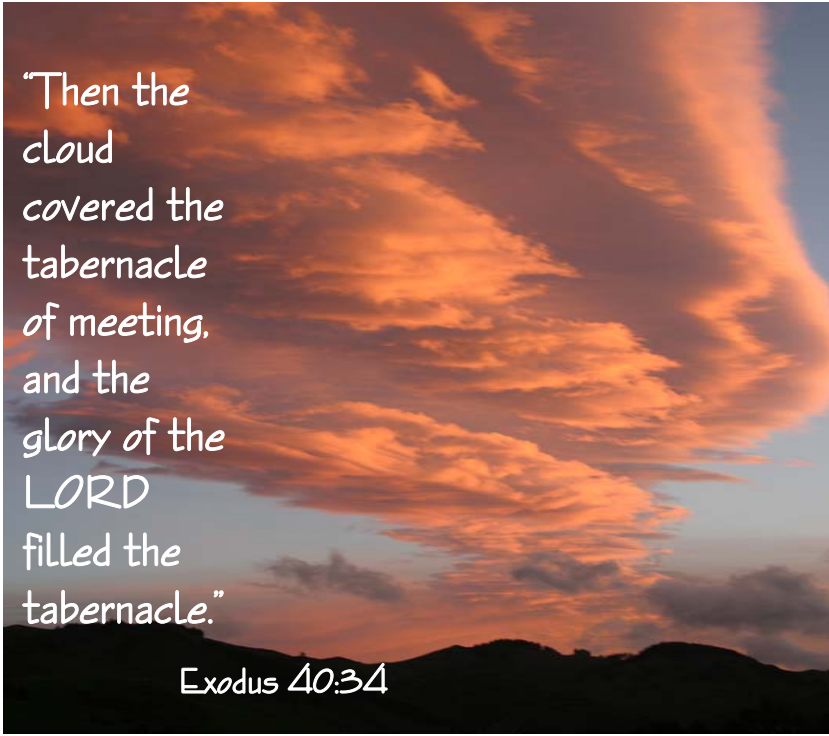




Sowing the Word



“Then the
cloud
covered the
tabernacle
of meeting,
and the
glory of the
LORD
filled the
tabernacle.”

Exodus 40:34

Exodus 39-40 October 15th-21st, 2009

So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of
God; and they gave the sense, and helped *them* to
understand the reading.

(Nehemiah 8:8)

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Helpful Study Resource:

Explore the Book by J. Sidlow Baxter

Commentary:

The commentary used with permission throughout
this booklet is:

With the Word Bible Commentary

by Warren W. Wiersbe.

ISBN 0-8407-9108-9

Outline

Theme: God saves His people that they might be His and know His presence with them

I. Salvation: The Lord Delivers His People—1–18

"I am the Lord; I will bring you out ... I will rescue you ... I will redeem you." (Ex 6:6)

1. Israel's Bondage (1)
2. The Lord calls a leader (2-4)
3. The Lord's confronts Pharaoh (5-7)
4. The Lord Plagues Egypt [9 plagues] (7-10)
5. The Lord's Passover deliverance (11-12)
6. The Lord's Red Sea rescue (13-15)
7. The Lord Provides for His people (16-18).

II. Covenant: The Lord Claims His People—19–24

"I will take you as My people" (Ex 6:7)

1. Preparation for Revelation (19)
2. The Ten Commandments (20)
3. Laws governing living (21-23)
4. The Covenant Ratified – blood & God's glory (24)

III. Worship: The Lord Dwells with His People—25–40

"I will be your God. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God." (Ex 6:7)

1. Instructions about the Tabernacle—(25-27)
2. The Priesthood (28-29)
3. More instructions for the Tabernacle (30-31)
4. The Golden Calf idolatry (32)
5. Moses intercession and intervention (33-34)
6. Construction of the tabernacle (35–39)
7. God's glory enters the tabernacle (40)

With the Word Bible Commentary

Exodus 35-39

Each aspect of the making of the tabernacle is mentioned in detail because each part was important to God. The smallest wooden peg had to conform to the pattern God gave Moses on the mount. If we expect God to be concerned about the details of our lives, we must pay attention to the details of His instructions.

