

# SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #18

## THE TENT OF THE CONGREGATION

### THE BUILDING

#### INTRODUCTION

All italics are in original. All other emphasis are the authors. All Scripture are from the K. J. V. Bible unless stated otherwise.

We are embarking upon one of the most amazing studies ever. That is the study of the parables God gave to mankind through Moses at Mt. Saini. These are parables given directly from God Himself to Israel, they are especially relevant, and applicable for the faithful believers for understanding God's requirements living in the last days of earth's history. As is anything that comes from God there is great beauty and much thought on God's part in the revealing of truth. Therefore, Let us try to think God's thoughts after Him!

We will begin this study by looking at the sanctuary building and the materials used in its construction and what they represent. After that we will look at the door, then the articles of furniture, the materials used in their construction and their meaning. May the holy spirit open our minds and give us wisdom as we try to understand God's thoughts after Him. This will help us to understand what God wants us to know in these last days of earth's history.

For this reason, we will not be looking at the dimensions and measurements of the temple. We will spend most of our time studying the spiritual application of the materials used in construction, the furniture and the placement of that furniture and their spiritual meaning for us today. let us pray as we continue our journey on the path to the throne of God!

Let us pray:

Holy Father, I ask for wisdom that I may reveal what You desire should be known about this subject. I ask for the holy spirit to be poured upon all that we might understand and recognize the truth of

Your sanctuary for Your way is in the sanctuary. Please forgive all our sins and give us a clean heart and mind. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

If you have access to the book "THE CROSS AND ITS SHADOW" by S.N. Haskell. Please read the whole chapter titled "THE WORK IN THE FIRST APARTMENT OF THE SANCTUARY" from pages 181-185. It will be helpful to have a knowledge and understanding of Christ's work in the first apartment of the sanctuary as an aid to this study.

**EXODUS 26:15-30.** "And thou shalt make boards for the tabernacle *of* shittim wood standing up. Ten cubits *shall be* the length of a board, and a cubit and a half *shall be* the breadth of one board. Two tenons *shall there be* in one board, set in order one against another: thus, shalt thou make for all the boards of the tabernacle. And thou shalt make the boards for the tabernacle, twenty boards on the south side southward. And thou shalt make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards; two sockets under one board for his two tenons, and two sockets under another board for his two tenons. And for the second side of the tabernacle on the north side *there shall be* twenty boards: And their forty sockets *of* silver; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board. And for the sides of the tabernacle westward thou shalt make six boards. And two boards shalt thou make for the corners of the tabernacle in the two sides. And they shall be coupled together beneath, and they shall be coupled together above the head of it unto one ring: thus, shall it be for them both; they shall be for the two corners. And they shall be eight boards, and their sockets *of* silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board. And thou shalt make bars *of* shittim wood; five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle, And five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the two sides westward.

# SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #18

## THE TENT OF THE CONGREGATION

### THE BUILDING

And the middle bar in the midst of the boards shall reach from end to end. And thou shalt overlay the boards with gold, and make their rings *of gold for* places for the bars: and thou shalt overlay the bars with gold. And thou shalt rear up the tabernacle according to the fashion thereof which was shewed thee in the mount.”

**NOTE:** We will look at the bords, the gold, the silver and the bars that hold the bards in place. The bords were of shittim wood. They were massive being 27 inches wide (one- and one-half cubits), and 15 feet long (10 cubits), and 4 ½ inches thick (a handbreadth or ½ of a span, a span is 9 inches or ½ of a cubit).

Now let us explore God’s thoughts and try to understand what He is trying to reveal to us. According to Exodus 26:29 these bords were overlaid with gold. Now the whole sanctuary was made according to the fashion (or pattern) shown him in the mount. That is, Moses was to build the sanctuary like the one God was having him look at in the mount, which was the heavenly!

**REVELATION 2:17.** “To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, **and will give him a white stone**, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth *it*.

