

**Tabernacle Construction – Part 2 (c. September 1446 – March 1445 BC)**

## Exodus 37–38

**Crafting the Ark of the Testimony**

37:1 Now Bezalel made the ark of acacia wood; its length was two and a half cubits, and its width one and a half cubits, and its height one and a half cubits;  
2 and he overlaid it with pure gold inside and out, and made a gold molding for it all around.  
3 He cast four rings of gold for it on its four feet; even two rings on one side of it, and two rings on the other side of it.  
4 He made poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold.  
5 He put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to carry it.

**Crafting the Cover of the Ark**

6 He made a mercy seat of pure gold, two and a half cubits long and one and a half cubits wide.  
7 He made two cherubim of gold; he made them of hammered work at the two ends of the mercy seat;  
8 one cherub at the one end and one cherub at the other end; he made the cherubim *of one piece* with the mercy seat at the two ends.  
9 The cherubim had *their* wings spread upward, covering the mercy seat with their wings, with their faces toward each other; the faces of the cherubim were toward the mercy seat.

**Crafting the Table of the Bread of the Presence**

10 Then he made the table of acacia wood, two cubits long and a cubit wide and one and a half cubits high.  
11 He overlaid it with pure gold, and made a gold molding for it all around.  
12 He made a rim for it of a handbreadth all around, and made a gold molding for its rim all around.  
13 He cast four gold rings for it and put the rings on the four corners that were on its four feet.  
14 Close by the rim were the rings, the holders for the poles to carry the table.  
15 He made the poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold, to carry the table.  
16 He made the utensils which were on the table, its dishes and its pans and its bowls and its jars, with which to pour out drink offerings, of pure gold.

**Crafting the Golden Lampstand**

17 Then he made the lampstand of pure gold. He made the lampstand of hammered work, its base and its shaft; its cups, its bulbs and its flowers were *of one piece* with it.  
18 There were six branches going out of its sides; three branches of the lampstand from the one side of it and three branches of the lampstand from the other side of it;  
19 three cups shaped like almond *blossoms*, a bulb and a flower in one branch, and three cups shaped like almond *blossoms*, a bulb and a flower in the other branch—so for the six branches going out of the lampstand.  
20 In the lampstand *there were* four cups shaped like almond *blossoms*, its bulbs and its flowers;  
21 and a bulb was under the *first* pair of branches *coming* out of it, and a bulb under the *second* pair of branches *coming* out of it, and a bulb under the *third* pair of branches *coming* out of it, for the six branches coming out of the lampstand.  
22 Their bulbs and their branches were *of one piece* with it; the whole of it *was* a single hammered work of pure gold.  
23 He made its seven lamps with its snuffers and its trays of pure gold.  
24 He made it and all its utensils from a talent of pure gold.

**Crafting the Altar of Incense**

25 Then he made the altar of incense of acacia wood: a cubit long and a cubit wide, square, and two cubits high; its horns were *of one piece* with it.

26 He overlaid it with pure gold, its top and its sides all around, and its horns; and he made a gold molding for it all around.

27 He made two golden rings for it under its molding, on its two sides—on opposite sides—as holders for poles with which to carry it.

28 He made the poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with gold.

### **Crafting the Oil and Incense**

29 And he made the holy anointing oil and the pure, fragrant incense of spices, the work of a perfumer.

### **Crafting the Altar of Burnt Offering**

38:1 Then he made the altar of burnt offering of acacia wood, five cubits long, and five cubits wide, square, and three cubits high.

2 He made its horns on its four corners, its horns being *of one piece* with it, and he overlaid it with bronze.

3 He made all the utensils of the altar, the pails and the shovels and the basins, the flesh hooks and the firepans; he made all its utensils of bronze.

4 He made for the altar a grating of bronze network beneath, under its ledge, reaching halfway up.

5 He cast four rings on the four ends of the bronze grating *as* holders for the poles.

6 He made the poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with bronze.

7 He inserted the poles into the rings on the sides of the altar, with which to carry it. He made it hollow with planks.

### **Crafting the Washbasin**

8 Moreover, he made the laver of bronze with its base of bronze, from the mirrors of the serving women who served at the doorway of the tent of meeting.

### **Crafting the Courtyard and Its Curtains**

9 Then he made the court: for the south side the hangings of the court were of fine twisted linen, one hundred cubits;

10 their twenty pillars, and their twenty sockets, *made* of bronze; the hooks of the pillars and their bands *were* of silver.

11 For the north side *there were* one hundred cubits; their twenty pillars and their twenty sockets *were* of bronze, the hooks of the pillars and their bands *were* of silver.

12 For the west side *there were* hangings of fifty cubits *with* their ten pillars and their ten sockets; the hooks of the pillars and their bands *were* of silver.

13 For the east side fifty cubits.

14 The hangings for the *one side of the gate were* fifteen cubits, *with* their three pillars and their three sockets,

15 and so for the other side. On both sides of the gate of the court *were* hangings of fifteen cubits, *with* their three pillars and their three sockets.

16 All the hangings of the court all around *were* of fine twisted linen.

17 The sockets for the pillars *were* of bronze, the hooks of the pillars and their bands, of silver; and the overlaying of their tops, of silver, and all the pillars of the court were furnished with silver bands.

18 The screen of the gate of the court was the work of the weaver, of blue and purple and scarlet *material* and fine twisted linen. And the length *was* twenty cubits and the height *was* five cubits, corresponding to the hangings of the court.

19 Their four pillars and their four sockets *were* of bronze; their hooks *were* of silver, and the overlaying of their tops and their bands *were* of silver.

20 All the pegs of the tabernacle and of the court all around *were* of bronze.

**Summary of Craftsmen and Materials Used**

21 This is the number of the things for the tabernacle, the tabernacle of the testimony, as they were numbered according to the command of Moses, for the service of the Levites, by the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

22 Now Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made all that the LORD had commanded Moses.

23 With him *was* Oholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, an engraver and a skillful workman and a weaver in blue and in purple and in scarlet *material*, and fine linen.

24 All the gold that was used for the work, in all the work of the sanctuary, even the gold of the wave offering, was 29 talents and 730 shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary.

25 The silver of those of the congregation who were numbered was 100 talents and 1,775 shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary;

26 a beka a head (*that is*, half a shekel according to the shekel of the sanctuary), for each one who passed over to those who were numbered, from twenty years old and upward, for 603,550 men.

27 The hundred talents of silver were for casting the sockets of the sanctuary and the sockets of the veil; one hundred sockets for the hundred talents, a talent for a socket.

28 Of the 1,775 *shekels*, he made hooks for the pillars and overlaid their tops and made bands for them.

29 The bronze of the wave offering was 70 talents and 2,400 shekels.

30 With it he made the sockets to the doorway of the tent of meeting, and the bronze altar and its bronze grating, and all the utensils of the altar,

31 and the sockets of the court all around and the sockets of the gate of the court, and all the pegs of the tabernacle and all the pegs of the court all around.

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