THE EXODUS

A Dwelling Place for God
Exodus 25:1-9; 31:1-11; 36-38; 40
Lesson 9

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
October 30, 2011
Exodus – outline

- The Exodus (1-18) – God’s power
- The Law (19-24) – God’s holiness
- The Tabernacle (25-40) – Fellowship with God
  - The Tabernacle (25-27, 30-31, 35-40)
  - The Priesthood (28-29)
  - The Golden Calf (32-34)
Understanding the Law of Moses

- The Law of Moses – the O.T. era after Exodus 19
- The Law of Moses today: all or some or none
- The Sabbath controversy
- Genesis 12:1-3, 7
  - Blessing – salvation by grace through faith
  - A Great Nation – Israel (holy)
  - Blessing for the nations – the Church era
  - The coming Seed – Jesus Christ
The Exodus

- The fulfillment of God’s promise to Abraham (Exodus 2:12)
- The exodus, after 430 years in exile
- The Great Nation established at Sinai
Israel at Mount Sinai

- A detour that is not a detour (Exodus 13:17-22)
- Arrival at Mount Sinai as promised (Exodus 3:12)
- Redemption with great acts of judgment (Exodus 6:6)
- The Law of Moses is given
God’s Law is Israel’s Constitution

▶ The beginning of the Great Nation
  • Moral, civil and ceremonial laws
  • Commandments – penalties – rewards
  • A dwelling place for God
  • A priesthood – family of Aaron in the tribe of Levi
  • No king (yet)

▶ A temporary plan
  • Jeremiah 31:31-35 – a New Covenant nation
  • Galatians 3 – a tutor
The Law as a Tutor

- The progressive nature of revelation
- The Tutor is in place to “bring us to Christ”
- The Law is a revelation of salvation and Christ
- The dwelling place of God – a revealing revelation
A Dwelling Place for God

- God will dwell among His people
- God is holy
- God is accessible by blood – by “great judgments”
The Preparation

▶ Divine initiative
  – Make a tabernacle “that I may dwell in their midst;” (25:8)

▶ Divine pattern
  – Exactly as shown – tabernacle and furniture (25:9)
  – Heb. 8:2, 5 – a “copy of heavenly things”
  – Heb. 9:11-12 – “a greater and more perfect tent”

▶ Divine supplies
  – Defined by God – (25:3-7)
  – Hearts moved (by God) – (25:2; 35:4-29)

▶ Divine skills
  – Bezalel and Oholiab (35:30-36:1)
  – All men who work (31:6; 35:25; 36:8)
Temple Size Comparisons
Earthly Tabernacle (not to scale) Heavenly Temple
The Tabernacle in the Wilderness

► Two chambers (26:33)
  – Holy Place – entry to the dwelling place of God
  – Most Holy Place – dwelling place of God

► Holiness of God
  – Apartness – Separate from all that is sinful and profane

► Holy Place
  – Accessible to priests but not to common people
  – Furnishings required maintenance

► Most Holy Place – Holy of Holies
  – “Throne of God” – mercy seat
  – Presence of God
  – Limited human access
The Tabernacle in the Wilderness

- God in the midst of His people
- Accessible and inaccessible
- Image of the heavenly tabernacle
- Exodus 20:20 – “God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin.”
The Ark of the Covenant

- A container for the Testimony (25:21; 31:18)
- The mercy seat
  - Hebrew (KAPPORET) – Neither mercy nor seat
  - Place of atonement – place of reconciliation of enemies
  - Solid gold — covered with animal blood
- Cherubim
  - Genesis 3:24 – guarded entrance to the Tree of Life
  - Flaming swords – death to those who would enter
- There I will meet with you
  - Just and the justifier (Rom. 3:26)
  - Animal blood will not bring the people of God into the Holy of Holies
A Table for Bread

- **Bread**
  - Lev. 24:5-9 – 12 loaves as a food offering to the LORD
  - Aaron and his sons were to eat it in a holy place

- **Figure of Christ**
  - An offering to God
  - Union with Him for those who would enter presence of God – “Bread of the presence” (Ex. 25:30)
The Lampstand

- The light in the Holy Place (27:20-21)
- Figure for the Word of God
- Figure for the 7 Spirits before the throne in heaven (Rev. 4:5)
- Special mention of the pattern in heaven (25:40)
- Figure for the Lord Jesus – the light of the world
The Incense Altar

- In front of the veil
- Fragrant incense before the LORD
- Unique incense formulation (30:22-38)
- Make atonement on it with blood yearly
- Prayers of saints (Rev. 8:3-4)
- Intercessory ministry of Christ – based upon the blood (Heb. 9:11-15)
The Courtyard

- Courtyard with tables for sacrifices
- Bronze altar (Ex. 27:1-8)
- Bronze basin (Ex. 30:17-21)
The Glory of God

- Making the Tabernacle and articles (Ex 35:30-39:43)
- Assembling the Tabernacle (Ex. 40:1-33)
- The glory of God enters the Tabernacle (Ex. 40:34-38)
  - Cloud filled the Tabernacle – Moses not able to enter
  - Cloud left to lead
- The Tabernacle in the daily life of Israel
  - God’s presence – fear (Exodus 20:20)
  - The sacrifices and ceremonies – daily enacting the plan of salvation
- A figure of Christ – John 1:14 – “tabernacled” among us
A Dwelling Place for God

- The Tutor is in place
- God dwelling with His people
- God’s “unfinished symphony” – awaiting Christ
- A test for the people – to expose sins
- A test for the people – to reveal faith
- God will provide – Gen. 22:2; 2 Chron. 3:1