

## Lessons from Torah 81 – Exodus 25-31, 35-40

### Lessons from the Mountain

#### #3 – That I May Dwell Among Them

1. Exodus 25-40 follows a pattern
  - a. Exodus 25-31 contains precise instructions regarding the construction of the Tabernacle and the consecration of the High Priest
  - b. Exodus 35-40 describes Israel following those instructions “exactly”
  - c. The passage is interrupted by the disobedience of Israel and their repentance and cleansing (which we will look at next week)
2. Three ideas are prominent in today’s lesson:
  - a. “. . . that I may live among them” (25:8)
  - b. “. . . make it exactly according to the pattern I showed you” (25:9, 40; 26:30; 27:8)
  - c. “. . . they did exactly as the Lord commanded Moses” (39:32, 42; 40:16)
3. Every detail of the Tabernacle, like every word of Scripture, has a purpose, yet sometimes that purpose is not made clear
  - a. Sometimes our sin keeps us from seeing the intent of Scripture (2 Corinthians 3:14)
  - b. Sometimes the immaturity of our faith keeps us from seeing the intent of Scripture (Hebrews 5:11-14)
  - c. Sometimes the time has not yet come for the full Truth to be understood (Daniel 8:26; 12:4, 9; 1 Corinthians 13:12; Hebrews 9:5)
  - d. We must be very careful not to depend on our own logic and insight, which is limited, where Scripture does not give us details of His Truth (Deuteronomy 29:29, 2 John 1:9)
- i. The knowledge God gives us is meant to help us be more obedient to God
  - ii. Knowledge can lead to pride – our one goal is to love, which builds up others
    1. To love God
    2. To love our neighbor - especially our fellow believers
4. The Bible uses 3 words for this center of worship and sacrifice: Tabernacle, Temple, and House
  - a. The Tabernacle, like a tent, is moveable and temporary – like our physical bodies
  - b. The Temple, like a house, is more permanent – like our resurrection bodies will be
5. Thanks to Jesus Christ, believers are the new Tabernacle because the Holy Spirit, like the Glory of God in the Tabernacle, dwells in us
  - a. 1 Corinthians 6:19 – Individually
  - b. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, 2 Corinthians 6:16 – Collectively
  - c. Perhaps this is best understood in terms of the Church being God’s Temple and each believer a part of that Temple
6. God’s purpose is to “shape” us according to the pattern he has in mind
  - a. Romans 8:28-30, Revelation 3:12 - Individually
  - b. Revelation 1:20, 2:5 – Individual congregations
  - c. 1 Peter 2:5 – Collectively as the “one holy Christian Church” – the “invisible church” (true believers) amid the “visible Church” (the Church as it appears to the world)
7. Colossians 3:1-3 - Therefore our main goal in life should be to keep our eyes and hearts on the “things that are above, where Christ (our ‘pattern’) dwells” (John 13:15, 1 Timothy 1:16, 1 Peter 2:21)