiveness of sin, and HIS presence with HIS people.

When the Israelites built the Second Temple after the Babylonian exile (beginning in 516 BC) they did not reconstruct the ark. It had been hidden before

the destruction of the first temple in 586BC.

In the First Temple, Solomon recast the cherubim and stretched their wings from wall to wall, rather than simply over the atonement cover (1KING 6:23–24).

This is viewed as some form of idolatry (towards the Cherub angels rather than the design that the LORD had provided.

Part of the reason for the Lord's judgment, later brought through the Babylonians.

So some see the absence of the rebuilding of the ark tied to that...in that they avoided this in

the Second Temple by not replacing the images of the cherubim. Plus the ark had been hidden and presumably that was a tightly held secret.

6 He made a mercy seat of pure gold, two and a half cubits long and one and a half cubits wide.

7 He made two cherubim of gold; he made them of hammered work at the two ends of the mercy seat;

8 one cherub at the one end and one cherub at the other end; he made the cherubim of one piece with the mercy seat at the two ends.

9 The cherubim had their wings spread upward, covering the mercy seat with their wings, with their faces toward each other; the faces of the cherubim were toward the mercy seat.



The Churbim were facing each other but looking down at the atonement, the blood on the Mercy Seat. So the ark was outlined in EXO 25 and here we see it is made, it is complete.

10 Then he (he = Betzalel) made the table of acacia wood, two

cubits long and a cubit wide and one and a half cubits high.



11 He overlaid it with pure gold, and made a gold molding for it all around.

12 He made a rim for it of a handbreadth all around, and made a gold molding for its rim all around.

13 He cast four gold rings for it and put the rings on the four corners that were on its four feet.

14 Close by the rim were the rings, the holders for the poles to carry the table.

15 He made the poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold, to carry the table.

16 He made the utensils which were on the table, its dishes and its pans and its bowls and its jars, with which to pour out drink offerings, of pure gold.

As we have seen, the table of shewbread speaks of sustenance,

provision, and supply. It is a table of salvation.

It is a table of providence. GOD, as Creator, provides all food for man and beast today. Thus we are to recognize that and give HIM thanks!

It is a table of the LORD. This suggests the LORD's Table that we come to during the LORD's Supper.

The table of shewbread is an illustration of Yeshua as the sustainer of spiritual life for the believer.

Made of shittim wood (acacia tree) overlaid with gold. The wood

speaks of HIS humanity. The gold speaks of HIS deity.

On the table were placed twelve loaves of bread, 2 piles of 6. The bread was changed each Sabbath day, and the bread which was removed was eaten with wine by the priests in the Holy Place.

The manna speaks of Yeshua as the life giver (HIS own interpretation in JOHN 6 I AM the bread of LIFE).

The shewbread speaks of Yeshua as the life sustainer.

The Christian is to feed on the living GOD that is through HIS Word and the relationship we

have, living the spirit led life and the plan that GOD has for our life.

JOH 10:10, “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly”

J.V. McGee said this:

Certainly, the earthly life of Christ was wonderful and worthy of emulation, but where is the power for the Christian to follow in His footsteps? It is the life of Christ after the cross that is the source of power and the mainspring for living. His resurrection life is the table for believers. Here is where he is to go for food, and those feeding upon Him grow in grace and knowledge.

There were twelve loaves placed on the table, one for each of the twelve tribes. Notice that the last son of Yakob Benjamin had the same kind of loaf as did Judea. Even Reuben had the same as priestly Levi. Man is equalized when Yeshua is exalted.

One more thing to note: No stranger was to eat of the bread. No one can worship until they have been cleansed by the blood. It is only the blood of Yeshua.

As Yeshua HIM self said: JOH 3:7
You must be born again,

HE said to a perplexed Nicodemus but it applies to every one, every one. **ACT 4:12, For there is only**

**One Name under Heaven by
which man can be saved:**

Yeshua. Peter said it to other
Jewish leaders.

**17 Then he made the lampstand
of pure gold. He made the
lampstand of hammered work,
its base and its shaft; its cups, its
bulbs and its flowers were of one
piece with it.**

**18 There were six branches
going out of its sides; three
branches of the lampstand from
the one side of it and three
branches of the lampstand from
the other side of it;**



19 three cups shaped like almond blossoms, a bulb and a flower in one branch, and three cups shaped like almond blossoms, a bulb and a flower in the other branch—so for the six branches going out of the lampstand.

20 In the lampstand there were four cups shaped like almond blossoms, its bulbs and its flowers;

21 and a bulb was 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.