**ST AUGUST 26, 1897:10.** “Man is called upon to cooperate with God. Day by day he must be careful how his work of character-building is performed; for this work is to last, not merely for time, but for eternity. He may, if he will, become pure in thought, noble and upright in action. Every deed may be of a character that will receive the approval of God. **God takes pleasure in the man who through faith in Jesus will stand as a polished stone in his temple, honored of God and man.** He declares, “**I will make a man more precious fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.” {ST August 26, 1897, par. 10}.**

**NOTE:** We will look at the boards first , then the gold and silver, the bars and the rings of gold to see what God’s meaning of these materials, and an understanding of what He is trying to communicate to us.

**JEREMIAH 5:14.** “Wherefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, Because ye speak this word, behold, **I will make** my words in thy mouth fire, and **this people wood**, and it shall devour them.”

**ISAIAH 61:3.** “To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; **that they might be called trees of righteousness**, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.”

**JEREMIAH 23:5, 6.** “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a **righteous Branch**, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this *is* his name whereby he shall be called, **THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**”

**NOTE:** So, wood is a representation of man and the saved man is to be more precious than gold. This is sanctuary language meaning the wood or man is overlaid with gold! A fit emblem of the upright boards in the sanctuary.

**JOB 22:25 MARGIN.** “Yea, the Almighty shall be thy **defence**, (or gold, see margin) and thou shalt have plenty of **silver.**”

**NOTE:** The word “defence” in Strong’s is word “#H1220; from H1219; strictly a clipping, that is gold (as dug out); - gold defense.” The gold overlaying the wood boards would represent the believer covered with the righteousness of Christ! Or the divinity of Christ!

The Amplified Bible renders this verse “**And make the Almighty your gold and the Lord your**”

# SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #18

## THE TENT OF THE CONGREGATION

### THE BUILDING

**precious silver treasure.**” This is how the Father and Son become one with us.

**NOTE:** Remember what Jeremiah said, “This *is* his name whereby he shall be called, **THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**”

**JOHN 14:20-24,** “At that day ye shall know that I *am* in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? Jesus answered and said unto him, **If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.** He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.”

**NOTE:** Does this help you understand the high and elevated place the Lord has called His redeemed to occupy? Being one with the Father and the Son, what an awesome thing to contemplate. Along with this unity comes all the privileges and responsibilities that Christ held.

**FW (FAITH AND WORKS) 71:1.** “Christ took upon Himself humanity for us. **He clothed His divinity, and divinity and humanity were combined.** He showed that that law which Satan declared could not be kept, could be kept. Christ took humanity to stand here in our world, to show that Satan had lied. **He took humanity upon Himself to demonstrate that with divinity and humanity combined, man could keep the law of Jehovah.** Separate humanity from divinity, and you can try to work out your own righteousness from now till Christ comes, and it will be nothing but a failure. {FW 71.1}.

**ST JULY 30 1896:3.** “**Divinity and humanity were mysteriously combined, and man and God became one.** It is in this union that we find the hope of our fallen race.” {ST July 30, 1896, par. 3}.

**5BC 1082:3.** “Christ, by His own example, made it evident that man may stand in integrity. Men may have a power to resist evil—a power that neither earth, nor death, nor hell can master; a power that will place them where they may overcome as Christ overcame. **Divinity and humanity may be combined in them. (man).**” (The Review and Herald, February 18, 1890). {5BC 1082.3}.

**1SM 409:1.** “Those who would overcome must put to the tax every power of their being. They must agonize on their knees before God for divine power. Christ came to be our example, and **to make known to us that we may be partakers of the divine nature.**” {1SM 409.1}.

**NOTE:** The new-age doctrine states that there is nothing you can do to obtain perfection. From the last quotes it would be heresy to believe such a lie. While there is nothing, we can do to earn our salvation, we most certainly will not obtain salvation without severe effort on our part, resist the Devil (that is effort) and he will flee from you. How did Christ resist the Devil? He quoted scripture in the **right context**, and Satan was defeated! This is the union of divinity and humanity! The Living Word must be made flesh within us. It must become a living breathing reality within each of us. Christ must take up his abode within us by His Word.

