

The Heart of the Work: Building for the Glory of God

As we read Exodus Chapter 36, we find ourselves at a remarkable point in the history of Israel. Up to this point, God has been giving the blueprints—the "how-to" of the Tabernacle. But now, the vision becomes a reality. This isn't just about construction; it's about the heart.

In verses 1 and 2, we see that the Lord called Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every "*wise-hearted*" man. Notice that phrase: "*whose heart the LORD had put the wisdom, even everyone whose heart had stirred him up.*" This is how the work of God is always accomplished. It isn't through high-pressure sales tactics or emotional manipulation. It's through the stirring of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of willing people. When God wants to do a work, He doesn't look for the most "capable" by the world's standards; He looks for the available and the willing. When your heart is stirred by the Lord, service isn't a legalistic chore—it's a privilege.

The Overflow of Grace

The people were so moved by God's grace that they brought "*much more than enough.*" Moses actually had to issue a proclamation to tell the people to *stop* giving!

Can you imagine? "Please, people, no more gold! We have too much!" That is a picture of true revival. It's what happens when a group of people realizes that everything they have belongs to the Lord anyway. They weren't checking a box; they were responding to the goodness of a God who had delivered them from bondage.

Beauty in the Details

As the chapter progresses, we see the meticulous assembly of the Tabernacle:

- The Linen and Goats' Hair Curtains: Providing both beauty on the inside and protection on the outside.
- The Rams' Skins Dyed Red: A beautiful picture of the covering we have through the blood.
- The Gold and Silver: Every board was overlaid with gold, and every pillar sat in a socket of silver.

Think about the sheer value here. In today's market, we are talking about millions of dollars in gold and silver. But why such opulence for a tent in the middle of a dusty desert? Because this was a model of heavenly things. Every stitch, every golden ring, and every silver socket pointed to a greater reality.

A Pattern of Obedience

In the following chapters, we see a recurring phrase: "*as the LORD commanded Moses.*" They didn't "improve" on God's design. They didn't try to make it more "modern" or "culturally relevant" by changing the blueprints. They simply obeyed.

The Tabernacle was a shadow, but the substance is found in Jesus Christ. We see the gold of His deity and the silver of His redemption. We see the scarlet thread of His sacrifice woven through every page of the Bible.

Practical Application

1. Check Your Heart-Stirring: Are you serving the Lord out of "ought to" or "get to"? Ask the Holy Spirit to stir your heart afresh today.
2. Offer Your Craft: Bezaleel was a craftsman. Whatever your skill—whether it's accounting, parenting, or building—do it "as unto the Lord." There is no "secular" work for the believer; it is all "service of the sanctuary."

A Challenge for the Believer

Are you holding back what God has stirred you to give? Whether it is your time, your talent, or your treasure, remember that you cannot out-give God. I challenge you this week to step out in that area where the Spirit is tugging on your heart. Don't wait for a "better time." The work is ready, and the Lord wants to use *you*.

An Invitation to New Life

Perhaps you're reading this and you feel like you're wandering in a desert of your own. You've been trying to build your own life, but it's falling apart.

The Tabernacle was the place where God met man, but today, God meets us through His Son, Jesus Christ. Two thousand years ago, Jesus went to a cross. He didn't just give gold or silver; He shed His precious blood to pay the price for your sins. When He died, He took your judgment. When He rose again three days later, He proved forever that He is God, Savior, and Lord.

He is not looking for you to "fix yourself up" first. He's looking for a willing heart. If you will turn from your sin and put your trust in Him today, He will forgive you, seal you with His Spirit, and give you a purpose that lasts for eternity.

Would you like to pray right now and ask Jesus to be your Lord and Savior?

That is the most important decision you will ever make. It's not about a religious ritual or joining a club; it's about a relationship with the Living God who loves you and gave Himself for you.

When Jesus shed His blood on that cross, He paid a debt you could never pay. And when He rose from the dead, He conquered death once and for all, proving He is exactly who He said He is—the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

If you're ready to surrender your life to Him, you can pray this prayer right now. The words aren't a "magic formula," but if they represent the sincere cry of your heart, God hears you:

"Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that You are the Son of God and that You died on the cross to pay for my sins. I believe that You rose again from the grave, proving You are the Lord of all."

Right now, I turn from my way and I turn to You. I ask You to forgive me, to wash me clean, and to come into my life. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit and help me to follow You all the days of my life. Thank You for saving me. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Welcome to the Family!

If you prayed that prayer and meant it, the Bible tells us that there is a celebration in heaven right now. You have passed from death into life!

What's next?

- Get into the Word: Start reading the Gospel of John. It's the best place to get to know the heart of the Savior who just saved you.
- Talk to God: Prayer is just talking to Him like a friend. He wants to hear from you.
- Find a Fellowship: Look for a Bible study group where they teach the Bible simply, verse by verse, so you can grow in your new faith.