

Exodus 26 - The Tabernacle: The Laver; The Coverings; The Veil

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(4) Tabernacle (Ex 25:1—40:38)

(A) Instructions for building the Tabernacle (Ex 25:1—31:17)

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(i) Curtains (26:1-14)

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Exodus 26

(c) Tabernacle structure (26:1-37)

(i) Curtains (26:1-14)

1 "Moreover, you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twisted linen and violet, purple, and scarlet *material*; you shall make them with cherubim, the work of a skilled embroiderer.

1 "Moreover you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twisted linen and blue and purple and scarlet *material*; you shall make them with cherubim, the work of a skillful workman.

1 "You are to make the tent with ten curtains of fine woven linen and with blue, purple, and scarlet material. You are to make them with cherubim skillfully worked into them.

1 Moreover thou shalt make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: with cherubims of cunning work shalt thou make them.

2 The length of each curtain shall be twenty-eight cubits, and the width of each curtain four cubits; all the curtains shall have the same measurements.

2 The length of each curtain shall be twenty-eight cubits, and the width of each curtain four cubits; all the curtains shall have the same measurements.

2 The length of each curtain is to be 28 cubits, the width of each curtain four cubits, and all the curtains are to have the same measurements.

2 The length of one curtain shall be eight and twenty cubits, and the breadth of one curtain four cubits: and every one of the curtains shall have one measure.

3 Five curtains shall be joined to one another, and *the other* five curtains *shall be* joined to one another.

3 Five curtains shall be joined to one another, and *the other* five curtains *shall be* joined to one another.

3 "Five of the curtains are to be joined together, and the other five curtains are to be joined together.

3 The five curtains shall be coupled together one to another; and other five curtains shall be coupled one to another.

4 You shall make loops of violet on the edge of the outermost curtain in the *first* set, and likewise you shall make *them* on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in the second set.

4 You shall make loops of blue on the edge of the outermost curtain in the *first* set, and likewise you shall make *them* on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in the second set.

4 You are to make loops of blue material along the edge of the outermost curtain in the first set, and likewise you are to make loops along the edge of the outermost curtain in the second set.

4 And thou shalt make loops of blue upon the edge of the one curtain from the selvedge in the coupling; and likewise shalt thou make in the uttermost edge of another curtain, in the coupling of the second.

5 You shall make fifty loops in the one curtain, and you shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is in the second set; the loops shall be opposite each other.

5 You shall make fifty loops in the one curtain, and you shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is in the second set; the loops shall be opposite each other.

5 You are to make 50 loops in the one curtain, and you are to make 50 loops along the edge of the curtain that is in the second set, with the loops opposite each other.

5 Fifty loops shalt thou make in the one curtain, and fifty loops shalt thou make in the edge of the curtain that is in the coupling of the second; that the loops may take hold one of another.

6 You shall also make fifty clasps of gold, and join the curtains to one another with the clasps so that the tabernacle will be a unit.

6 You shall make fifty clasps of gold, and join the curtains to one another with the clasps so that the tabernacle will be a unit.

6 Then you are to make 50 gold clasps, and join the curtains to each other with the clasps so that the tent will be one piece.

6 And thou shalt make fifty taches of gold, and couple the curtains together with the taches: and it shall be one tabernacle.

- Embroidered linen tapestry. Gold (Deity), purple (royalty), blue (heavenly), scarlet (priesthood): Cherubim

- Also relates to four faces (Lion, ox, man, eagle), the four views of Jesus Christ as expressed by the four gospels

— Lion - Matthew, Lion of the Tribe of Judah - Purple

— Ox - Mark, the Suffering Servant - Scarlet as the color of blood

— Man - Luke, the Divine Nature, the humanity - Gold/White for righteousness

— John, the Eagle, the Heavenly, and Blue to suggest things celestial

This basically wraps the Tabernacle, its beauty is only visible from the inside due to the other coverings

If one was to look up on the inside of the Tabernacle one would see the cherubim (Ps 91:4; 61:4; 17:8)

Goat's Hair Covering

7 "Then you shall make curtains of **goats' hair** as a tent over the tabernacle; you shall make eleven curtains in all.

7 "Then you shall make curtains of goats' hair for a tent over the tabernacle; you shall make eleven curtains in all.

7 "You are to make curtains of goat hair for a tent over the tent. You are to make eleven curtains.

7 And thou shalt make curtains of goats' hair to be a covering upon the tabernacle: eleven curtains shalt thou make.

- "...goat's hair" - goats are mentioned in two ways: one as a type of sin

— Goat's hair used to deceive with Jacob and Esau

— Goat's blood also used to deceive Jacob on Joseph's coat

— Mikal and Saul - goat's hair used to defraud (1 Sam 19)

— Sheep and goats (Matt 19)

- Goats are a type of sin, used in offerings to be sin bearers (Luke 22; Num 28:17-22; Lev 4:23; 4:27-28; 16:19-22; 23:15-19; Num 7:16; 11:15; 15:24-27; 29:1,5)

- There are 11 types of goat sin offerings!

