

The Tabernacle, Christ, and the Church

-A study through the second half of the book of Exodus-

-Lesson 2-

Hermeneutical approach

-We must understand that this portion is _____. Therefore, it has been breathed out by God and is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16). This means that God has divinely included this portion about the Tabernacle for us because it is necessary for us.

-We must read the _____ Testament in light of the _____ Testament. The New Testament is the explanation of how Christ fulfilled the Old Testament. The Old Testament was pointing us forward to Christ through various pictures, types, themes, etc. Whereas the New Testament is the realization of all of those images. Therefore, we must have a firm grasp on the New Testament to be able to properly understand the Old Testament.

“In the Old the New is concealed, and in the New the Old is revealed.”-Augustine

-The Holy Spirit is needed to rightly understand Scripture. The Scriptures are God’s Word, and His Spirit is _____ to illuminate the Word.

-We must read them through the lens of _____. Jesus declared that all of the OT was about Himself. We should listen to our Lord and seek to understand the OT in such a way as to point us to Christ. This has been the way that the church through the centuries has read and understood the OT.

“He (Jesus) said, the study of Scripture must be centered on Him. In Witsius’ words, Jesus is ‘they key of knowledge...without which nothing can be savingly understood in Moses and the prophets.’”-Hyde

-We must seek to keep our interpretation _____. Not in every small detail of the Tabernacle are we to find some secret and hidden meaning. We will discuss the main elements and seek to understand them in light of Christ and the further teachings of Scripture.

Let’s Begin-A generous spirit is the appropriate response to God’s grace (Exodus 25:1-9 & 35:4-36:7)

-God did not need the people to give of their goods so that the Tabernacle could be made. The God who made everything out of nothing could have done that again. However, God’s plan is to have His people _____ in His work. God desires to bring glory to Himself by bringing His people along into His plan for the world.

“God could have created a house for His name out of nothing. Yet God determined that the tabernacle was to be created through the ordinary means of

His people's giving. For this reason, the tabernacle narratives do not begin with a mallet, chisel, or measuring line, but with an offering plate."-Hyde

-While God desires His people to be involved in His plan for the world, He does not want simple obedience, but He wants obedience flowing from a right _____ (love, gratitude, etc.). The heart behind our obedience matters most (Exodus 35:4-5).

NOW HOLD ON! While that statement is indeed true, it is not to be used as a way out of obeying when you don't feel like it. We are so sluggish and sinful that we will often not feel like obeying but we should still do it anyways. To not do something that God commands because you don't feel like it is just to heap sin upon sin. Sometimes it may seem like "duty" but we should still do right and ask God to help us to think more upon His mercies so that we begin to obey with _____.

-The motivation that moved the people to give generously was God's saving _____ (freeing them from Egyptian bondage) and His gracious forgiveness (forgiven from their heinous and blatant idolatry at the foot of the mountain).

-The more we think about and meditate upon God's _____ to us the more our obedience will be coupled with joy. As we grow in our knowledge of God's goodness for us, we will actually begin to find more and more joy and pleasure in doing what He commands.

"There is no contradiction between what we must do and what we want to do as God's people. The movement of the Israelites' redeemed hearts to give the Lord an offering was in complete unison with the Lord's will for their lives."-Hyde

-The people were so thankful to the Lord that they were exceedingly _____ and counted it as a little thing to give back generously to the Lord. They actually had to be stopped from giving by Moses because they were bringing too much (Exodus 36:3-7).

"What moved the hearts of the Israelites to be willing and generous? It was the operation of the Holy Spirit, who applies the gracious work of God to their hearts...In a word, grace led to gratitude; mercy moved their hearts."-Hyde

-This is still the way it should be for God's people (2 Corinthians 8:1-9). Giving of our monetary offerings to the Lord should be simply the natural outpouring of our hearts to God's amazing _____ that has been given to us. What was Zacchaeus's response to grace? (Luke 19:1-9)

-The offerings of the people were used by God to support the work of the _____. God wanted the people to not only supply the building and all its materials but also to support those who would minister.

BONUS MATERIAL-Discussion of article from the Journal of the Evangelical Theology Society (JETS), "Equipping" Ministry in Ephesians 4? by T. David Gordon