The construction of the tabernacle involved God's pattern and man's provision. The people had plundered the Egyptians (12:35-36), and they willingly brought that wealth to the Lord. It was an act of spontaneous generosity and not something that was forced from them (35:5, 21-22, 26, 29). Christians today should give in the same way (2 Cor. 8:1-12).

God gave the plan, and He also gave the workers the wisdom needed to do the job right (35:10, 25, 34-35). There is nothing wrong with dedicated artistry, for God built beauty into His tabernacle. God wants skillful hands as well as dedicated hearts (Ps. 78:72).

Moses was careful to inspect the work to see that it was just what God had commanded. (The word commanded is found seventeen times in these chapters.) Moses was faithful as the servant of God to do what God told him to do (Heb. 3:5).

Chapter 39 ends by saying, "And Moses blessed them" (v. 43). Have you taken time lately to bless those who have done the will of God in serving you? (See Ruth 2:4.)

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). *With the word Bible commentary* (Ex 39:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

With the Word Bible Commentary

Exodus 40

Finished. All the framework, hangings, and pieces of furniture were completed, along with the priests' garments; but Moses waited for the Lord to tell him what to do next. Wise is the leader who gets his orders from God.

Furnished. God told Moses what to do and when to do it. First they were to set up the tent and then put in the six special pieces of furniture, starting with the ark in the Holy of Holies. The right order was as significant as the right furnishings. When he finished with the tent and the furniture, he put up the court around it and set it apart from the rest of the camp.

Fragrant. Everything in the tabernacle was anointed with the holy oil, which set it all apart for God's use. Is there a fragrance about our lives that makes people think of heaven?

Filled. Two things made the tabernacle a special building: the pattern was given by God, and God's glorious presence filled it when He came to dwell with His people. What a gracious God that He should consent to dwell with such a rebellious people!

God's Dwelling Places: First, God walked with man (Gen. 5:24; 6:9); then He desired to dwell with him (Exod. 25:8). His glory came to the tabernacle (Exod. 40:34), but when Israel sinned, the glory departed (1 Sam. 4:21-22). The glory dwelt in the temple (1 Kings 8:10-11), but then departed again because of the sins of the people (Ezek. 11:22-23). The glory came in the person of Jesus Christ (John 1:14) and dwells now in believers individually (1 Cor. 6:19-20) and the church collectively (Eph. 2:20-22). One day God's glory will be revealed in a new heaven and earth and a perfect city where His people will dwell forever (Rev. 21-22).

—Wiersbe, W. W. (1997, c1991). With the word Bible commentary (Ex 40:1). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

“The cloud of the Lord by day... and there was fire therein by night.” (r.v.)

Exodus 40:38

Written by: F B Meyer

Taken from: *Our Daily Homily*

This was the cloud of the Shechinah, in the heart of which was fire, the symbol of the presence of God. Probably this fire was always present, but only visible against the background of the surrounding darkness. In the New Testament fire is always associated with the ministry of the Holy Spirit; and in Isaiah (Isaiah 4:5) we learn that in the coming time God would give, on every dwelling-place in Mount Zion, and in all her assemblies, the same cloud of smoke by day, and flaming fire by night, as had been vouchsafed to the Tabernacle where God dwelt. What a glorious revelation is this!

The Holy Spirit brooding over each individual believer. — It is a symptom of the highest life, when God spreads his tabernacle over the soul. We should march only when He lifts up his enfolding presence, rest under his canopy, and recognize the sanctity of all life.

The Holy Spirit resting on each home. — “Every dwelling-place in Zion” must stand for the homes of God’s people. How blessed it is when the home is a temple, and each inmate of the beloved circle a priest! Such homes are rare, but they are possible. Let those who are founding a new family make this their ideal.

The Holy Spirit directing and filling each assembly and believer — As of old the movements of the cloud determined those of the tent and people, so in the Pentecostal Church the Spirit was Guide, Director, Executor. “Separate Me ... to the work to which I have called them.” We must rely most absolutely on Him, waiting for his initiation, his teaching, the settling down of his infinite benediction. Then there will be glory and defence.