Back to the boards in the sanctuary:

**EXODUS 26:26-30.** “And thou shalt make bars *of* shit-tim wood; five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle, And five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the two sides westward. And the middle bar in the midst of the boards shall reach from end to end. And thou shalt overlay the boards with gold, and

# SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #18

## THE TENT OF THE CONGREGATION

### THE BUILDING

make their rings *of gold for* places for the bars: and thou shalt overlay the bars with gold. And thou shalt rear up the tabernacle according to the fashion thereof which was shewed thee in the mount.”

**NOTE:** Rings of gold were placed in the appropriate places and bars of shittim wood overlaid with gold were slid through the rings of gold with the center bar shooting through reaching from end to end. This was the means of holding the boards upright and together.

The Bible has much to say about rings of gold:

**EXODUS 37:5.** “And he put the staves into the rings by the sides of the ark, **to bear the ark.**”

Rings are used to carry things.

**EXODUS 39:21,** “And **they did bind the breastplate by his rings** unto the rings of the ephod with a lace of blue.”

Rings are used to bind things together.

**SOS 5:14.** “His hands *are as* gold rings set with the beryl.”

Rings are the hands of God!

**EZEKIEL 1:18-20,** “As for their **rings**, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their **rings** *were* full of eyes round about them four. And when the living creatures went, the **wheels** (or rings) went by them: and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the **wheels** were lifted up. Whithersoever the spirit was to go, they went, thither *was their* spirit to go; and the **wheels** were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature *was* in **the wheels (or rings).**”

Rings are as the wheels of God’s chariot and are spoken of as the holy spirit!

**JOB 40:18.** “His bones *are* like **bars** of iron.”

**NOTE:** Bars are as bones. They are what gives the body its form. Without bones we would be a blob of flesh without form. Bones are like the bars that hold the boards upright in the temple. Are we not the temple of the Lord?

Rings are used to carry things, they are to fasten things together, and rings of gold are the hands of God (gold represents the almighty). What a fitting symbol of how God holds us together in the faith! Lastly, rings are said to be the holy spirit. It is the spirit that draws us and keeps or binds us, holding us, as it were, in the palm of His hands. Remember wood overlaid with gold represents humanity combined with divinity. But the rings are of solid gold, there is nothing human that keeps us in Christ but the divine power only. Now the center bar passes through the rings from end to end. Is this not a fitting representation of the holy spirit of Christ being in the innermost recesses, the very center, of our being?

**EXODUS 26:26, 27.** “And thou shalt make bars *of* shittim wood; **five for the boards** of the one side of the tabernacle, And **five bars for the boards of the other side** of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the two sides westward.”

**EXODUS 26:28.** “And the middle bar in the midst of the boards shall reach from end to end.”

**NOTE:** What is the significance of the number 5 in Scripture?

**NUMBERS 18:16; 3:46, 47.** “And those that are to be redeemed from a month old shalt thou redeem, according to thine estimation, for the money of five shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, which *is* twenty gerahs.” Chapter 3:46, 47. “And for those that are to be redeemed of the two hundred and threescore and thirteen of the first-born of the children of Israel, which are more than the Levites; Thou shalt even take five shekels apiece by the poll,

# SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #18

## THE TENT OF THE CONGREGATION

### THE BUILDING

after the shekel of the sanctuary shalt thou take *them*: (the shekel *is* twenty gerahs).”

**NOTE:** The number 5 represents redemption. The bars being 5 on either side of the sanctuary, and the center bar running from end to end, symbolizes that God has provided redemption, full and complete, for each person in the world if they will accept it!

Now let us look at the silver.

**EXODUS 26:19-25.** “And thou shalt make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards; two sockets under one board for his two tenons, and two sockets under another board for his two tenons. And for the second side of the tabernacle on the north side *there shall be* twenty boards: And their forty sockets *of* silver; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board. And for the sides of the tabernacle westward thou shalt make six boards. And two boards shalt thou make for the corners of the tabernacle in the two sides. And they shall be coupled together beneath, and they shall be coupled together above the head of it unto one ring: thus shall it be for them both; they shall be for the two corners. And they shall be eight boards, and their sockets *of* silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board.”