8 The length of each curtain *shall be* thirty cubits, and the width of each curtain four cubits; the eleven curtains shall have the same measurements.

8 The length of each curtain *shall be* thirty cubits, and the width of each curtain four cubits; the eleven curtains shall have the same measurements.

8 The length of each curtain is to be 30 cubits, and the width of each curtain two cubits; the measurements of each of the eleven curtains is to be the same.

8 The length of one curtain shall be thirty cubits, and the breadth of one curtain four cubits: and the eleven curtains shall be all of one measure.

9 You shall join five curtains by themselves and the *other* six curtains by themselves, and you shall double over the sixth curtain at the front of the tent.

9 You shall join five curtains by themselves and the *other* six curtains by themselves, and you shall double over the sixth curtain at the front of the tent.

9 You are to join five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves, and you are to double over the sixth curtain at the front of the tent.

9 And thou shalt couple five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves, and shalt double the sixth curtain in the forefront of the tabernacle.

10 You shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in the *first* set, and fifty loops on the edge of the curtain *that is outermost in* the second set.

10 You shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in the *first* set, and fifty loops on the edge of the curtain *that is outermost in* the second set.

10 You are to make 50 loops along the edge of the outermost curtain in the first set, and 50 loops along the edge of the curtain of the other set.

10 And thou shalt make fifty loops on the edge of the one curtain that is outmost in the coupling, and fifty loops in the edge of the curtain which coupleth the second.

11 "You shall also make fifty clasps of **bronze**, and you shall put the clasps into the loops and join the tent together so that it will be a unit.

11 "You shall make fifty clasps of bronze, and you shall put the clasps into the loops and join the tent together so that it will be a unit.

11 You are to make 50 bronze clasps, put the clasps into the loops, and join the tent together so that it will be one piece.

11 And thou shalt make fifty taches of brass, and put the taches into the loops, and couple the tent together, that it may be one.

- "...bronze" - represents judgment

12 The overhanging part that is left over in the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that is left over, shall hang over the back of the tabernacle.

12 The overlapping part that is left over in the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that is left over, shall lap over the back of the tabernacle.

12 As for the excess that remains of the curtains of the tent—the half curtain that remains—is to hang over the back of the tent.

12 And the remnant that remaineth of the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that remaineth, shall hang over the backside of the tabernacle.

13 The cubit on one side and the cubit on the other, of what is left over in the length of the curtains of the tent, shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle on one side and on the other, to cover it.

13 The cubit on one side and the cubit on the other, of what is left over in the length of the curtains of the tent, shall lap over the sides of the tabernacle on one side and on the other, to cover it.

13 The half cubit that remain on either end of the length of the curtains of the tent is to hang over each side of the tent to cover it.

13 And a cubit on the one side, and a cubit on the other side of that which remaineth in the length of the curtains of the tent, it shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle on this side and on that side, to cover it.

- Each curtain is slightly larger than the previous covering so that it completely covers the previous layer

14 And you shall make a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red and a covering of fine leather above.

14 You shall make a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red and a covering of porpoise skins above.

14 "You are to make a cover for the tent of ram skins dyed red and a covering of dolphin skins above that.

14 And thou shalt make a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering above of badgers' skins.

- Ram's skins 1st appear in Gen 3:21; 22:13 (Cain and Abel, faith vs works issue)

- In Gen 22, the ram is substituted for Isaac, the substitutionary ram

(ii) Side boards (26:15-25)

15 "Then you shall make the boards for the tabernacle of acacia wood, standing upright.

15 "Then you shall make the boards for the tabernacle of acacia wood, standing upright.

15 "You are to make upright boards of acacia wood for the tent.

15 And thou shalt make boards for the tabernacle of shittim wood standing up.

16 Ten cubits *shall be* the length of each board and one and a half cubits the width of each board.

16 Ten cubits *shall be* the length of each board and one and a half cubits the width of each board.

16 Each board is to be ten cubits long and one and a half cubits wide.

16 Ten cubits shall be the length of a board, and a cubit and a half shall be the breadth of one board.

17 *There shall be* two **tenons** for each board, fitted to one another; that is what you shall do for all the boards of the tabernacle.

17 *There shall be* two tenons for each board, fitted to one another; thus you shall do for all the boards of the tabernacle.

17 Each board is to have two pegs joined to one another, and you are to do this for all the boards of the tent.

17 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.

