

Exegetical Notes, Exodus 36:8-39:43
“The Building of the Tabernacle”

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Exodus 36:8-39:43

Verse 36:8-35

(See exegetical notes for Exodus 26:1-37).

Verse 37:1-9

(See exegetical notes for Exodus 25:10-20)

Verse 37:10-16

(See exegetical notes for Exodus 25:23-29)

Verse 37:17-28

(See exegetical notes for Exodus 25:31-39)

Verse 37:25-29

(See exegetical notes for Exodus 30:1-5)

Verse 38:1-7

(See exegetical notes for Exodus 27:1-8)

Verse 38:8

They made the bronze basin and its bronze stand from the mirrors of the women who served at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.

- In ancient times mirrors were not made from glass as they are today. They were made from highly polished bronze.
- The women who served at the entrance to the Tent were apparently the welcoming committee.
- These women gave their mirrors to make the bronze basin and its stand.

Verse 38:9-20

(See exegetical notes for Exodus 27:9-19)

Verse 38:21

These are the amounts of the materials used for the tabernacle, the tabernacle of the Testimony, which were recorded at Moses' command by the Levites under the direction of Ithamar son of Aaron, the priest.

- A careful record of the materials used in the construction of the Tabernacle was kept at Moses' command by Ithamar, Aaron's son.

Verse 38:22-23

(See exegetical notes for Exodus 35:30-36:7)

Verse 38:24

The total amount of the gold from the wave offering used for all the work on the sanctuary was 29 talents and 730 shekels according to the sanctuary shekel.

- The gold used in constructing the Tabernacle was slightly more than one ton.

Verse 38:25-28

The silver obtained from those of the community who were counted in the census was 100 talents and 1,775 shekels, according to the sanctuary shekel -- one beka per person, that is, half a shekel, according to the sanctuary shekel, from everyone who had crossed over to those counted, twenty years old or more, a total of 603,550 men. The 100 talents of silver were used to cast the bases for the sanctuary and for the curtain -- 100 bases from the 100 talents, one talent for each base. They used the 1,775 shekels to make the hooks for the posts, to overlay the tops of the posts, and to make their bands.

- The weight of the silver used was about three and three-quarter tons.

Verse 38:29-31

The bronze from the wave offering was 70 talents and 2,400 shekels. They used it to make the bases for the entrance to the Tent of Meeting, the bronze altar with its bronze grating and all its utensils, the bases for the surrounding courtyard and those for its entrance and all the tent pegs for the tabernacle and those for the surrounding courtyard.

- The weight of the bronze was two and one-half tons.

Verse 39:1-8

(See exegetical notes for Exodus 28:6-14)

Verse 39:8-21

(See exegetical notes for Exodus 28:15-28)

Verse 39:22-31

(See exegetical notes for Exodus 28:31-43)

Verse 39:32-41

So all the work on the tabernacle, the Tent of Meeting, was completed. The Israelites did everything just as YHWH commanded Moses. Then they brought the tabernacle to Moses: the tent and all its furnishings, its clasps, frames, crossbars, posts and bases; the covering of ram skins dyed red, the covering of hides of sea cows and the shielding curtain; the ark of the Testimony with its poles and the atonement cover; the table with all its articles and the bread of the Presence; the pure gold lampstand with its row of lamps and all its accessories, and the oil for the light; the gold altar, the anointing oil, the fragrant incense, and the curtain for the entrance to the tent; the bronze altar with its bronze grating, its poles and all its utensils; the basin with its stand; the curtains of the courtyard with its posts and bases, and the curtain for the entrance to the courtyard; the ropes and tent pegs for the courtyard; all the furnishings for the tabernacle, the Tent of Meeting; and the woven garments worn for ministering in the sanctuary, both the sacred garments for Aaron the priest and the garments for his sons when serving as priests.

- When everything was finished, it was brought to Moses so that he might inspect it.

Verse 39:42-43

The Israelites had done all the work just as YHWH had commanded Moses. Moses inspected the work and saw that they had done it just as YHWH had commanded. So Moses blessed them.

- Moses' inspection revealed that all the work was done exactly as God had commanded him.
- Because the people had been faithful, they received blessing from God through Moses.

(These exegetical notes are the foundational study for the sermon entitled *The Building of the Tabernacle*. They have been prepared by the Reverend Doctor Charles H. Jensen, Senior Pastor at Cornerstone Fellowship, Coatesville Pennsylvania. All rights are reserved by Dr. Jensen and *Cornerstone Fellowship*.)