

STRICT OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH

TEXT: **EXODUS 35:1-3:**

1 And Moses gathered all the congregation of the Children of Israel together, and said unto them, These are the Words which the LORD hath commanded, that ye should do them.

2 Six days shall work be done, but on the seventh day there shall be to you an holy day, a Sabbath of rest to the LORD: whosoever doeth work therein shall be put to death.

3 Ye shall kindle no fire throughout your habitations upon the Sabbath day.

God commands a STRICT observance of the SABBATH DAY. If anyone should disobey, then the DEATH PENALTY was their punishment for rebelling against the Word of The Lord.

This is a repetition of many previous instructions, some of which are:

Exodus 16:23-24:

23 And he said unto them, This is that which the LORD hath said, Tomorrow is the **REST** of the **HOLY SABBATH** unto the LORD: bake that which ye will bake to day, and seethe that ye will seethe; and that which remaineth over lay up for you to be kept until the morning.

24 And they laid it up till the morning, as Moses bade: and it did **not STINK**, **neither was there any WORM** therein.



Exodus 20:8-11:

8 Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy.

9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

10 But the seventh day is the **SABBATH** of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

11 For in six days the LORD made Heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and **RESTED** the seventh day: wherefore the LORD **blessed** the **SABBATH DAY**, and **HALLOWED** it.

Exodus 23:12: Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt **REST: that thine ox and thine ass may rest, and the**

son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be **REFRESHED**.

Exodus 31:12-17:

¹² And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

¹³ Speak thou also unto the Children of Israel, saying, Verily **My Sabbaths** ye shall **KEEP**: for it is a **SIGN** between **ME** and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that **I AM THE LORD** that doth **SANTIFY** you.

¹⁴ Ye shall **KEEP THE SABBATH**

therefore; for it is **HOLY** unto you: every

one that defileth it shall **SURELY BE PUT TO DEATH**: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people.

¹⁵ Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the Sabbath of Rest, holy to the LORD: whosoever doeth any work in the Sabbath Day, he shall surely be put to death.

¹⁶ Wherefore the Children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, for a **PERPETUAL COVENANT**.

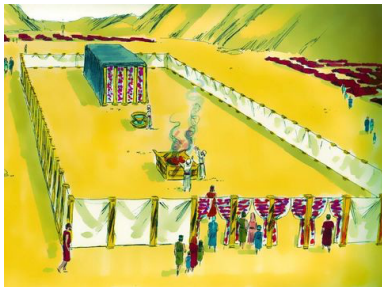
¹⁷ It is a **SIGN** between **ME** and the Children of Israel for ever: for in six days the LORD made Heaven and earth, and on the seventh day **HE RESTED**, and was **REFRESHED**.

Exodus 34:21: Six days thou shalt work, but on the seventh day thou shalt **REST**: in earing time and in harvest thou shalt **REST**.

GOD WANTS TO MEET US.

Exodus 25:22: And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the Mercy Seat, from between the two Cherubims which are upon the Ark of the Testimony, of all things which I will give thee in Commandment unto the Children of Israel.

Exodus 29:42-45:



⁴² This shall be a continual Burnt Offering throughout your generations at the door of the Tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD: where I will meet you, to speak there unto thee.

⁴³ And there I will meet with the Children of Israel, and the Tabernacle shall be sanctified by My Glory.

⁴⁴ And I will sanctify the Tabernacle of the

**KEEP THE
SABBATH HOLY**

congregation, and the altar: I will sanctify also both Aaron and his sons, to minister to Me in the Priest's office.

⁴⁵ And I will dwell among the Children of Israel, and will be their God.

GOD WANTS TO DWELL IN OUR MIDST.

***Exodus 25:8:** And let them make Me a Sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.*

Exodus 29:45-46:

⁴⁵ And I will dwell among the Children of Israel, and will be their God.

⁴⁶ And they shall know that I am the LORD their God, Who brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them: I am the LORD their God.

***Leviticus 26:12:** And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be My People.*

GOD WANTS TO COMMUNE WITH US.

***Exodus 25:22:** And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the Mercy Seat, from between the two Cherubims which are upon the Ark of the Testimony, of all things which I will give thee in Commandment unto the Children of Israel.*

***Genesis 18:33:** And the LORD went His way, as soon as He had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.*

Moses informed the people of God that GOD WANTED TO HAVE A SANCTUARY in their midst where HE could DWELL AMONGST THEM.