- "...tenons" - Hebrew can mean an extension, tongue and groove type, or it can mean "hand"

18 You shall make the boards for the tabernacle: twenty boards for the south side.

18 You shall make the boards for the tabernacle: twenty boards for the south side.

18 You are to make the boards for the tent: 20 boards for the south side.

18 And thou shalt make the boards for the tabernacle, twenty boards on the south side southward.

19 You shall make forty bases of silver under the twenty boards, two bases under one board for its two tenons and two bases under another board for its two tenons;

19 You shall make forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards, two sockets under one board for its two tenons and two sockets under another board for its two tenons;

19 And you are to make 40 silver sockets under the 20 boards: two sockets under the one board for its two pegs and two sockets under the next board for its two pegs.

19 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.

20 and for the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side, twenty boards,

20 and for the second side of the tabernacle, on the north side, twenty boards,

20 "For the second side of the tent to the north you are to make 20 boards

20 And for the second side of the tabernacle on the north side there shall be twenty boards:

21 and their forty bases of silver; two bases under one board and two bases under another board.

21 and their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board and two sockets under another board.

21 and 40 silver sockets for them, two sockets under one board and two sockets under the next board.

21 And their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board.

22 For the back of the tabernacle, to the west, you shall make six boards.

22 For the rear of the tabernacle, to the west, you shall make six boards.

22 On the west you are to make six boards for the rear of the tent,

22 And for the sides of the tabernacle westward thou shalt make six boards.

23 You shall make two boards for the corners of the tabernacle at the back.

23 You shall make two boards for the corners of the tabernacle at the rear.

23 and you are to make two boards for the rear corners of the tent.

23 And two boards shalt thou make for the corners of the tabernacle in the two sides.

24 They shall be double beneath, and together they shall be complete to its top to the first ring; this is how it shall be with both of them: they shall form the two corners.

24 They shall be double beneath, and together they shall be complete to its top to the first ring; thus it shall be with both of them: they shall form the two corners.

24 They shall be interlocked together at the bottom and connected on top by one ring. Do this for the two of them, and they are to be the two corners.

24 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.

25 And there shall be eight boards with their bases of silver, sixteen bases; two bases under one board and two bases under another board.

25 There shall be eight boards with their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board and two sockets under another board.

25 There is to be eight boards with their sixteen silver sockets, two sockets under one board and two sockets under the next board.

25 And they shall be eight boards, and their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board.

(iii) Bars (26:26-30)

26 "Then you shall make bars of acacia wood, five for the boards of one side of the tabernacle,

26 "Then you shall make bars of acacia wood, five for the boards of one side of the tabernacle,

26 "You are to make bars of acacia wood, five for the boards on one side of the tent,

26 And thou shalt make bars of shittim wood; five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle,

27 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 back *side* to the west.

27 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 rear *side* to the west.

27 five bars for the boards on the second side of the tent, and five bars for the boards on the back side of the tent to the west.

27 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.

28 The middle bar in the center of the boards shall pass through from end to end.

28 The middle bar in the center of the boards shall pass through from end to end.

28 The center bar in the middle of the boards is to pass through from end to end.

28 And the middle bar in the midst of the boards shall reach from end to end.

- Basically, these boards are the height of the Tabernacle, they are side by side. Each board is sitting on silver blocks, (some estimate that the blocks weighed over 100 lbs each)

- 96 are here described. This foundation seems a bit excessive for a portable building.

- Silver (Ex 30:13; Lev 27:3) is redemption money (Lev 17:10-11; 1 Peter 1:18; 1 Cor 6:20)

— Silver in the Old Testament is equivalent to blood, it is the blood money used for redemption (a ransom money paid to God)

— It was this silver that was brought together to make the foundation of the Tabernacle

— Silver Levitically speaks of blood (Matt 27:3-4)

— Thus, everything in the entire Tabernacle sat on silver sockets; the entire structure rests upon the blood of Jesus Christ. Every detail points to the cross! (1 Cor 3:11)

29 And you shall overlay the boards with gold, and make their rings of gold as holders for the bars; and you shall overlay the bars with gold.

29 You shall overlay the boards with gold and make their rings of gold as holders for the bars; and you shall overlay the bars with gold.

29 You are to overlay the boards with gold, and you are to make gold rings for them as holders for the bars, and you are to overlay the bars with gold.

29 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.

30 Then you shall erect the tabernacle according to its plan which you have been shown on the mountain.

30 Then you shall erect the tabernacle according to its plan which you have been shown in the mountain.

30 You are to erect the tent according to the plan for it that was shown you on the mountain.

30 And thou shalt rear up the tabernacle according to the fashion thereof which was shewed thee in the mount.

(iv) Veil (26:31-35)

31 "You shall also make a veil of violet, purple, and scarlet *material*, and fine twisted linen; it shall be made with cherubim, the work of a skilled embroiderer.

