

Part 6 - The Call for a Free Will Offering – a Willing Heart

[A Review: Curtain Hangings, Pillars, Pins, Holy Garments of Priests]

Exodus 35

17 The hangings of the court, his pillars, and their sockets, and the hanging for the door of the court,

So, we have previously reviewed the inner items in the Temple, but we are not done learning about this great type for our Savior Jesus Christ. We now come to the verse where Moses calls for the walls of the Tabernacle to be made. Because the Tabernacle was mobile, all items had to be mobile. That's why He commanded all the furniture have rings on them so they could be carried with beams going through the rings. But, the 'walls' of the Tabernacle (surrounding and protecting it) also had to be mobile. Therefore, He commanded that curtains be made, along with beams of shittim (acacia) wood overlaid with gold to hold up those curtains. This is what the 'hangings of the court' and 'for the door of the court' refer to. We covered the curtains, boards, and the vail that separated the Holiest of Holies (which is where the Ark of the Covenant and Mercy Seat were) from the rest of the Temple back in Exodus 26 [for a refresher, click here: https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Exodus/176]. The curtains were to be made of items we've learned about previously: fine linen and thread of blue, purple and scarlet. They would also have pictures of the cherubim's skillfully embroidered on them with the blue, purple and scarlet threads. This took people who were very skilled at weaving and begins to show us just how important every part of the Body of Christ is.

Ten curtains were to be made for the inner covering. Their size was 4 by 28 cubits making them around six foot high and 42 feet long. Significantly, four in Biblical Numerics means *the world* and *creation* while twenty-eight means *eternal life*. These ten curtains were then to be united into two sets of five and linked together again to form one complete covering. Though we're not specifically told how they would be linked together, it's likely they simply were sewn together. However, directions for hanging the two sets are very clear because we are told that fifty loops of blue were made in the edge of each curtain and fifty gold clasps (taches) attached to the loops in the curtain.

Then we were given details on the set of curtains that would form the outer covering (enclosure for the Holy of Holies and the furniture in the Tabernacle). For this enclosure, eleven curtains were to be made, each one 30 by 4 cubits. Again, four in Biblical numerics stands for the *world* and *creation* while thirty stands for *the Blood of Christ* and *Dedication* – both quite appropriate for the physical Temple of God Himself, which points to the great sacrifice He would make years later when He came to earth, incarnated into a flesh body as Jesus Christ (John 1:1, 14, Heb 1:3, 10:10). These curtains would have been 6 ft high and about 45 feet long. They were longer than the first curtains mentioned because they were to be on the outside of the inner most curtains. They too were to have fifty loops made in the top of each curtain and fifty gold clasps (taches) attached to the loops in the curtain.

Now we also learned that goats' hair was to be used to make the curtains and this is symbolic of being separated from the world, for hair is the outermost covering of the animal and thus the point of contact between the animal and outside world. The hair shields the animal from the rain, and protects it from extremes of cold and heat. It would do the same for the Tabernacle. We also learned this hair was woven (Ex 35:26) and likely woven into a coarse, dark-colored cloth, quite common to this day in the East for making tents and for sackcloth (Song of Solomon 1:5, 6:5, Rev 6:12). Remember, what we are learning of in these verses is what protects the inside of the Tabernacle. Why is this important to us? Because *these 'walls' (curtains) signify (teach us) how we are to protect our heart*. And this is very important. In Deuteronomy, Moses warned Israel...

*Only **take heed** to thyself, and **keep** thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;*
Deut 4:9

The words 'take heed' and 'keep' are both a Hebrew word we have learned about before. They are *shamar* (pronounced as: shaw-mar'), a primitive root that means: *to hedge about* (as with thorns), i.e. **guard**; generally, *to protect, attend to*, etc. (#8104). Moses warned Israel to protect their soul by putting a hedge about their mind and heart *to protect them from forgetting the truth and departing from it*. He knew that, while in this flesh body, it's easy to allow our heart to be *hardened through the deceitfulness of sin* (Heb 3:13). Therefore, we must protect it *diligently* – this means *with fervor*. And we're given these layers of protection in the Tabernacle as examples that visually teach us just how to do that. We must remember this always as it's vital in the spiritual war for, *we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand* (Eph 6:12-13). These items in the Tabernacle teach us how to put on the whole armor of God.