22 Their bulbs and their branches were of one piece with it; the whole of it was a single hammered work of pure gold.

23 He made its seven lamps with its snuffers and its trays of pure gold.

24 He made it and all its utensils from a talent of pure gold.

This was about 75 pounds of pure gold, one piece hammered into shape.

Remember that the material for the furniture of the Tabernacle was different in the Holy Place than in the court yard. In the court yard it is bronze or brass. It had to do with the judgment of sin.

In the Holy Place, gold was the material. Gold was the only object that set forth in such a visible way the presence of GOD.

The lampstand and the mercy seat (the lid for the ark), were made entirely of gold.

The lampstand was the perfect symbol of Yeshua as the light of the world. Yeshua HIM self declared that HE was the light of the world, JOH 8:12.

JOH 1:9 HE Yeshua is called the true Light that gives that light to everyone. Yeshua is light and in HIM there is no darkness at all” (1JOH 1:5).

One other thing to note regarding the lampstand (menorah). There were no measurements given for the lampstand of pure gold.

This represents the fact that Yeshua’s deity cannot be measured, for deity is beyond the total comprehension of man. That is what the LORD told Moses.

The lampstand was a light holder. The olive oil lamps were placed upon the lampstand. The lampstand supported the flame, but

the flame revealed the beauties of the lampstand.

The H.S. was sent into the world and takes the things of Yeshua and reveals them to believers.

The lampstand gave light in the Holy Place, it was not possible for natural light to reach there.

True worship today is in spirit and truth; it is where the Spirit takes the things of Yeshua and reveals HIM, HIS Word to the believers.

As believers we are to reflect HIS light, MAT 5:14, we are to be lights in the world. We are merely reflectors, to reflect HIS light. Only when we walk in HIM in the

filling of the H.S. can we be lights in the world.

25 Then he made the altar of incense of acacia wood: a cubit long and a cubit wide, square, and two cubits high; its horns were of one piece with it.

26 He overlaid it with pure gold, its top and its sides all around, and its horns; and he made a gold molding for it all around.

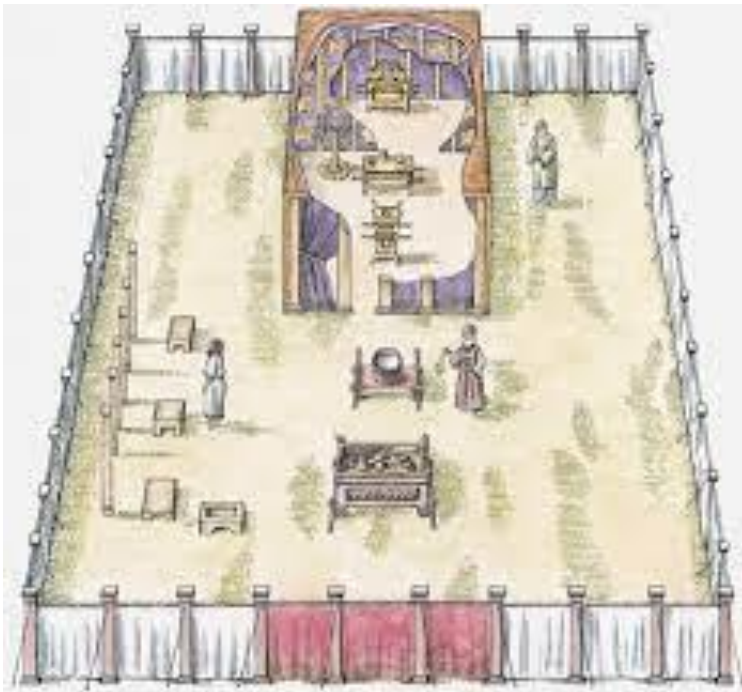


27 He made two golden rings for it under its molding, on its two

sides—on opposite sides—as holders for poles with which to carry it.

28 He made the poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold.

29 And he made the holy anointing oil and the pure, fragrant incense of spices, the work of a perfumer.



There were two altars in the Tabernacle. This is the one at the veil. It was in the Holy place.

It was twice as high as it was wide. So we see that our prayers are not to be nonsense or meaningless repetition.

In fact the LORD HIM self said this: **MAT 6:7, And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.**

Aaron or the priest was to burn sweet incense every time he dressed the lamps. And they were warned not to burn strange incense thereon, nor burnt sacrifice, nor

meat offering; nor pour drink offering on it, A certain mixture of incense only. The 2 oldest sons of Aaron didn't heed that warning later, and died.

So then Aaron would make an atonement upon the horns of it once in a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonement.

