

Exodus

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Moses' return from God's presence 34:29-35

- The face of Moses was shining from being in the presence of God so that the people were afraid to come near him.
- Moses called the people to him to relate what God had commanded.
- Moses put a veil over his face.

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The significance of the shining face of Moses

The New American Commentary: An Exegetical and Theological Exposition of Holy Scripture: Exodus Vol.2 by Douglas Stuart, pp. 735,736

1. It confirmed—even reestablished—his leadership role as intermediary with God on behalf of the people.
2. It confirmed Yahweh's presence.
3. It confirmed Yahweh's greatness
4. A reminder that close communion with God will be evident to those around us.
5. 2 Corinthians 3:7-18 contrasts the fading glory of the face of Moses to the lasting glory of those who are a part of the New Covenant through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Moses related to the people again the commands of Yahweh 35:1-4

- Verse 1 indicates that he again related all the commands to them.
- The Sabbath is emphasized since it is the observable and concrete way the people can show their obedience to God on a regular basis.
 - The tabernacle was some months off from completion so the offerings and practices related to it would not be observed until it had been completed and consecrated.
 - The restatement of the penalty for breaking the Sabbath, again emphasizes the pivotal place in this practice to identify them as God's distinct people.
 - Food must be prepared in advance since no fire could be kindled on the Sabbath.

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Contributions to build and equip the Tabernacle. 35:4-36-7 (See 25:1-9)

- This consisted of
 - A list of materials required 35:5-9
 - Labor and skills needed 35:10-35
- God had provided for these contributions by having the Israelites “plunder” the Egyptians before they left. Exodus 3:22; 12:36
- God provided people with the skills needed to do the work.

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Contributions to build and equip the Tabernacle. 35:4-36-7

- The giving was not coerced but the people were informed and everyone was given the opportunity to give
 - ²¹ And they came, **everyone whose heart stirred him, and everyone whose spirit moved him**, and brought the LORD’s contribution to be used for the tent of meeting, and for all its service, and for the holy garments. ²² So they came, **both men and women. All who were of a willing heart** brought brooches and earrings and signet rings and armlets, all sorts of gold objects, every man dedicating an offering of gold to the LORD.
Exodus 35:21-22 (ESV)
 - ²⁹ All the men and women, the people of Israel, **whose heart moved them** to bring anything for the work that the LORD had commanded by Moses to be done brought it as **a freewill offering** to the LORD.
Exodus 35:29 (ESV)

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Contributions to build and equip the Tabernacle. 35:4-36-7

- The leaders led the way in giving.
 - ²⁷ And the leaders brought onyx stones and stones to be set, for the ephod and for the breastpiece, ²⁸ and spices and oil for the light, and for the anointing oil, and for the fragrant incense.
Exodus 35:27-28 (ESV)
- The giving overwhelmed the need.
 - ⁵ and said to Moses, “The people bring much more than enough for doing the work that the LORD has commanded us to do.” ⁶ So Moses gave command, and word was proclaimed throughout the camp, “Let no man or woman do anything more for the contribution for the sanctuary.” So the people were restrained from bringing, ⁷ for the material they had was sufficient to do all the work, and more.
Exodus 36:5-7 (ESV)

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Detailed description of the construction of the Tabernacle and all the related items. 36:8-38:20

- Parallel to the descriptions and instructions given in 25:10-27:21; 30:1-31:11

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Accounting of the material for the Tabernacle. 38:21-31

- Although it is difficult to know the standards that were used for weights in ancient times, the general agreement is that a talent was about 75 pounds. The amount of gold used here would equal about a metric ton (2,205 pounds). 29 talents and 730 shekels
- We can establish that there were 3000 shekels in a talent from verses 25 and 26. 603,550 people gave a half-shekel amounting to a total of 100 talents and 1775 shekels of silver.
- Bronze given was 70 talents 2400 shekels

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Detailed description of the making of the garments for the Aaron, the High Priest and for Aaron's sons. 39:1-31

- Parallel description and instructions in 28:1-43

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Completion of the Tabernacle 39:32-40:33

- The people completed the work as they had been instructed resulting in a blessing by Moses. 39:32-43
- The tabernacle and tent of meeting was erected on the first day of the first month of the second year of the exodus. It has now been one year since they left Egypt.
- All the articles were put in place and consecrated with the anointing oil.
- Aaron and his sons were dressed on their special garments and they were anointed with the anointing oil as well establishing a perpetual priesthood through the line of Aaron.

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The glory of Yahweh expressed at the tabernacle. 40:34-38

- The glory of the Yahweh filled the temple so that even Moses was not able to enter. 1 Kings 8:11; 2 Chronicles 5:14; 7:2
- In future times the indication for the people to move was when the cloud of God's glory rose above the tabernacle.
- This was expressed in a cloud by day and fire by night. This was the visible assurance of the presence of God among His people and a confirmation that He had answered Moses' prayer that He would be with them.