There was also another curtain of goat hair to be made for the backside of the Tabernacle. It's always important to have your 'backside' covered! Never forget that it is our Heavenly Father, and His Son, Jesus Christ, who 'has your back'... IF you remain loyal to Him (Rev 2:10). Further, on top of the curtains, were to be skins to protect all the furniture. There was first to be rams' skins dyed red and then there was to be the 'badgers' skins on the outer layer. Recall that badger was a mistranslation. The word actually means *a (clean) animal with fur, probably a species of antelope* (#8476). These skins provided an impervious covering, which would not be penetrated by the elements. We learned that the rams' skins (dyed red) were symbolic, of course, of the precious blood our dear Savior, Jesus Christ, shed for us because He was the Great Sacrificial Lamb of all times (Heb 10:10).

So, we see then, the 'walls' of this mobile Tabernacle had three parts to them. The inner curtains made of fine linen with blue, scarlet and purple thread. Then there was a layer of skins of rams and then another layer of 'badger's skins' (likely an antelope of some sort). What this explains to

us is that: spiritually, we are to separate from the sin in the world (goat hair) and then have two un-penetrable layers of protection upon our heart (the skins of rams and then ‘badgers’ skins) which is the Word of God and His Holy Spirit...

Exodus 35

*17 The hangings of the court, his **pillars**, and their sockets, and the hanging for the door of the court,*

Now, because the curtains would not hang themselves, they had to have something to hold them up. Exodus 26:15-29 gives the details of the framework for the tabernacle. Remember, it’s mobile so the foundation and framework must also be mobile. The boards are to be 10 by 1.5 cubits which would be roughly fifteen feet tall and two and a half feet around. These verses also described how the boards were to be put together. Each board rested upon two sockets (foundations) of silver of one talent each, cast from the silver of the redemption money which each man of responsible age had to pay for his ransom, half a shekel or ten gerahs (Ex 38:25-27). Thus, standing side by side these boards not only rested securely upon their foundation, but were held firmly together by the three bars passed through the golden rings on the boards all around. At the corners, extra boards were to be put for strength and to prevent any separation, where it would be most likely to occur. Forty-eight boards in all formed walls - twenty for each side, six at the rear, and two at the corners. The front was open, save for the hanging and the five pillars from which it was suspended. There were also four pillars within the Tabernacle, to support the veil which divided the Most Holy from the Holy place; each of the four pillars resting upon a silver socket. Additionally, these boards were also to be overlaid with gold and gold is symbolic of our Heavenly Father and His eternal wisdom. Prov 16:16 expresses this thought when it declares: *How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!* The truth, knowledge, understanding and wisdom that our Heavenly Father’s Words give us (in the Bible) are far beyond any earthly riches.

So, the fact that gold overlays wood in the Tabernacle (from its inward parts to the very structure of it) symbolizes how the framework (thought process) of our heart should be overlaid with God’s wisdom, found only in His Word for *the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly* (Prov 2:6-7). Prov 2:10-11 goes on to explain that, *when wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee*. The proverb goes on to say that we are protected from evil people when we embrace God’s wisdom and knowledge. Why is this? Because our heart is ‘set’ on things above (on our Heavenly Father and His kingdom, not the kingdom on earth (Col 3). If we set our heart on earthly riches and pleasures, we will become *morally* (spiritually) *corrupted*, and *that* is what we must be diligent to guard our heart from (Deut 4:9).

So, we see that the Tabernacle had a very solid foundation. This is, as it should be yet today. Since we are the true Temple of God (1 Cor 3:16, 6:19, 2 Cor 6:16), we should have our mind (thought process) and heart (desires, feelings, emotions, intentions) set upon the only true solid

foundation in life: the Word of God (Jesus Christ) (Luke 6:46-49). 1 Cor 10:4 tells us clearly that *our Rock is Jesus Christ*. This is who we must have our heart and mind ‘set’ upon, as Col 3:1-2, 1 Cor 3:9-11, Eph 2:19-22 clearly tell us.

Exodus 35

18 The pins of the tabernacle, and the pins of the court, and their cords

Exodus 27:19 explained these pins were to be made of brass and cords were used in the construction of the Tabernacle as well. So, we see that the construction of the Tabernacle, and the wall around it, was quite sturdy and would last a long time, even though it was mobile. Our God (YHVH) is indeed a master builder (Heb 11:10). The detail to these tiny pins and their cords also tells us that: every part of the Body of Christ is important. Just as it took many people who were skilled, at many different things, to make the physical Tabernacle. Likewise it takes people who have different skills to make up the spiritual Temple (the Body of Christ) which is the eternal government of Jesus Christ. 1 Cor 12 explains the necessity of even the ‘smallest’ or ‘most comely’ members of the Body of Christ. Truly, we all support each other, just as in the physical Tabernacle’s different parts did. And, just as the fine linen, blue, purple and scarlet threads had spiritual meaning (of righteousness, royalty, majesty, the Blood of Jesus Christ and service and obedience to God’s Word) so too are we to keep these spiritual characteristics in our heart and mind. Essentially, it’s putting on the spiritual armor that Paul speaks of in Ephesians 6. Peter tells us that Christians *are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light* (1 Peter 2:9).

