

**“The True and Better Tabernacle Has Come! Rejoice & Give Thanks!”**

What is the primary message of the Tabernacle? What important truth does this passage teach us about God and the *blessings or benefits* of salvation?

Exodus 25-26

1<sup>st</sup>, the Ark of the Covenant with the Mercy Seat (or Propitiation Cover)

2<sup>nd</sup>, the Table for the Bread of Presence

3<sup>rd</sup>, the Golden Lampstand with its Seven lamps

Now, the Tabernacle (Tent) itself

✦ *Why would God Himself come down, draw near to dwell with us?*

The Lord reveals to Moses instructions for His dwelling among His people (25-31)

- ✦ A tripartite structure
- ✦ A mobile sanctuary
- ✦ Protective boundaries
- † What love and mercy for the Lord God to call a people to Himself, redeem them and dwell among them!
- ✦ God begins with the most holy things, from the inside out

The Tabernacle proper – the Tent itself (ch. 26)

- A Reminder of amazing Truth
- ▶ *WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?*
- † Do we hold God’s presence with us as a tremendous truth?
- † What difference does it make for us to live after the fulfillment of the picture?
- † Does familiarity breed contempt, or at least less gratitude?

The Curtains (vv. 1-14)

- ✦ the beautiful inner layer of fine linen (vv. 1-6)
- ✦ a second layer of goat’s hair (vv. 7-13)
- ✦ the top layers (v. 14)
- ▶ Consider the outward appearance and the inward splendor

The Frame (vv. 15-30)

- ✦ Acacia boards and silver bases
- ✦ overlaid in gold
- ✦ Everything done according to God’s plan (v. 30)
- ✦ See Ex. 36:8-38
- ▶ Not all of our questions are answered! But what has been given was and is perfectly sufficient for faith and life!

## The Veil (vv. 31-37)

- + The veil that separates the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place (vv. 31-34)
- + The Ark of the Testimony covered with the Mercy Seat within the Most Holy Place
- + The arrangement of the furniture in the Holy Place (v. 35)
- + The screen at the entrance (vv 36-37)

- ▶ Why the separation? Why the veil?
- ▶ Does Isaiah's vision of the throne room of the Lord give us additional insight?

† How does this help you understand the significance of the Temple curtain being torn in two from top to bottom at Jesus' death? (*see Mt. 27:51*)

† Where there was a prohibition before, now we have a positive exhortation!

*"Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water."* (Heb. 10:19-22 ESV)

YES, FINISHED! THE MESSIAH DIES,  
cut off for sins, but not his own;  
completed is the sacrifice,  
the great redeeming work is done.  
Yes, finished! All the debt is paid,  
justice divine is satisfied,  
the grand and full atonement made:  
God for a guilty world has died!

2 The temple curtain is torn down,  
the living way to heaven is seen;  
through Christ, the middle wall has gone  
and all who will may enter in.  
The ancient shadows are fulfilled,  
the law's harsh sentence is applied,  
the sinless Lamb of God is killed,  
the covenant is ratified.

3 The reign of sin and death is done,  
and all may live, from sin set free;  
Satan and his pretended throne  
are swallowed up in victory.  
Saved from the curse of God I am;  
my Saviour hangs upon a tree!  
See there the meek and silent Lamb;  
His final breath he breathes for me.

4 In Christ accepted and brought near  
and clothed in righteousness divine,  
I see the path to life made clear,  
and all your merits, Lord, are mine,  
Death, hell and sin are now subdued,  
all grace is now to sinners given,  
and so I plead the atoning blood  
and by your gift, receive your heaven.

*By Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

***Do you see how Jesus perfectly fulfills what the Tabernacle symbolizes?***

***What difference does it make that you are living in the Already-Not Yet ?***

***"The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me;  
to the one who orders his way rightly  
I will show the salvation of God!"  
(Ps. 50:23 ESV)***