Exodus 25

I. God instructs Moses to have the people bring a special offering to help build the Tabernacle. Vs. 1-9

A. God designates the items they are to give. Vs. 3-7

1. Gold, silver and brass. Vs. 3

2. Materials of blue, purple, scarlet and fine linen. Vs. 4

3. Goats' hair, rams' skins dyed red and badger's skins. Vs. 4-5

5. Shittim wood. Vs. 5

6. Oil and spices. Vs. 6

7. Onyx stones and other precious stones. Vs. 7

B. They are to build a sanctuary for God to dwell among them. Vs. 8

C. They are to build a tabernacle according to the pattern God has shown Moses. Vs. 9

II. They are to build an ark. Vs. 10-22

A. The word "ark" is defined as follows:

1. Strong's number: 0727 אֲרוֹן 'arown *aw-rone'* or אָרֹן 'aron *aw-rone'*

2. It is translated in the King James Version of the Bible as ark 195 times, chest 6 times, and coffin once for a total 202 times.

3. The word has two meanings:

1) chest, as a money chest

2) coffin

B. The ark, as a coffin, is symbolic of death, the death of Christ.

1. We would be reconciled to God by the Death of Jesus. Romans 5:10 "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life."

2. Jesus would be faithful even unto death.

Philippians 2:8 "And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

3. Jesus would die for everyone.

Hebrews 2:9 "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."

4. Jesus would set believers free from the fear of death by his death.

Hebrews 2:14 "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

5. The promise of eternal inheritance would become valid by the death of Jesus

Hebrews 9:15 "And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

16 For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator."

C. The ark, as a coffin, is symbolic of death (Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death;"), and the lid of the coffin, the mercy seat, is symbolic of the grace of God (Romans 6:23 "…but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.").

III. God gives instructions for the structure of the ark. Vs. 10-16

A. The ark is to be made of shittim wood. Vs. 10

1. The ark is to be two and a half cubits long, one and a half cubits wide, one and a half cubits deep. Vs. 10
2. Since a cubit equals 18 inches, the ark is 3 feet, 9 inches long, 2 feet, 3 inches wide and 2 feet 3 inches deep.

B. The ark is to be overlaid with pure gold. Vs. 11

C. The ark is to have a crown of gold on it. Vs. 11

D. The ark is to have four rings of gold, two on each side. Vs. 12

E. Two staves of shittim wood overlaid with gold are to be placed in the rings to carry the ark. Vs. 13-14

F. The two staves are not to be taken out of the rings. Vs. 15

G. A golden pot of manna, Aaron's rod and the tables of the covenant are to be placed in the ark. Vs. 16

Hebrews 9:4 "Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;"

1. The manna is symbolic of Jesus as the true bread from heaven.
   John 6:32
   "Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven."
2. Aaron's rod represented the call of Aaron to the priesthood and is symbolic of the call of Jesus to the priesthood after the order of Melchisedec.
   Hebrews 5:4-6
   "And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.
   5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee.
   6 As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec."

3. The tables of the covenant (ten commandments) represented the word of God and is symbolic of Jesus as the Word. John 1:1-5

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
2 The same was in the beginning with God.
3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not."

IV. God gives instructions for the structure of the mercy seat. Vs. 17-20

A. The mercy seat is to be made of pure gold two and a half cubits long, one and a half cubits wide. Vs. 17

B. Two Cherubims of gold are to be made - one in each end of the mercy seat. Vs. 18-19

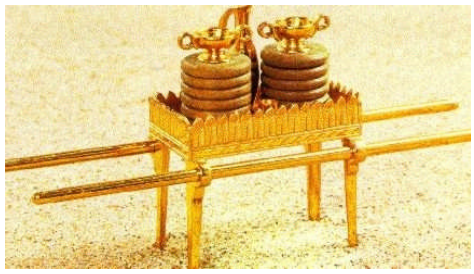
C. The wings of the Cherubims are to stretch over the mercy seat. Vs. 20

1. Their faces shall face each other toward the mercy seat. Vs. 20

V. The mercy seat is to be placed on the top of the ark. Vs. 21

VI. God would talk with Moses above the mercy seat between the wings of the two Cherubims. Vs. 22

VII. God gives instructions for the structure of the table of shewbread. Vs. 23-30



A. The table is to be made of Shittim wood. Vs. 23

B. The table is to be two cubits long, one cubit wide and one and a half cubits high. Vs. 23 Since a cubit equals 18 inches, the table is 3 feet long, 1 foot, 6 inches wide and 2 feet 3 inches high.

C. The table is to be overlaid with gold and have a border of a handbreath and a crown of gold around it. Vs. 24-25

D. The table is to have four rings of gold, one at each corner for the staves to carry it. Vs. 26-27

E. Two staves are to be made of shittim wood and overlaid with gold. Vs. 28

F. All the dishes, spoons, covers and bowls are to be made of gold. Vs. 29

G. Shewbread is to be on the table at all times. Vs. 30

H. The table of shewbread is symbolic of Jesus as the bread of life. John 6:35

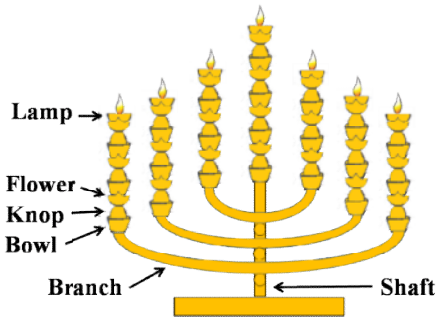
"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."

VIII. God gives instructions for the structure of the golden candlestick. Vs. 31-40

A. The candlestick is to be made of pure gold. Vs. 31

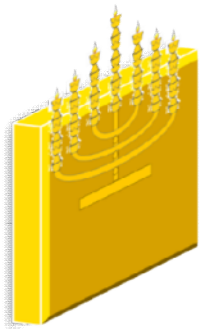
B. The shape and design of the candlestick is to be beaten out of one piece of gold. Vs. 31

C. There are to be three sets of bowls, knops, and flowers made in each of the six branches. Vs. 31-33



D. The shaft in the center is to have four sets of bowls, knops, and flowers in it. Vs. 34

E. There are to be three sets of branches with a knop under each set coming out of the shaft. Vs. 35



F. Seven lamps of pure gold are to be made and placed on top of each branch and shaft. Vs. 36-37

G. Tongs, and snuff dishes are to be made of pure gold. Vs. 38

H. Everything of the candlestick is to be made from a talent of pure gold. Vs. 39

1. A talent of gold is about 180 pounds.

I. The candlestick is to be made according to the pattern Moses saw in the mountain. Vs. 40

J. The candlestick is symbolic of Jesus as the light of the world. John 8:12

"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world:

he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."