The BUILDING MATERIALS were to be obtained on a FREE-WILL OFFERING PLAN. There was not to be any COERCION, COAXING, NO BEGGING, nor any HUMAN PERSUASION.

They were NOT to hold BAZAARS, CHURCH SUPPERS, RUMMAGE SALES, or bring in entertainers to raise the money and materials.

QUESTION: What motivated the Children of Israel to give so liberally:

ANSWER: Moses informed the people of God, that God wanted to have a SANCTUARY IN THEIR MIDST WHERE HE could DWELL AMONGST THEM.

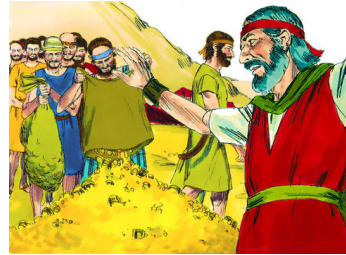
Exodus 29:44: *And I will sanctify the Tabernacle of the congregation, and the Altar: I will sanctify also both Aaron and his sons, to minister to Me in the Priest's office.*

Exodus 36:5-7:

⁵ *And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make.*

⁶ *And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the people were restrained from bringing.*

⁷ *For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much.*



Moses called for VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS of MATERIALS and LABOR in its construction, its equipment, and the vestments of the priests.

There was only ONE RESTRICTION, namely: the givers of gifts must do so WILLINGLY and WHOLE HEARTEDLY. There was not to be any extracting of money or materials from reluctant and begrudging hands or hearts.

Exodus 35:5: *Take ye from among you an offering unto the LORD: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the LORD; gold, and silver, and brass,*

Exodus 35:21-22:

²¹ *And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the LORD's Offering to the work of the Tabernacle of the congregation, and for all His service, and for the holy garments.*

²² *And they came, both men and women, as many as were willing hearted, and brought bracelets, and earrings, and rings, and tablets, all jewels of gold: and every man that offered offered an offering of gold unto the LORD.*



Exodus 35:29: *The Children of Israel brought a willing offering unto the LORD, every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to*

bring for all manner of work, which the LORD had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses.

NEW TESTAMENT

The same principle is established on instructions on giving in the New Testament .

It is recorded in:

2 Corinthians 9:6: But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

2 Corinthians 9:7: Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:8: And God is able to make all Grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

QUESTION: Where would all this equipment, materials, and supplies come from? Remember, these Israelites had been slaves in the land of Egypt, living in dire poverty.

ANSWER: God promised Abraham what He would do for His people after their sojourn in the land of Egypt for those four hundred plus years.

Genesis 15:13-14:

13 And He said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

Exodus 3:21-22:

21 And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, ye shall not go empty.

22 But every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in



her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.

Exodus 12:35-36:

35 And the Children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment:

36 And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as they required. And they spoiled the Egyptians.

Psalms 105:37-38:

37 He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

38 Egypt was glad when they departed: for the fear of them fell upon them.

We will learn from the willing contributions which the children of Israel made unto the Lord, the intent of their rewarded labors in slavery for over 430 years. They are listed here, 18 things which the people gave to Moses:

Exodus 35:22-28:

22 And they came, both men and women, as many as were willing hearted, and brought bracelets, and earrings, and rings, and tablets, all jewels of gold: and every man that offered offered an offering of gold unto the LORD.

23 And every man, with whom was found blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' hair, and red skins of rams, and badgers' skins, brought them.

24 Every one that did offer an offering of silver and brass brought the LORD's Offering: and every man, with whom was found shittim wood for any work of the service, brought it.

25 And all the women that were wise hearted did spin with their hands, and brought that which they had spun, both of blue, and of purple, and of scarlet, and of fine linen.

26 And all the women whose heart stirred them up in wisdom spun goats' hair.

27 And the rulers brought onyx stones, and stones to be set, for the

Ephod, and for the Breastplate;

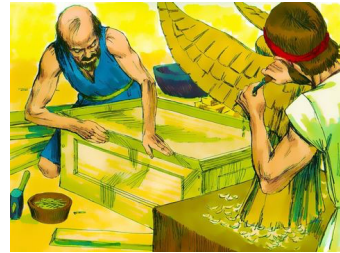
28 And spice, and oil for the light, and for the anointing oil, and for the sweet incense.

