

Yahweh Commissions a Sanctuary

Exodus 25:1-22

Lesson Theme: Yahweh seeks willing contributions from Israel to build a sanctuary for Him to dwell among them.

Outline:

1. Sanctuary Contributions (1-8)
 - A. Call and Purpose of the Contributions (1-2a, 8)
 - B. Motive for the Contributions (2a)

“God would not dwell among his people unless they invited him by properly preparing a house for him to inhabit/dwell in...thus indicating their willingness to live within the stipulations of his covenant and to honor him as their covenant sovereign by serving him there. It was not that God required a building with a courtyard in order to dwell somewhere; it was that he desired that the people make a home for him and then locate their houses/tents around his house/tent and join him regularly at his courtyard for covenant meals, confirming their ongoing relationship and receiving the blessings inherent therein.” Douglas K. Stuart, *Exodus*, The New American Commentary

C. Items Requested or the Contribution (3-7)

Metals (v. 3) - gold, silver and bronze

Fabrics (v. 4) - blue, purple and scarlet *material, fine linen, goat hair*

Skins and the wood (v. 5) - rams' skins dyed red, porpoise skins, acacia wood

Oil, spices (v. 6) - oil for lighting, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense

Gemstones (v. 7) - onyx stones and setting stones

2. Sanctuary Design (9-22)

A. Instructions for Building (9)

B. First Item: Ark of the Covenant (10-22)

Names:

Ark of the Lord (e.g., Josh. 4:11; 6:11), ark of God (e.g., 1 Sam. 4:11, 13, 17, 19, 21),

Ark of the covenant of the Lord (e.g., Josh. 9:11),

Ark of the covenant of God (Judg. 20:27),

and Ark of the testimony (i.e., of the law; e.g., Num. 4:5; 7:89).¹

Application...

1. Yahweh desires that our worship be from a willing heart – not out of compulsion (Ex 25:2).
2. Yahweh commands that our worship follow His Word – not our own thoughts (Ex 25:9).
3. Be encouraged in God's loving mercy that reaches out and enters into relationship with sinful men at great cost to Himself – atonement (Ex 25:17).

¹ Allen C. Myers, "ARK," in *The Eerdmans Bible Dictionary* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1987), 84.