

Sermon Notes

Exodus – The Revealing of God’s Glory and His Design for the Chosen #88

“First Appearance (Impressions) Can Mean the Most”
Exodus 27:1-19

I. Introduction

A. The importance of first impressions.

1. Pastor Don’s young experience.
2. Churches have first impressions, too.

B. The Tabernacle had its first impression as the worshiper entered the courtyard.

C. Reading of the Text.

1. Exodus 27:1-19

II. Exposition

A. Exodus 27:1-8

1. Size

- a. Largest of all pieces of furniture.
- b. Similar to other Ancient Near East altars discovered in the region.

2. Horns

- a. Purpose not stated, but used for blood sacrifice.
 1. Exodus 29:12
- b. Also place of asylum for criminals.
 1. See I Kings 1:50; 2:28

3. Composition

- a. Made of acacia wood overlaid with bronze (copper mixed with tin).
- b. Contrast to gold overlay of furniture in the tent.
- c. Meaning – gold indicates royalty and splendor of heaven while bronze is more earthy. Only a few could view the royal splendor.

4. Utensils.

- a. Also made of bronze.

5. The grate.

- a. Also of bronze. Essentially a large g_____.

6. How does the description fit with previous instruction about building altars (Ex. 20:24,25)?

B. Exodus 27:9-15

1. The fence surround.

- a. Roughly the size of four T_____ C_____.

2. Fence or curtain posts were almost e_____ tall.

C. Exodus 27:16-19

1. Only one entrance.

2. Symbolic color selection – the same lines and colors used for the door flap were also used in the tent covering.

III. Special Highlights

A. The tabernacle's three sections.

1. The Courtyard, the Holy Place, and the Holy of Holies.

a. Connotes three different classes of worshippers.

1. Moses had access to meet with God.

a. The high priest could enter the Holy of Holies.

2. The rest of the priests could enter the Holy Place.

3. The people were kept in the outside court.

a. Gentiles not allowed at all.

2. Historical progression.

a. Solomon's temple

1. Had two courtyards.

b. Temple of Herod

1. Had four courtyards

2. Josephus' testimony.

c. The meaning

1. The various separations were meant to convey the idea that a _____ to God was 1_____.

d. Fulfilled and altered by Jesus.

1. Matthew 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 24:45

IV. Points for Reflection

- A. There is only one entrance into God's presence with assurance of forgivingness.
 - 1. John 14:1-6; Matthew 7:13-14

- B. The entrance is singular, but for all people and not just Jews.
 - 1. Ephesians 2:14; Romans 10:12-13

- C. Drawing near to God for worship should create fire in our hearts.
 - 1. Note the delight of worshippers to just be in the courtyard!
 - a. Psalm 65:3-4; 84:2; 84:10; 100:4

- D. The Israelites loved the courtyard because here is where they received forgiveness of sins.
 - 1. The courtyard is where the people received forgiveness of sins.
 - 2. There was no way to arrive at the tent without first coming to the brazen altar – There must be an atonement.

- E. There is deep meaning to all the sacrifice presented to God on the brazen altar.
 - 1. Burnt offering – Lev. 1.
 - 2. Grain offering – Lev. 2.
 - 3. Fellowship offering – Lev. 3.
 - 4. Sin offering and guilt offering – Lev. 5.
 - 5. Its deepest meaning:
 - a. The fire under the grate never went out, but later Jesus quenched the flame with His own blood.
 - 1. Hebrews 9:24-26