Exodus 35

19 The cloths of service, to do service in the holy place, the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, to minister in the priest's office.

We learned about the Holy Garments back in chapter 28 [to review part 1 and part 2 in detail, click: https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Exodus/182, https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Exodus/184]. These ‘holy garments’ consisted of several things but they all essentially teach us how to put on *spiritual* clothing that makes us acceptable to serve God. So, Aaron was to put on ‘holy’ garments for glory and beauty because ***they were to symbolize the beauty and glory of being spiritually clean***. Many Scriptures explain what God had to say about the kind of spiritual clothing priests (even our true High Priest, Jesus Christ) are to be clothed with...

*Let thy priests be clothed with **righteousness**; and let thy saints shout for joy.*

Ps 132:9

*I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of **salvation**, he hath covered me with the robe of **righteousness**, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.*

Isa 61:10

*1 The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with **majesty**; the LORD is clothed with **strength**, wherewith he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved.*

2 Thy throne is established of old: thou art from everlasting.

Ps 93:1-2

We could go on; there's many Scriptures that speak of the spiritual clothing we must put on as well as the spiritual clothing, Jesus Christ (our true High Priest and King of kings) has on. But these Scriptures are enough to glean that spiritual clothing such as righteousness, salvation, majesty and strength are important attributes for both the King of king and His servants to have. Just look at how corrupt the world leaders (religious and political) are today and you can easily see why these attributes are so important for Jesus Christ (who will rule the world in righteousness during the Millennium, Rev 20), and those who serve Him, to have on. And for this reason (because Jesus is *totally* righteous, holy and just – there is no corruption or evil in Him) the Revelations does declare...

*Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and **honour** and **power**: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

Rev 4:11

*12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive **power**, and **riches**, and **wisdom**, and **strength**, and **honour**, and **glory**, and **blessing**.*

13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

Rev 5:12-13

*Saying, Amen: **Blessing**, and **glory**, and **wisdom**, and **thanksgiving**, and **honour**, and **power**, and **might**, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.*

Rev 7:12

Honor, power, riches, wisdom, strength, glory, blessings, wisdom and thanksgiving are all spiritual attributes that most people covet, as well as the angels in heaven (as Ezek 28 tells us). But, only the High Priest of God can be 'clothed' with all these spiritual attributes, which is why Jesus Christ is our High Priest *for all times*. Truly, Jesus Christ has *always* been without sin, and *always will be* (Heb 4:15, 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22, 1 John 3:5). Therefore, He is the only one who will be clothed with the glory of the High Priest clothing. *And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God* (Rev 19:13). Jesus' beauty is so much more than 'skin deep' for indeed His soul is of great value and beauty because there is no sin, corruption or fault within His Spirit. Thus, the beautiful clothing also symbolizes the glorious and beautiful character (nature) of our true High Priest, Jesus Christ (1 Pt 1:3-7) who is full of righteousness, patience, grace, mercy, loving kindness, and fairness - for truly, there is no respect of persons with God or His Son, Jesus Christ (Ex 34:6, Deut 32:4, Neh 9:33, Hosea 14:9, Ps

116:5, 145:8, Joel 2:13, Jonah 4:2, Deut 1:17, Acts 10:34, Rom 2:11, 1 Pt 1:17). Everyone (even Jesus Christ Himself) is judged by God's Word (John 12:46-48) and only those who humbly and sincerely repent to Jesus Christ (who paid for our sins with His own blood) will be forgiven for their sins (John 14:6). All others will still have to answer for them when Jesus returns (Mth 13:47-50).

Now, while our King of kings and Lord of lords, Jesus Christ, is our High Priest, He has others who serve Him. But it's only those who put on the fine linen of righteousness will be allowed to serve Him. In the Revelations we're told...

