

Dedication of the Tabernacle,
The Centre of Worship
Experiencing the Presence of the Lord
Exodus 40: 16–38

**1. *The obedience of Moses:
He did everything
God commanded***

- a. Set up the Tabernacle on the first day of the first month in the second year
 - 1) Constructed the bases, frames, crossbars and posts
 - 2) Spread the tent over the Tabernacle and put the covering over the tent
 - 3) Did just as God commanded
- b. Placed the Testimony (Ten Commandments) in the Ark: Attached the poles and placed the Mercy Seat on the top of the Ark
- c. Placed the Ark in the Tabernacle
 - 1) Hung the inner curtain
 - 2) Shielded the Ark of Testimony
 - 3) Did just as God commanded
- d. Placed the Table in the Tent of Meeting
 - 1) Set it on the north side outside the curtain
 - 2) Set the bread before the LORD
 - 3) Did just as God commanded

- 16 Moses did everything just as the LORD commanded him.
- 17 So the tabernacle was set up on the first day of the first month in the second year.
- 18 When Moses set up the tabernacle, he put the bases in place, erected the frames, inserted the crossbars and set up the posts.
- 19 Then he spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering over the tent, as the LORD commanded him.
- 20 He took the tablets of the covenant law and placed them in the ark, attached the poles to the ark and put the atonement cover over it.
- 21 Then he brought the ark into the tabernacle and hung the shielding curtain and shielded the ark of the covenant law, as the LORD commanded him.
- 22 Moses placed the table in the tent of meeting on the north side of the tabernacle outside the curtain
- 23 and set out the bread on it before the LORD, as the LORD commanded him.

- e. Placed the Lamp-stand in the Tabernacle
 - 1) Set it opposite the Table on the south side
 - 2) Set up the lamps before the LORD
 - 3) Did just as God commanded
- f. Placed the Altar of Incense in the Tent of Meeting in front of the curtain
 - 1) Burned incense on it
 - 2) Did just as God commanded
- g. Put up the curtain at the entrance
- h. Set the Altar of Burnt Offering near the entrance to the Tabernacle
 - 1) Offered burnt offerings and grain offerings
 - 2) Did just as God commanded
- i. Placed the Wash Basin between the Tent of Meeting and the Altar
 - 1) Put water in it
 - 2) Used it to symbolically wash their hands and feet: Before entering the Tent of Meeting or approaching the Altar
 - 3) Did just as God commanded
- j. Finished the work: Set up the Courtyard around the Tabernacle and the Altar and put up the entrance curtain to the Courtyard

- 24 He placed the lamp-stand in the tent of meeting opposite the table on the south side of the tabernacle
- 25 and set up the lamps before the LORD, as the LORD commanded him.
- 26 Moses placed the gold altar in the tent of meeting in front of the curtain
- 27 and burned fragrant incense on it, as the LORD commanded him.
- 28 Then he put up the curtain at the entrance to the tabernacle.
- 29 He set the altar of burnt offering near the entrance to the tabernacle, the tent of meeting, and offered on it burnt offerings and grain offerings, as the LORD commanded him.
- 30 He placed the basin between the tent of meeting and the altar and put water in it for washing,
- 31 and Moses and Aaron and his sons used it to wash their hands and feet.
- 32 They washed whenever they entered the tent of meeting or approached the altar, as the LORD commanded Moses.
- 33 Then Moses set up the courtyard around the tabernacle and altar and put up the curtain at the entrance to the courtyard. And so Moses finished the work.

2. The response of the LORD

- a. He covered and filled the Tabernacle with His glorious and awesome presence, with the cloud of His glory
 - 1) Moses could not enter the Tabernacle
 - 2) The fact re-emphasized: The awesome glory of the LORD filled the Tabernacle
- b. He guided the Israelites
 - 1) If the cloud lifted from above the Tabernacle, the Israelites marched
 - 2) If the cloud did not lift, the Israelites stayed put
- c. He gave the cloud to hang over the Tabernacle by day and a fire within the cloud by night
 - 1) Gave it as a testimony: So all Israel could see it
 - 2) Gave it during all the wilderness journey

34 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

35 Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

36 In all the travels of the Israelites, whenever the cloud lifted from above the tabernacle, they would set out;

37 but if the cloud did not lift, they did not set out — until the day it lifted.

38 So the cloud of the LORD was over the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, in the sight of all the Israelites during all their travels.