So there was a difference in the 2 alters. One was of brass outside the holy place and speaks of earth. The altar of gold speaks of Heaven.

The altar of gold has to do with holiness; the altar of brass has to do with sin.

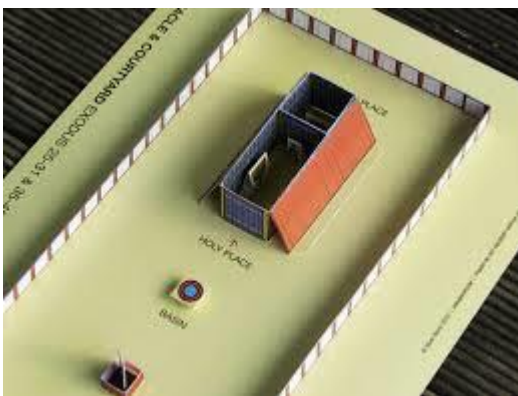
The "strange incense" speaks of any attempt to worship GOD that

contrary to HIS Word. A dead ritual and a lifeless prayer consisting of nothingness, are an abomination to GOD.

CH 38

So now we move to the court yard, remember the previous order... introverted parallelism. But it is a method of expressing something strongly...

Let's go to CH 38.



1 Then he made the altar of burnt offering of acacia wood,

five cubits long, and five cubits wide, square, and three cubits high.

We see 5 the number of Grace and 3 Divinity, the Trinity is involved in Salvation.

2 He made its horns (kare ehn = horns, first used when the lram was caught by its horns. So we see here the animals the sacrifices would be tied here to these. The LORD was nailed to the Cross at the moment the sacrificial lamb was tied to this alter...) **He made its horns on its four corners, its horns being of one piece with it, and he overlaid it with bronze.**

Everything outside in the courtyard was bronze. Everything inside the tent of meeting was gold.



3 He made all the utensils (kel lee = articles, equipment, utensils) of the altar, the pails and the shovels and the basins, the flesh hooks (forks) and the firepans; he made all its utensils of bronze.



4 He made for the altar a grating of bronze network beneath, under its ledge, reaching halfway up.

5 He cast four rings on the four ends of the bronze grating as holders for the poles.

6 He made the poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with bronze.



7 He inserted the poles into the rings on the sides of the altar, with which to carry it. He made it hollow with planks.

The brazen altar was the largest of the tabernacle's seven pieces of furniture.

GOD commanded that it be constructed of acacia wood and then overlaid with bronze.

If it had been solid bronze, it would have been too heavy to carry. Like most of the tabernacle's furniture, GOD

instructed that it have rings, or housings, on its corners through which poles could be inserted to transport it.

All of the accompanying utensils: pots, shovels, forks, firepans, etc. were to be made of bronze as well. Furthermore, a grating of bronze was to be inserted into the hollow center to hold the firewood and sacrifice as it was being burned, allowing the ash to fall below.

When not being transported, the bronze altar stood prominently in the outer court of the tabernacle as the first and most imposing piece of furniture a worshipper would encounter upon entering this sacred space.

LEV 6 says that the fire was always burning. Daily sacrifices were to be offered both morning and evening (EXO 29).

Guilt offerings were also done according to LEV6 and 7. Of course, every year on the Day of Atonement.

As we have noted, the tabernacle and all its furnishings were meant to instruct GOD's people about HIM.

In the Holy Place, where GOD's presence dwelled, the furnishings were made of pure gold. This represents the fact that GOD is holy, perfect.

The bases supporting the frame for this court yard and the clasps on the outside of those curtains were to be made of silver.

The worth of the metal decreased the farther away it was located from GOD's Holy presence.

Silver does represent value in the Bible, so we see how valuable coming into GOD's presence truly is.

Finally, the altar in the outer court being made of bronze represents judgment of sin, not atonement but judgement...

Bronze is harder than gold or silver and more resistant to heat, so

it has the ability to endure heat, judgement.

The setup of the tabernacle teaches that humans cannot approach GOD's presence without first dealing with the problem of sin.

The brazen alter ultimately, like all the tabernacle's furnishings, points to Yeshua. HE came to earth as the THE PERFECT SACRIFICE once for all. Anyone who repents of their sin, can approach GOD.

HEB 10:10, By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

8 Moreover, he made the (AT) laver of bronze with its base of

bronze, from the mirrors of the serving women who served at the doorway of the tent of meeting.

In 1 SAM 2 we see one possibility regarding these women. The priest Eli had sons that were not exactly known to be living the GODly side of things.

Eli's sons were behaving...well, look at **1SAM 2:12, Now the sons of Eli were worthless men; they did not know the LORD,**

bel lee yah al = worthless without value.

