

ONE STORY | ONE SAVIOR - UNIT 1 | LESSON 09

The Pentateuch – The Promise Given Through the Royal Gift Covenant

God is a PROMISE Making God

God 1) **CREATES** a place where 2) He will **MEET** with his People 3) for their **JOY**. 4) His People reject Him. 5) God binds Himself through **PROMISE (i.e. The Royal Gift Covenant)** to 6) **RESCUE** His people from their sin and 7) **RESTORE** them to Himself for their **JOY**.

ILLUSTRATION – "Winnie-the-Pooh" by A.A. Milne. Pooh and Christopher Robin walking hand-in-hand. What do you see in the picture? This picture captures the essence of friendship and adventure. Pooh and Christopher Robin's bond, their explorations of the Hundred Acre Wood, and the innocent, carefree world they inhabit are beautifully represented.

The picture tells us more than what we see. The Tabernacle is a "picture worth a thousand words." The "picture" speaks of who God is and who we are, and what God shall do in Jesus. The Tabernacle, as a picture, is a beautiful work of art.

VIDEO - Symbols of the Tabernacle | Animated Scripture Lesson for Kids




<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R7S9AzhvCb4> [Mormons made this video – stop it before it reaches the end, thanks]

“The Tabernacle”

The Tabernacle Teaches His People About Jesus

Exodus 25:1-9; 29:38, 42, 45, and 46

⁸And LET THEM MAKE ME A SANCTUARY, that I may dwell in their midst. ⁹Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it.

	<p>THE HEAD - To Know how the TABERNACLE typifies the believer's relationship to the Father. Q – What is your understanding of the TABERNACLE?</p>
	<p>THE HEART - To Choose the way God has laid out for His people to dwell with Him for their joy. Q – How the TABERNACLE help you picture your relationship to the Father?</p>
	<p>THE HAND - To Pray you will follow God's way into His presence. Q – How does your understanding of the TABERNACLE shape your daily life?</p>

EMPHASIS

The Tabernacle is a “mini” Garden imaging humanity’s relationship to God and God’s provision for humanity so that they might be in His presence for their joy.

The HEART of GOD is to dwell with His people for their joy.

The LAW is a venue for this “dwelling” to occur.

The Tabernacle reminded them of God’s redemptive purpose to restore them to Garden Joy. It is apparent from the chart provided on page 4 that each element of the furniture and the order of the furniture points to Jesus and our relationship to God.

LITERARY CONTEXT

40% of the Book of Exodus deals with the TABERNACLE [16 out of 40 Chapters].

The first occurrence of the word “TABERNACLE” in the Bible and in Exodus is 25:9

God has taken His people from Egypt (Exod. 1:1-15:21), then through the Wilderness (Exod. 15:22-18:1ff), and now they have arrived at Mt. Sinai (Exod. 19-Levi. 40). It is while at Mt. Sinai that God Teaches His People about the Seed Promise and Blood Picture through four shadows. Each of these shadows reveal Jesus. The shadow points to the substance that is JESUS. As each shadow is examined always be asking yourself, “How do I see Jesus in this?”

God Instructs His People to remember the *Story* by giving them four resources.

- First, the Law (Exod. 19-24),
- Secondly, the Tabernacle (Exod. 25-30),
- Thirdly, the Sacrificial System (Lev. 1-7), and
- Finally, the Feast Days (Lev. 23).

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

STRUCTURE

In today’s study, we will focus on four points concerning the TABERNACLE.

Exodus 25:8, 9

⁸ Let them construct a **sanctuary** for Me, that I may **dwell** among them. ⁹ According to all that I am going to show you, as the **pattern** of the tabernacle and the **pattern** of all its furniture, just so you shall construct it.

Exodus 29:38, 42, 45, 46

³⁸ Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two one year old lambs each day, continuously. ⁴² It shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at **the doorway of the tent of meeting before the LORD, where I will meet with you, to speak to you there.** ⁴⁵ I will dwell among the sons of Israel and will be their God. ⁴⁶ **They shall know that I am the LORD their God who brought them out of the land of Egypt,** that I might dwell among them; I am the LORD their God.

I. The Place (25:8 “sanctuary” / 29:42 “The tent of Meeting”)

“THE TENT OF MEETING”

This idea occurs 33 times in Exodus alone. Notice just their occurrence in Exodus 40:2, 6, 7, 12, 22, 24, 26, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35.

- See further John 14:1-7

Remember, Jesus in John 14 said He is going to prepare this place for your arrival

II. The Presence (25:6 “dwell” / 29:42 “I will meet with you”)

- See further the booklet “God With Us” and the study on Revelation 21, 22
- God dwelling with His people for their joy tracks throughout the Scripture.