5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

*6 And **hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father**; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*

7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

Rev 1:5-7

9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

*10 And **hast made us** unto our God **kings and priests**: and we shall reign on the earth.*

11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

Rev 5:9-11

*4 And **I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them**: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and **they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years**.*

*5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. **This is the first resurrection**.*

*6 Blessed and holy is **he that hath part in the first resurrection**: on such the second death hath no power, but they **shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years**.*

Rev 20:4-6

Clearly, those who truly accept Jesus Christ, *and stay loyal to Him 'to the end'* (Mth 10:22), will be allowed to reign with Him. They will be His priests and reign with Jesus Christ when He returns with His other loyal servants who have since passed on from a flesh body. 1 Thess 4:15-17, [where the erroneous Rapture Theory comes from - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/334>],

is actually explaining how those who have *already* died from a flesh body will return with Jesus Christ at His Second Advent. We cannot, therefore, ‘prevent them which are asleep’ because we cannot change into a spiritual body *before* those who are in the heavenly dimension. Why? Because *they are already in a spiritual body when they put off their flesh*. In fact, *everyone* in the flesh goes back to the Heavenly dimension when they die from the flesh (Ecc 12:6-7, 2 Cor 5:1-10). However, what side of the gulf that you are on (Lk 16:26) is determined by whether or not you accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior and king. Learn more in the following studies:

Sinners Are Not Tormented Forever <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/330>

Where Are All of the People That Have Died <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/323>

The point to our study is that, the Bible clearly tells us that all those who serve Jesus Christ will have on the same ‘holy garments’ of spiritual righteousness, as Jesus Christ does. As Paul explained it to the Colossians...

1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

*4 **When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.***

*5 **Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth;** fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:*

6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

7 In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;

*10 And **have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:***

11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

*12 **Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;***

13 Forbearing one another; and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

*14 And above all these things **put on charity**, which is the bond of perfectness.*

*15 And **let the peace of God rule in your hearts**, to the which also ye are called in one body; and **be ye thankful.***

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Col 3:1-17

So here, Paul explains the characteristics of those who will reign with Jesus Christ as being those who put off the ‘old man’ (they kill that carnal mind [heart] inside their mind) and put on the ‘new man’ which is created by the Word of God and our cooperation with the Holy Spirit. The new man is then ‘equipped’ with beautiful clothing as the priests of God should have. Now, in Ezekiel 44 [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Ezekiel/728] we are also given details of those who serve Him. We’re told that, like Moses had to do with the vail, they’ll have to *put off their garments wherein they ministered, and lay them in the holy chambers, and they shall put on other garments; and they shall not sanctify the people with their garments* (vs 19). And the purpose of their teaching is clearly explained a few verses later...

23 And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

24 And in controversy they shall stand in judgment; and they shall judge it according to my judgments: and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my sabbaths.

Ezekiel 44:23-24

However, this does not mean those priests of Jesus Christ in the Millennium will ‘put off’ their righteousness when they go to teach the people. Rather, the clothing they use to directly serve Jesus Christ is like the vail that Moses had to put on so he wouldn’t frighten Israel with his face shining so brightly (Ex 34:33-35). The point is: in the Millennium, the spiritual clothing of righteousness and other pure ‘clothes’ is vital for the servants of Jesus Christ to have on. And why this is important to us today is: while we cannot ever be without sin in a flesh body, **we are to be working diligently to put on that ‘new man’, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness** (Eph 4:24). *If we don’t do it before Jesus Christ returns, we won’t be found acceptable to serve Him* and we’ll be in the group He describes in following parables...

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

*23 And **then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.***

24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Matt 7:21-27

23 Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them,
24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.
25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:
26 Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.
27 But he shall say, I tell you, **I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.**
28 There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.
Luke 13:23-28

And, as the parable of the 10 virgins in Mth 25 also explains, we must have enough oil (truth) sealed into our vessel (our soul) if we are going to be able to rise and go to Him when He returns. Those who don't have the oil *won't make it*. It's important to understand that *it takes time to get that oil* because *it takes time to put off the old man and create the new*. It truly can't be 'bought and sold' because... it can only come from accepting the great price Jesus Christ has already paid for us, with His own blood, and allowing the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:33) to help us put off the old man and put on the new. [Study more on this topic with the special study: **Oil Needed; Be Sure You're Ready** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/286>]

So, let's strive to remember all that this first Tabernacle of God teaches us. For, just as it was a mobile tent for Him to live in, so are we to be a mobile tabernacle for Him to live in too (1 Cor 3:16-17, 1 Cor 6:15-20, 2 Cor 6:14-18). Thus, everything in the first Tabernacle is a physical example for us to learn *how to spiritually prepare Him a place to live*. God knows that, many times, in order for us to understand spiritual truths, we often need to see a physical example. Rom 1:20 says that *the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead*. Therefore, He gives us many examples (1 Cor 10:11) in which to teach us spiritual truths.

Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.
2 Cor 9:15

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,
5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:

9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

1 Peter 1:3-9

AMEN.