Exodus 27:9-19

3 Lessons The Tabernacle Teaches Us About Preparing To Worship God



Context/Background

- Newly freed nation of Israel travels to Mt. Sinai (in Arabian Desert) after many miracles
- Moses, leader of 2 ½ million people, called by God to top of mountain; there receives special revelation
- Given instructions; construct portable, movable worship complex; called a Tabernacle
- Israel spends approx. 11 months there; Tabernacle built
- Every aspect of Tabernacle was lesson about relating to and knowing God; pointed to Jesus



Remembering The Separation Caused By Sin

- (vv.9-15) Tabernacle stand out in desert, beautiful complex
- One first things noticed; fence that encloses
- Fence speaks of; separation, boundaries, access by Owner, process for entry
- Worship area different; not market, theatre, or spa; place where concentrated focus on Lord
- No one wander in or just be casual observer; had to make decision about entering

• Ecc. 7:20, "For there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin."

• Rom. 3:23, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."



Revering The Position Of God

- (vv.16-17) One aspects of fence; made out of "fine woven (twined) linen", thus white
- White: symbol of God's righteousness, purity, and perfection; speaks of God's position as highest
- "fine woven linen" very special; extra quality cloth (made from boiling, draining, and processing flax stalks) Would be whiter and thicker cloth, finest available
- Symbol of Lord's position as greatest, best, and highest; no One greater

- Rev. 4:8, "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was, Who is, and Who is to come."
- Jer. 10:6, "There is none like You, O Lord; You are great, and great is Your name in might."



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Reflecting Before Rushing Into God's Presence

- (vv.18-19) Curtained fence taught lessons
- Tabernacle was in center of camp; all tribes tents faced
- Tabernacle was symbol of God's presence; cloud by day, pillar of fire by night
- Before entering, fence caused people to pause, reflect, and prepare
- Had to take time to examine selves; make sure focus was on God and not self
- Reflect before rushing in, rushing through, and rushing out

 Ps. 84:10, "For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness."

• Ps. 122:1, "I was glad when they said to me, let us go into the house of the Lord."