Notice the occurrence of the word “dwell” [**shakan**] in Exodus.

- Exodus 24:16 And the glory of the LORD abode upon mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days: and the seventh day he called unto Moses out of the midst of the cloud.
- Exodus 25:8 And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.
- Exodus 29:45 And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will be their God.
- Exodus 29:46 And they shall know that I am the LORD their God, that brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them: I am the LORD their God.
- Exodus 40:35 And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

It is of interest to note how up until the moment, the language of God dwelling with His people doesn't occur. God does “appear” [ra'ah; Gen. 12:7; 17:1; 18:1; 26:2, 24; 48:3; Exod. 3:2], but He isn't dwelling among them for their joy. This is His intent, design, and direction, but that “dwelling” occurs as a consequence of Jesus.

Let us now note how the Tabernacle teases this idea out and expands on our language.

Another word “to meet” [ya'ad] occurs also in the passage. It is translated “betroth” in Exodus 21:8, 9. Otherwise it is translated “to meet” [25:22; **29:42, 43**; 30:6, 36]

Another significant word in this description is TABERNACLE.

“The word **mishcan** signifies literally **the dwelling or habitation**; and this was so called because it was the dwelling place of God; and the only place on the earth in which he made himself manifest.”¹ It occurs in 55 verses in Exodus. Its first occurrence in the Bible and in Exodus is right here in 25:9.

III. The Pattern (25:9, 40)

- See Hebrews 8:1-5

¹Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, ²a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man. ³For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; thus it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. ⁴Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law. ⁵**They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.”**

The earthly Tabernacle/Temple is only a shadow of the heavenly. The chart provided shows the typology of the Tabernacle as it relates to Jesus.

IV. The Passover (29:46)

The intent of all shadow is to point to the substance that is JESUS.

- Exodus 29:42-46

⁴²It shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the doorway of the tent of meeting before the LORD, where I will meet with you, to speak to you there. ⁴³I will meet there with the sons of Israel, and it shall be consecrated by My glory. ⁴⁴I will consecrate the tent of meeting and the altar; I will also consecrate Aaron and his sons to minister as priests to Me. ⁴⁵I will dwell among the sons of Israel and will be their God. ⁴⁶"They shall know that I am the LORD their God who brought them out of the land of Egypt, that I might dwell among them; I am the LORD their God.

JESUS IN THE TEXT

OT TABERNACLE SHADOW	NT SUBSTANCE JESUS
Bronze Altar	The Lamb [John 1:29, 36]
Bronze Laver	Cleansing Washing [Matt. 8:3; 10:8; 11:5; 1 John 1:7, 9]
Table of Shew bread	I am the Bread of Life [John 6:35, 48, 51]
Menorah 7 Branched Candlestick	I am the Light of the World [John 8:12; 9:5]
Altar of Incense	Advocate Intercessor [Rom. 8:34; Heb. 4:14-16; 7:25]
Ark of the Covenant	Immanuel [Matt. 1:23; Rev. 21, 22] Propitiation [1 Jn. 2:1, 2]

The Tabernacle faces the East. It is the same direction as the Garden of Eden. To enter the Tabernacle from the East is the reversing of the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve left from the East. The people now return from the East.

There is a natural and intended progression from the bronze altar to the Ark of the Covenant and everything in-between. We begin with the altar and we end in His presence.

The structure of the Tabernacle was intended to remind the people of the Garden of Eden. The Garden is the place of God where He meets His people for their joy.

ILLUSTRATION - "The Little Red Hen" The Little Red Hen asks her friends for help with planting, harvesting, and baking wheat into bread, but they refuse. She follows through with each task diligently. Her hard work and adherence to the process result in delicious bread, which she enjoys herself, teaching the value of hard work and following through on responsibilities.

The TABERNACLE is a picture or shadow of good things to come. We honor the picture from God in order to understand Him. Our fellowship with God is deepened as our knowledge of God increases.

APPLICATION

1. The only way for His people to know His joy is in His presence.
2. Have you come to Jesus for your joy from sin and death?

3. The Christian life is completely dependent on the person and work of Jesus as the Lamb of God, the remover of sin's stain, the bread of life, the light of the world, the intercessor, and the very presence of God. There is no one beside Him and there is nothing beyond Him.

Unless and until you come the way God says, you cannot come to God. Have you?

Like the Tabernacle, the local church gathering is to remind God's people of God's presence for their joy. When you go to church, you should think about seeing God for your joy and the joy of others.

VISUALS

MEMORY VERSE

Exodus 25:8

Let them construct a **sanctuary** for Me, that I may **dwell** among them.

RESOURCES

ENDNOTES

¹ Adam Clarke's Commentary on Exodus 25:9.