**NOTE:** see lesson #10 page 5, right column middle, to understand the meaning of silver. Just to review, silver represents power. Power represents Jesus Christ. Silver represents the Word of God, Jesus also represents the Word see John 1:1,2. Therefore, the silver sockets under the boards with their tenons running deep into the silver represents the power of Christ to us in the faith. Are we not to sink our roots deep into the Word of God and be grounded in that Word that we be not deceived! This is a perfect type of what we are to become in the faith of Christ. Silver represents the Word, the boards sending their tenons deep into the silver means that God’s people

must study deeply into the Word of God for it is this only that keeps us stable in our relationship with Him.

Please pay close attention the this next!

**EXODUS 25:8.** “And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell (to reside or permanently stay) among (to sever or a bisection) them.”

**NOTE:** “Among them” means a bisection or to sever!(See Strong’s word #H8432). This gives the word “among” a deeper meaning than just being among the people, It is indicating that The Lord is desirous to live within the center of our very being, on the inside, not just beside you! This is what Paul had in mind when he wrote in the Corinthians you are the temple of the Lord.

**1<sup>ST</sup> CORINTHIANS 3:16, 17; 2<sup>ND</sup> CORINTHIANS 6:15, 16.** “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which *temple* ye are.”

**2<sup>ND</sup> Corinthians 6:15, 16.** “And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”

**REVELATION 3: 19-22.** “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”

# SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #18

## THE TENT OF THE CONGREGATION

### THE BUILDING

**NOTE:** Moses was to build a sanctuary that God might dwell among his people, but few understood what God really wanted, and that was to dwell within them not just among them! Then Jesus Himself makes it clear, when He declares, "I stand at the door and knock." He does not force an entrance but knocks. So, it is here that we have the old and the new Testaments prophecies telling us that God is seeking an entrance into our very being. He wants to dwell within us and walk within us.

**DA 161:1.** "In the cleansing of the temple, Jesus was announcing His mission as the Messiah, and entering upon His work. **That temple, erected for the abode of the divine Presence, was designed to be an object lesson for Israel and for the world. From eternal ages it was God's purpose that every created being, from the bright and holy seraph to man, should be a temple for the indwelling of the Creator. Because of sin, humanity ceased to be a temple for God. Darkened and defiled by evil, the heart of man no longer revealed the glory of the Divine One. But by the incarnation of the Son of God, the purpose of Heaven is fulfilled. God dwells in humanity, and through saving grace the heart of man becomes again His temple. (His mercy seat or throne). **God designed that the temple at Jerusalem should be a continual witness to the high destiny open to every soul.**"**

**MALACHI 3:1-3.** "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: (this messenger is not Christ), and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, (this is Christ), saith the LORD of hosts. **But who may abide the day of his coming?** and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he *is* like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: **And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that**

**they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness."**

**NOTE:** Question, Is there cleansing performed after the close of probation or at Christ's second coming? I answer **NO!** At the close of probation every case has been decided!

**REVELATION 20:10-12.** "For the time is at hand. **He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly; and **my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.**"**

**NOTE:** This statement announces the close of probation. After this mandate there is no more forgiveness for sin the wicked remain wicked. The holy remains holy forever! His reward is with him. every case has been decided at that time. Before this announcement "He will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea" Micah 7:19.

**EPHESIANS 2:21, 22.** "In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit."

Let us pray:

Holy Father, please bestow Your spirit upon each one that studies this lesson. May we all understand more of the beauty of Your salvation. You are an amazing God to condescend to explain Your truth to us. Forgive our sins and create within us a clean and right way of thinking. I ask these things in the name of Jesus, Your Son. Amen.

Your brother in Christ

Virgil Prindle