

Exodus 28-30

August 14, 2011

Introduction:

In *Exodus 28 to 30* God continues to give Moses minute detail about the Tabernacle and its furnishings. There are some great “pictures” hidden in the midst of these details. As you read these chapters, imagine the cost and beauty of the garments and altars.

View the Tabernacle and it’s furnishings at <http://www.bibleplaces.com/tabernaclemore.htm> and at http://www.templebuildersministry.com/Index_tabernacle.php.

View the High Priest’s garments at http://www.templeinstitute.org/vessels_gallery_16.htm.

28:3 What do we learn from chapter 28 verse 3?

- *The gifts and skills we have come from God. He gives them to us to use for his purposes, not just our own. We also learn that when God wants to do something, He raises up someone gifted to do it.*

28:3 Verse 3 is one of five times in these three chapters where the text states that the priests would do what they did for the Lord (“*minister to Me*” – 28:4,41; 29:1; & 30:30). Are we to do what we do as Christians for ourselves, for others, or for the Lord?

- *We are to do what we do for the Lord, not for ourselves and not even primarily for others.*
- *We are not to be self-serving, but doing what the Lord tells us to do is always in our best interest. God blesses those who obey Him and problems come to those who disobey Him. We reap what we sow (Galatians 6:7-8). In this sense, if you’re a selfish person, you need to do everything God tells you to do so that you can know His blessing. When we put God first and serve Him, we reap the benefits of His blessing. See Luke 6:38; Philippians 4:14-19 (notice that the promise in verse 19 is a result of the obedience mentioned in the previous verses); Matthew 6:33; Psalm 37:4; and 2 Corinthians 9:6-11.*

How many other things can you think of that Jesus tells us to do toward others but for Him?

- *See Ephesians 5:25. Husbands are to love their wives for the Lord whether their wives deserve the love or not; they do this for the Lord.*
- *See Ephesians 5:22 & 33. Wives are to submit to and respect their husbands; they do this for the Lord, not just for the husband. Obviously their submission does not include doing anything that breaks God’s laws (illegal or immoral). Nor does it mean that they are to subject themselves to physical abuse.*
- *See Ephesians 6:1-3. Children are to obey their parents because the Lord tells them to, not because the parents are the best parents. Again, their obedience to their parents ends if those parents ask them to break God’s laws.*
- *See Ephesians 6:4. Parents are to parent well for the Lord because they are serving the Lord in raising their children.*
- *See Ephesians 6:5-8. Employees are to work as to Christ. Their bosses and company may not deserve their best effort, but a Christian gives it anyway because he works unto the Lord.*
- *See Ephesians 6:9. Bosses are to lead fairly as to Christ knowing that God has power over him or her.*
- *See Luke 6:27. We are to love our enemies and to do good to those who hate us because God tells us to do so; our enemies clearly do not deserve it.*
- *See Matthew 6:14-15. We are to forgive others as an act of obedience to God, not because the other person has repented, asked for forgiveness, or deserve it. Forgiveness also serves us because bitterness robs us of our own happiness. Not to forgive is to give the person who hurt you power over you.*

We should do all that we do because Christ tells us to do it. We do not allow the behavior of others to dictate our behavior; we allow God and His will for our lives dictate what we do and how we act. To do the wrong thing because someone has wronged you is to allow your “enemy” to control who you become.

Chapters 28-30 We by all means do not understand all of the symbolism that is pictured in the priest’s garments, the furnishings, and the offerings. What are some of the things that we *do* understand to picture Christ? See how many you can recognize.

- *28:12,29* Our names (lives) are always before the Lord. There are ceremonial washings. Our sin is washed away by Christ’s blood. Our lives are washed clean by His Word (*Ephesians 5:26-27*).
- Jesus was our sin offering (*29:14*); He takes away our sin. He died in our place as our substitute.
- The burnt offering pictures hell’s fire and judgment. Jesus took our hell (He was our propitiation) on the cross.
- The priests offered lambs morning and night for sin. *See Hebrews 9:11-12. **Christ Is the Perfect Sacrifice***

11 So Christ has now become the High Priest over all the good things that have come. He has entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven, which was not made by human hands and is not part of this created world. *12* With his own blood—not the blood of goats and calves—he entered the Most Holy Place once for all time and secured our redemption forever. You may get more. *NLT*

29:43 What did this mean in chapter 29 verse 43?

- See *Exodus 40:34-35. The Lord’s Glory Fills the Tabernacle*
34 Then the cloud covered the Tabernacle, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle. *35* Moses could no longer enter the Tabernacle because the cloud had settled down over it, and the glory of the Lord filled the Tabernacle. *NLT* Also see *1 Kings 8:6,10-11. 6* Then the priests carried the Ark of the Lord’s Covenant into the inner sanctuary of the Temple—the Most Holy Place—and placed it beneath the wings of the cherubim. *10* When the priests came out of the Holy Place, a thick cloud filled the Temple of the Lord. *11* The priests could not continue their service because of the cloud, for the glorious presence of the Lord filled the Temple. *NLT*

29:45 What does verse 45 tells us about God’s intention with man?

- God always intended to dwell among His people. *He walked in the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:8-10)*. *See Revelation 21:2-4. 2* And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. *3* I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. *4* He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.” *NLT*