All of these gifts were given over and above their TITHES. The sum total of their giving is recorded is approximately 3 tons of silver and brass, and one ton of gold.

Exodus 38:24-25:

24 All the gold that was occupied for the work in all the work of the Holy Place, even the gold of the offering, was twenty and nine talents, and seven hundred and thirty shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary.

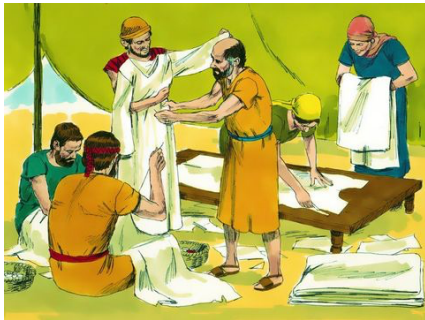
25 And the silver of them that were numbered of the congregation was an hundred talents, and a thousand seven hundred and threescore and fifteen shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary:



According to Dake's Bible footnotes, the total was over 23,400 pounds of metal with a net value of over \$1,000,000.00.

Did you notice the word "BROUGHT" is mentioned 7 times in verses 35:21-29?

Did you note that both Men and WOMEN are mentioned as being the contributors?



It is most important to make mention of the fact that GOD gave the workmen special help in equipping them for service. These special GIFTS were given by the HOLY SPIRIT.

**Two men's names are mentioned as the LEADERS to head up all this work.
Their names are:**

Bezaleel. His skills are mentioned as being a worker on gold, silver, brass, cutting of stones, carving of timber, plus the ability to be a teacher of others to share in their skills.

Exodus 31:2: See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the Tribe of Judah:

Exodus 35:30-33:

30 And Moses said unto the Children of Israel, See, the LORD hath called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the Tribe of Judah;

31 And He hath filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship;

32 And to devise curious works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass,

33 And in the cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of wood, to make any manner of cunning work.

Exodus 36:1-2:

1 Then wrought Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whom the LORD put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the service of the Sanctuary, according to all that the LORD had commanded.

2 And Moses called Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whose heart the LORD had put wisdom, even every one whose heart stirred him up to come unto the work to do it:

Aholiab's (who is Bezaleel's assistant). His skills were in engraving and embroidery.

Exodus 31:2-6:

2 See, I have called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the Tribe of Judah:

3 And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,

4 To devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass,

5 And in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.

6 And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the Tribe of Dan: and in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee;

Exodus 35:34-35:

34 And He hath put in his heart that he may teach, both he, and Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the Tribe of Dan.

35 Them hath He filled with wisdom of heart, to work all manner of work, of the engraver, and of the cunning workman, and of the embroiderer, in blue, and in purple, in scarlet, and in fine linen, and of the weaver, even of them that do any work, and of those that devise cunning work.

Exodus 36:1-2:

1 Then wrought Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whom the LORD put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the service of the Sanctuary, according to all that the LORD had commanded.

2 And Moses called Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whose heart the LORD had put wisdom, even every one whose heart stirred him up to come unto the work to do it:

The expression “CURIOUS WORKS” means artistic designs. The expression “Cunning Works” means skilled designer.

When all these men and women beheld the structure of the Tabernacle and all of its equipment, plus the garments of the High Priest and of the priests and Levites, they saw something more than quality workmanship. They saw themselves as a PART of the accomplishment.

QUESTION: How much of yourself do you see manifested in the success and effectiveness of This Sanctuary (the Place where *you* worship)?

Let us realize that THE CONTRIBUTIONS of materials alone would not meet the present need in the construction of the Tabernacle. It took gifted men and women, skillful hands, and willing and loving hearts DEDICATED TO THE LORD to realize its accomplishment.

QUESTION: Who then is WILLING TO CONSECRATE HIS SERVICE, THIS DAY, UNTO THE LORD?

1 Chronicles 29:5b: And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the LORD?

ANSWER: It is my sincere hope and desire and expectation that many of you will write down on a slip of paper what your various skills are, and what ones you are willing to consecrate to the service of the Lord in this Sanctuary.