31 "You shall make a veil of blue and purple and scarlet *material* and fine twisted linen; it shall be made with cherubim, the work of a skillful workman.

31 "You are to make a curtain of blue, purple, and scarlet material, and fine woven linen. You are to make it with cherubim skillfully worked into it.

31 And thou shalt make a veil of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made:

- The veil separated the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place, the Ark of the Covenant from the other furniture.

- The veil symbolized access to God. It marked separation of the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place, and the High Priest from the other priests. It also symbolized the separation of God and man.

- Only one man, from one family, from one tribe, from one nation, in the entire world was allowed into the Holy of Holies, the presence of God.

- It was this veil that was split from top to bottom at the moment of Jesus' death (Matt 27:51).

- The rending of the veil symbolized the removal of the separation between God and man, broken by the death of Christ. Everyone now has access to God through faith (Heb 9:12; 10:19-22). Access to God was no longer limited to one man, but now to all who accept Jesus as the Messiah.

— The veil is also a symbol of the body of Jesus (Heb 10:20). It was through the death of His body that this access is now provided.

32 Then you shall hang it on four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold, their hooks *also of* gold, on four bases of silver.

32 You shall hang it on four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold, their hooks *also being of* gold, on four sockets of silver.

32 You are to hang it on four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold, which have hooks of gold, and are set on four sockets of silver.

32 And thou shalt hang it upon four pillars of shittim wood overlaid with gold: their hooks shall be of gold, upon the four sockets of silver.

33 You shall hang up the veil under the clasps, and bring in the ark of the testimony there within the veil; and the veil shall serve as a partition for you between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place.

33 You shall hang up the veil under the clasps, and shall bring in the ark of the testimony there within the veil; and the veil shall serve for you as a partition between the holy place and the holy of holies.

33 You are to hang the curtain from the clasps and bring the Ark of the Testimony there inside the curtain. The curtain is to separate for you the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place.

33 And thou shalt hang up the vail under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the vail the ark of the testimony: and the vail shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy.

34 You shall put the atoning cover on the ark of the testimony in the Most Holy Place.

34 You shall put the mercy seat on the ark of the testimony in the holy of holies.

34 "You are to put the Mercy Seat on the Ark of the Testimony in the Most Holy Place.

34 And thou shalt put the mercy seat upon the ark of the testimony in the most holy place.

35 And you shall set the table outside the veil, and the lampstand opposite the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south; and you shall put the table on the north side.

35 You shall set the table outside the veil, and the lampstand opposite the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south; and you shall put the table on the north side.

35 You are to put the table outside the curtain. You are to put the table on the north side with the lamp stand opposite the table on the south side of the tent.

35 And thou shalt set the table without the vail, and the candlestick over against the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south: and thou shalt put the table on the north

side.

(v) Drapes covering doorway (26:36-37)

36 "You shall also make a curtain for the doorway of the tent of violet, purple, and scarlet *material* and fine twisted linen, the work of a weaver.

36 "You shall make a screen for the doorway of the tent of blue and purple and scarlet *material* and fine twisted linen, the work of a weaver.

36 For the doorway of the tent you are to make a screen of blue, purple, and scarlet material, and with fine woven linen, the work of an embroiderer.

36 And thou shalt make an hanging for the door of the tent, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework.

- The purpose of the "screen" was to function as the door of the tent.

— The screen (door) taught the separation of Levites from non-Levites. Just as the veil separated the high priest from other priests, the screen separated the Tribe of Levi from all other tribes of Israel. Only Levites could enter the first room of the Tabernacle.

37 And you shall make five pillars of acacia for the curtain and overlay them with gold, their hooks *also of* gold; and you shall cast five bases of bronze for them.

37 You shall make five pillars of acacia for the screen and overlay them with gold, their hooks *also being of* gold; and you shall cast five sockets of bronze for them.

37 You are to make five pillars of acacia for the screens and overlay them with gold. Their hooks shall be of gold, and you are to cast five bronze sockets for them."

37 And thou shalt make for the hanging five pillars of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold, and their hooks shall be of gold: and thou shalt cast five sockets of brass for them.

- Veil (Heb 9:2-5,11-12,23-25); This Veil was for the Tabernacle; it is later replaced in the Temple, which was 18 inches thick! (Matt 27:50-51; Mark 15; Luke 23).

- The Veil was always regarded as a partition between God and man, and when Jesus Christ was crucified and gave up the Spirit, the veil was torn in two, symbolizing the opening of the way between God and man.

— It was that "way" which the cherubim were to guard from Eden onwards

— The protection of a path from God to man, of which Christ's crucifixion is the climax of the whole program

— Torn from "top to bottom" symbolizing that it was God's entire doing, we did not do anything