



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

EXODUS 40:1-11, 34-38

LESSON: GOD'S GLORY IN THE TABERNACLE –

December 14, 2025

INTRODUCTION:

Exodus 38 describes the construction of the altar of burnt offering, the bronze laver, and the courtyard surrounding the tabernacle. **Exodus 39** describes the completion of the tabernacle, the detailed preparation of priestly garments, and Moses' inspection of the completed work. Here in **Exodus 40**, we see the Tabernacle erected, anointed, consecrated, and the Glory of the Lord fill the Tabernacle!

LESSON: I. EXODUS 40:1-8

40:1 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying,— The LORD speaks to Moses.

40:2 On the first day of the first month shalt thou set up the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation. A year had passed since the Passover night. On the night the Israelites had left Egypt. Now they called that night the first day of the first month Abib—(Exodus chapter 12). Three months later the Israelites arrived at Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:1) where Moses received his instructions to set up the tabernacle of the tent of congregation! This was separate from the Israelite's camp. And this would be a portable tent which served as a sign of God's presence, a place of worship and communication. They completed all the work during the next 9 months. He was to put the special tent into its place which is where God will meet them.

INSIDE THE TABERNACLE: HOLY OF HOLIES

40:3 And thou shalt put therein the ark of the testimony, and cover the ark with the vail. Place the special box (The Ark of Testimony) in the Tabernacle (tent) because it represented God's special promise to them. It was the most important object placed in the Tabernacle. So, Moses must place that first behind the vail (special curtain).

INSIDE THE TABERNACLE: THE HOLY PLACE

40:4 And thou shalt bring in the table, and set in order the things that are to be set in order upon it; and thou shalt bring in the candlestick, and light the lamps thereof. **40:5** And thou shalt set the altar of gold for the incense before the ark of the testimony, and put the hanging of the door to the tabernacle. 4 The instructions were to be in God's order. When we're in right order with God, it means we've put Him first. And as God has told Moses where to set the table in the tent, the candlestick, and then light the lamps inside the tent, it was done decently and in right order; not just thrown in chaos. The world was centered in darkness before



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God spoke “Let there be Light!” bring the table inside the tent and put its equipment on it. Then bring the lampstand, and attach its lamps to it. **5** Then put the gold altar where the incense will burn, having a sweet smell placing it before the altar in front of the Ark of Testimony, and placing the vail (curtain) across the entrance to my tent.

OUTSIDE THE TABERNACLE: THE OUTER COURT

40:6 And thou shalt set the altar of the burnt offering before the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation. **40:7** And thou shalt set the laver between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and shalt put water therein. **40:8** And thou shalt set up the court round about, and hang up the hanging at the court gate. **6** At the entrance of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation: place the altar of burnt offering there so the priests will offer up the people’s sacrifices to be burned unto God. **7** And the lever (basin) will be placed between the Tabernacle (tent) and the altar, putting water in the basin. **8** ¹The courtyard was an essential part of the Tabernacle, serving as a boundary that separated the sacred space from the common areas. It was a place where the Israelites could gather and offer sacrifices, symbolizing a transition from the secular to the holy. This space was enclosed by linen curtains, which were supported by bronze pillars reflecting the enduring nature of God's covenant with Israel. God told Moses to surround the tent and the altar with the wall of curtains, and hang the curtain made for the entrance (court gate) symbolizing a separation between the Holy and the common; separating the Tabernacle and the courtyard.

II. EXODUS 40:9-11

ANOINTING ALL FURNISHINGS AND VESSELS AS HOLY INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE TABERNACLE:

40:9 And thou shalt take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle, and all that is therein, and shalt hallow it, and all the vessels thereof: and it shall be holy. Moses is to take the special anointing oil and mark the **Tabernacle** and everything in it **with the oil**. This will show that the tent and all its furniture and vessels are separate unto God, being holy.

40:10 And thou shalt anoint the altar of the burnt offering, and all his vessels, and sanctify the altar: and it shall be an altar most holy. Moses is to mark the **Altar** where burnt offerings are placed along with all its vessels sanctifying all. This will show that the altar and its vessels are separate and very holy unto God.

40:11 And thou shalt anoint the laver and his foot, and sanctify it. Moses also anoints the **Laver** (Basin) and its base (stand) too. They are also separate and holy unto God. Nothing in God’s house is incidental; even the stand must be set apart as holy to honor God.

III. EXODUS 40:34-38

40:34 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the Lord filled the

¹¹<https://biblehub.com/exodus/40-8.htm>

<https://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





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tabernacle. God's presence had moved into the tent of the congregation because all that was commanded unto Moses by God was done. Therefore, this was the visible testimony of God's acceptance of the work done. God's pillar of cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the Lord was a bright dazzling of light too difficult to look upon filled the tabernacle. God's glory indicated God's visible presence among His people.

40:35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. The cloud that covered the tent of congregation was so thick, that when the cloud dwelt there, and God's glory filled it, Moses couldn't even enter into the Tabernacle. It showed how powerful God's presence prevailed! Each time God had invited Moses to Mount Sinai, the cloud and fire covered it (Exodus 24:15-17).

40:36 And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys: Now, whenever the cloud lifted and moved from the Tabernacle, the people of Israel had to be ready to set out on their journey, following the cloud.

40:37 But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not, till the day that it was taken up. However, if the cloud stayed, the people of Israel stayed until it moved.

40:38 For the cloud of the Lord was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys. Throughout the Israelite's journey, the cloud of the Lord was present upon the Tabernacle by day, and fire by night. It was a constant reminder to Israel that God's presence was among them. This was the same cloud, known as a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night over the mercy seat that the children of Israel followed throughout their wilderness wanderings.

SUMMARY:

The LORD speaks to Moses and tells him how to place the Tabernacle, and where to place the different objects in the tent. The special box (The Ark of Testimony) was the most important object placed in the Tabernacle. So, Moses must place that first. And the curtain or covering in front of the Ark hiding it. Bring in the table, the candlestick; light the lamps; set the altar of gold for the incense before the Ark of the Testimony, and hang the curtain of the door to the tabernacle; set the altar of the burnt offering before the door of the Tabernacle of the tent of the congregation; the laver between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and put water there in it; set up the outer area (court yard) surrounding the Tabernacle, enclosing it with curtains to serve as a boundary between the sacred space of the Tabernacle, and the rest of the court gate **(40:2-8)**.



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Moses must mark the Tabernacle and everything in it with the special anointing oil to be holy—all vessels; the altar of burnt offering, and the laver or basin (for ceremonial washing before the priests entered the Tent of Meeting or approached the altar), and its foot (stand). This separated all those things to give honor to God **(40:9-11)**.

The cloud then covered the Tent of Congregation. But this time Moses could not enter in because the thickness of the cloud dwelt there, and God's Glory filled the Tabernacle. The cloud represented how powerful God's presence prevailed over the Tabernacle and could be seen by all the Israelites. Whenever the cloud lifted and moved from the Tabernacle, the people would go onward, but if the cloud stayed, then they stayed until it moved. the cloud of the Lord was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel as they continued throughout all their journey while they traveled **(40:34-38)**.

APPLICATION:

The need for survival is to have God's presence everywhere we go. God prepared the way through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit's leading for us, just as He has prepared the portable tabernacle for the children of Israel.