

## EXODUS: The Person, Promise, and Power of God

### Exodus 31 – The Commands and Provisions of God

**“According to all that I have commanded you, they shall do.”**  
**Exodus 31:11b**

#### **Meticulous instructions, thorough provision - v. 1-11**

Only the very best \_\_\_\_\_ were to be used in the manufacture of the Tabernacle and all of its furnishings, according to the instructions of chapters 25 through 30.

Not only was Moses instructed to use the best materials, but he was also instructed to use the very best \_\_\_\_\_.

*“... I have given to all able men ability, that they may make all that I have commanded you ...” (v. 6)*

The outcome was to be the exact fulfillment of what God wanted and prescribed. It was not a mere approximation. All future generations would be able to see the Tabernacle exactly as it had been revealed to Moses.

*<sup>32</sup> Thus all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting was finished, and the people of Israel did according to all that the Lord had commanded Moses; so they did. (Ex. 39:32)*

#### **The artisans:**

1) Bezalel – whose name means “In God’s shadow”, was from the tribe of \_\_\_\_\_.

Whereas only \_\_\_\_\_ were allowed to serve in the Tabernacle and maintain it, the construction was according to \_\_\_\_\_.

2) Oholiab – whose name means “the Father is my tent” was from the tribe of \_\_\_\_\_.

Again, \_\_\_\_\_ service was exclusive to the Levites, but no other leadership in Israel was.

But this is the most critical point: For the Tabernacle to reflect the glory and perfections of God, mere human skill, ability and experience would be insufficient.

God would necessarily have to \_\_\_\_\_ the builders to accomplish His glorious design.

*“... I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship, <sup>4</sup> to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze, <sup>5</sup> in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, to work in every craft. (v. 3-5)*

God did not give Bezalel *four* things. He gave Bezalel *one* necessary thing: \_\_\_\_\_.

By giving him His Spirit, Bezalel was perfected in his \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_. Just as the Tabernacle was designed by God to display his glory, only God would receive glory from its construction. Even its building was supernatural.

What does it mean to be “filled with the Spirit”?

*Being filled with the Spirit means having from God the ability to \_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ exactly what God wants \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. (Douglas Stuart)*

Compare to: Acts 2:4, 4:31, 9:17, 13:9,52; Eph 5:18-19

Contrast with: Acts 5:3

## A Strong Reminder of the Sabbath - v. 12-17

<sup>12</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, <sup>13</sup> "You are to speak to the people of Israel and say, 'Above all you shall keep my Sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you. <sup>14</sup> You shall keep the Sabbath, because it is holy for you. Everyone who profanes it shall be put to death. Whoever does any work on it, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. <sup>15</sup> Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day shall be put to death. <sup>16</sup> Therefore the people of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, observing the Sabbath throughout their generations, as a covenant forever. <sup>17</sup> It is a sign forever between me and the people of Israel that in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested and was refreshed.'

Why the mention of the Sabbath again in this section of Exodus? It was dealt with thoroughly in Chapters 16 and 20.

The reason? \_\_\_\_\_.

The Tabernacle was for worship. Worship occurred \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_. If the Sabbath were not properly observed, worship would not properly take place, so therefore the Tabernacle would not be properly used.

How important was the Sabbath to God? " \_\_\_\_\_ ..."

**Reasons** for the Sabbath:

1) It is a \_\_\_\_\_ definitive mark of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God with His people.

This is the sign of God's people's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

Consider the other 10 words or 10 commandments. Only two are stated in positive actions: "Honor your father and mother" (largely private) and "remember the Sabbath" (clearly public).

It was the keeping of the Sabbath that publicly identified God's people as God's people. All the other cultures around them recognized the uniqueness of their Sabbath observance. It was a means by which they were publicly set apart.

*How does God sanctify us?*

2) Sabbath was a day of \_\_\_\_\_; Resting \_\_\_\_\_ labors and resting \_\_\_\_\_ God.

3) The Sabbath was a reminder of \_\_\_\_\_ in God's original creation. There God dwelt with his people in sinlessness.

The observation of the Sabbath would be their weekly reminder that God still dwells with them. And not only that He dwells with them, but that He necessarily dwells with them in \_\_\_\_\_.

4) The observation of the Sabbath points \_\_\_\_\_ to a day when God's people will once again dwell with Him face to face.

And for us, the Sabbath points us to \_\_\_\_\_ who alone saves us from \_\_\_\_\_ and allows us to enter into God's perfect \_\_\_\_\_!