

CHARITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2025

ANSWERS

The Tabernacle and God's Presence
The Study of Exodus Chapter 25

1. What is the central theme of Exodus 25?

ANSWER

The central theme of Exodus 25 is God's instructions for building the Tabernacle, a sacred space where His presence would dwell among the Israelites. It highlights the significance of worship, obedience, and reverence for God.

2. What is the significance of the offerings God asked the Israelites to bring?

ANSWER:

In Exodus 25:1-7, God instructs the Israelites to bring offerings of gold, silver, bronze, and other precious materials. The voluntary offerings reflect the people's willingness to give generously to God. These materials will be used to build the Tabernacle and its furnishings. Giving signifies the Israelites' commitment to God and acknowledgment of His holiness and majesty.

3. What was the purpose of the Ark of the Covenant, and how was it constructed?

ANSWER:

The Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 25:10-22) was the central and most important piece of furniture in the Tabernacle. It was a wooden chest overlaid with gold, containing the tablets of the Law (the Ten Commandments). The Ark represented the presence of God and His covenant with Israel. It was constructed with specific dimensions, and its lid was called the "Mercy Seat," where God's presence would appear. Two cherubim were placed on top, facing each other with wings extended.

4. What is the significance of the Mercy Seat on the Ark of the Covenant?

ANSWER:

The Mercy Seat (Exodus 25:17-22) was the lid of the Ark of the Covenant, where God promised to meet with Moses and speak to him. The Mercy Seat symbolized God's mercy and grace, where atonement for sin could be made. It was also a place where the blood of sacrifices would be sprinkled on the Day of Atonement, representing God's forgiveness for the people's sins. The cherubim on the Mercy Seat symbolizes the holiness and protection of God's presence.

5. What is the Table for the Bread of the Presence, and what was its purpose?

ANSWER:

The Table for the Bread of the Presence (Exodus 25:23-30) was a golden table in the Tabernacle on which twelve loaves of bread were placed, representing the twelve tribes of Israel. The bread was considered a symbol of God's provision and presence. It was also a continual offering to God, renewed every Sabbath and eaten by the priests as a part of their service in the Tabernacle.

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6. What is the significance of the Golden Lampstand (Menorah)?

ANSWER:

The Golden Lampstand (Exodus 25:31-40) was made of pure gold and had seven lamps, symbolizing the light of God's presence in the Tabernacle. The lamps were to burn continually, providing light for the Holy Place. The lampstand also represents God's guidance, as light is often a biblical metaphor for His truth and direction for His people.

7. How does the Tabernacle reflect the nature of God and His relationship with Israel?

ANSWER:

The Tabernacle reflects God's desire to dwell with His people, signifying His holiness and presence. It demonstrates His provision and care and the necessity of worship and reverence. The intricate design of the Tabernacle and its furnishings show the importance of obedience to God's commands and the seriousness of approaching God in a holy and reverent manner.

8. Why do you think God was so specific in His instructions for the Tabernacle's construction?

ANSWER:

God's detailed instructions emphasize His holiness and the importance of following His commands precisely. The Tabernacle was where God's presence would dwell, and it had to be constructed to reflect His glory and purity. By giving precise instructions, God ensured that the people would honor Him correctly, teaching them the value of obedience and reverence in worship.

9. How can we apply the lessons from Exodus 25 to our lives today?

ANSWER:

- **Worship and Reverence:** Just as the Israelites were instructed to create a sacred space for God, we are called to honor and revere God.
- **Generosity in Giving:** The voluntary offerings show that God values the heart behind our giving. We are encouraged to give generously and cheerfully to God's work.
- **Obedience:** The meticulous instructions remind us of the importance of obeying God's word. Obedience to God's guidance leads to a deeper relationship with Him.
- **God's Presence:** Just as God's presence dwelled in the Tabernacle, He promises to be with us through His Holy Spirit today. We should seek to cultivate an awareness of His presence in our lives.