Apparently the sons were abusing their power. In Vs 22 of 1 SAM 2 we are told: **Now Eli was very old; and he heard all that his**

sons were doing to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who served at the doorway of the tent of meeting.

Hophni and Phinehas were using their positions as priests to sleep with women sent to serve the LORD.

Many commentators note these were almost certainly not prostitutes, but rather Hebrew women serving.

So I think that it is safe to assume that Eli's sons were taking advantage of the women who served there by using their authority actually abusing it.

Although there is some debate on that.

9 Then he made the court: for the south side the hangings of the court were of fine twisted linen, one hundred cubits;

10 their twenty pillars, and their twenty sockets, made of bronze; the hooks of the pillars and their bands were of silver.

11 For the north side there were one hundred cubits; their twenty pillars and their twenty sockets were of bronze, the hooks of the pillars and their bands were of silver.

12 For the west side there were hangings of fifty cubits with

their ten pillars and their ten sockets; the hooks of the pillars and their bands were of silver.

13 For the east side fifty cubits.

14 The hangings for the one side of the gate were fifteen cubits, with their three pillars and their three sockets,

15 and so for the other side. On both sides of the gate of the court were hangings of fifteen cubits, with their three pillars and their three sockets.

16 All the hangings of the court all around were of fine twisted linen.

Just as a house cannot stand without walls, the tabernacle cannot exist without this outer tent-wall.

Notice that one at eye level could not see into the tabernacle, let alone all the way into the presence of GOD. There are boundaries between sinful man and GOD.

GOD puts up walls from the start to remind us not to take HIM, nor worship of HIM, lightly.

The reason God has such explicit and detailed directions for the tabernacle is because we cannot easily come into the presence of GOD, that is without Yeshua. But through Yeshua we have a better

covenant (HEB 8:6) through the blood of Yeshua.

GOD desires to dwell with HIS people HIS creation so the LORD says you must build a tabernacle a dwelling place.

There is curious detail in the directions of the tabernacle. The entryway, the door, is on the East side. The entrance to the garden was on the east side GEN 3:24, and Yeshua came through the East gate on the Donkey and HE will return through the east gat at the second advent.

17 Man was cast out East of Eden and here we see that the

door to the house of GOD is on the East.

The sockets for the pillars were of bronze, the hooks of the pillars and their bands, of silver; and the overlaying of their tops, of silver, and all the pillars of the court were furnished with silver bands.



18 The screen of the gate of the court was the work of the weaver, of blue and purple and scarlet material and fine twisted linen. And the length was twenty

cubits and the height was five cubits, corresponding to the hangings of the court.

19 Their four pillars and their four sockets were of bronze; their hooks were of silver, and the overlaying of their tops and their bands were of silver.



20 All the pegs of the tabernacle and of the court all around were of bronze.



21 This is the number of the things for the tabernacle, the tabernacle of the testimony, as they were numbered according to the command of Moses, for the service of the Levites, by the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

22 Now Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made all that the LORD had commanded Moses.

23 With him was Oholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of

Dan, an engraver and a skillful workman and a weaver in blue and in purple and in scarlet material, and fine linen.

24 All the gold that was used for the work, in all the work of the sanctuary, even the gold of the wave offering, was 29 talents and 730 shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary.

25 The silver of those of the congregation who were numbered was 100 talents and 1,775 shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary;

26 a beka a head (that is, half a shekel according to the shekel of the sanctuary), for each one who

passed over to those who were numbered, from twenty years old and upward, for 603,550 men.

27 The hundred talents of silver were for casting the sockets of the sanctuary and the sockets of the veil; one hundred sockets for the hundred talents, a talent for a socket.

28 Of the 1,775 shekels, he made hooks for the pillars and overlaid their tops and made bands for them.

29 The bronze of the wave offering was 70 talents and 2,400 shekels.

30 With it he made the sockets to the doorway of the tent of meeting, and the bronze altar and its bronze grating, and all the utensils of the altar,

31 and the sockets of the court all around and the sockets of the gate of the court, and all the pegs of the tabernacle and all the pegs of the court all around.

Remember that the LORD spends a CH on the details of the creation of the Heavens and the earth, and over 50 CH's on the Tabernacle and its construction.

So again we are reminded of the fact that the LORD is all about detail. HIS plan for the tabernacle

is full of detail. HIS plan for our so great a salvation is one plan of tremendous unexplainable detail. And HIS plan for our life is one of great detail, but remember it is HIS detail. We are to live it one step at a time.

CH 39 next time.