

Christ In The Old Testament
“A More Perfect Tabernacle”
Exodus 26

Introduction:

1. So Far - In Our Sunday Night Series:
 - On Christ In The Old Testament:
 - We Have Found Him:
 - In Various Ways!
2. The First Way We Found Christ:
 - Was In A Personal Way!
 - When He Appeared Personally:
 - To Men - And Even:
 - A Women - As A Man!
 - In A Preincarnate Body!
 - These Appearances:
 - Are Known As Christophanies!
 - And - Christ Appeared This Way:
 - To At Least 5 Individuals:
 - Including Adam & Eve, Abraham, Jacob, & Joshua!
3. The Second Way We Found Christ In The Old Testament:
 - Was - As The Angel Of The Lord:
 - Who Was God’s Divine Messenger:
 - Sent To Deliver:
 - God’s Divine Message:
 - To Men!
 - And - Christ Appeared This Way Also:
 - To A Number Of People:
 - Including Hagar, Abraham, Moses, Gideon, The Parents Of Samson, And Even The Children Of Israel As A Whole!
 - And - Each Time He Visited These People:
 - He Brought A Special Message:
 - From Heaven To Earth:
 - That Is Still Relevant For Us Today!
4. The Most Recent Way We Found Christ In The Old Testament:
 - Was Through The “Types & Shadows” That:
 - God Used To Provide For The Needs Of His People:
 - As They Were Wandering In The Wilderness:
 - From Egypt To The Promised Land!
 - Some Of Those “Types & Shadows” Include:
 - The Passover Lamb, The Manna That Rained From Heaven, The Water That Gushed Out Of The Rock Of Horeb, The Bronze Serpent Raised By Moses, And The Providential Preservation Of Even The Clothes & The Shoes Of The People For Over 40 Years!
5. Of Course - One Of The Main Ways:
 - That Christ Is Revealed To Us:
 - In The Wilderness:
 - Was Through The Tabernacle:
 - That Was To Be A Continuous Reminder Of:
 - God’s Special Presence With His People!
 - And - We Can See Christ:
 - In All Of The Articles Of The Tabernacle:
 - As Well As In:
 - Its Assembly, Its Activities, And Its Administration By The Priests!
6. And - From This Special Type:
 - Of Christ & His Presence With His People:
 - We Will Now Embark On A New “Mini-Series” On How:
 - We Can Find Christ:
 - In The Various Details Of The Tabernacle Itself!

- And - To Do This:
 - I Would First Like Us To Turn Back In Our Bibles:
 - To Exodus 29:42-46 - Where The Lord Reiterates To Moses - His Purpose:
 - For The Tabernacle!
 - It Was So That:
 - God Might:
 - Meet With His People!
 - Sanctify His People! And:
 - Dwell With His People!
 - So That - His People:
 - Might Know Him!
 - “[This shall be] a continual burnt offering throughout your generations [at] the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD: where I will meet you, to speak there unto thee. / And there I will meet with the children of Israel, and [the tabernacle] shall be sanctified by my glory. / And I will sanctify the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar: I will sanctify also both Aaron and his sons, to minister to me in the priest's office. / And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will be their God. / And they shall know that I [am] the LORD their God, that brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them: I [am] the LORD their God!”
 - This Is Was The Purpose Of The Tabernacle!
 - So That God Might:
 - Meet With His People!
 - Sanctify His People! And:
 - Dwell With His People!
 - So That - His People:
 - Might Know Him!
 - And - This Purpose:
 - Applies To Us Still Today!
 - We Can Get To Know Christ Better:
 - By Looking At & Learning About:
 - The Tabernacle!
 - And - The Assembly Of The Tabernacle:
 - Can Be Found - Starting In:
 - Exodus 25 - All The Way Through Chapter 40!
7. But - The First Way:
- We Are Going To Find Christ In The Tabernacle:
 - Is Through The Construction Of The Main Structure Of The Tabernacle Itself!
 - Which God Gave Moses:
 - In Exodus 26! So - Let's Now Head There In Our Bibles!
 - And - I'd Like For Us To Read Through:
 - Exodus 26:1-30:
 - And - Hopefully - Get A Better Understanding:
 - Of The Details Given By God:
 - About This Special Place Where He Would Meet & Sanctify & Dwell With His People!
 - In 26:1-6 - God Gives Moses:
 - The Instructions For The Main Curtain:
 - Of The Tabernacle! (Read)
 - So - The Main Curtain:
 - Was A Beautiful Tapestry Of:
 - Blue & Purple & Scarlet & Angelic Images Woven & Embroidered Into:
 - A Base Fabric Of Probably White Fine-Twined Linen!
 - 10 Individual Panels Were Woven:
 - So That They Were:
 - 28Cx4C (42'x6') (18"/Cubit)
 - 5 Were Sowed Together:
 - So That There Were 2 Curtains Of:
 - 28Cx20C (42'x30')
 - Those 2 Curtains Were Then:
 - Coupled Together With Gold Clasps To Make The First Layer Of Fabric:

- A Total Of: 28Cx40C (42'x60')

- In 26:7-13 - God Gives Moses:
 - The Details For The Main Tent:
 - Of The Tabernacle! (Read Verses)
 - So - The Tent That Covered The Main Curtain:
 - Was Made Of Goats Hair - Most Likely Black!
 - The Manner Of Sewing The Panels Together Was Similar To The Main Curtain:
 - With 11 Panels Instead Of 10!
 - When The Panels Were Sewn Together:
 - To Form Two Sheets Of Fabric:
 - They Were Joined Together With 50 Clasps Of Bronze!
 - And Then - The Panels Were Draped Over:
 - The Main Curtain - To Hang Over & Protect It:
 - On All 4 Sides!
 - N & S Sides - 1 Cubit Longer!
 - W / Back Side - 2 Cubits Longer!
 - E / Front Side - 1-2 Cubits Longer
 - "Double" - "Equally Divide"
 - In 26:14 - We Find:
 - The Two Protective Coverings:
 - For The Tabernacle! (Read Verse)
 - So - Third Covering:
 - Was Made Of Rams Skins Died Red!
 - Some - Just Tanned:
 - But - Most Skins Were Already Tanned - So Probably Died Red!
 - And - Fourth Covering:
 - Was Made Of "Badgers" Skins:
 - May Have Been The Skin Of A Sea Animal - Like Dolphins - Still Commonly Found In The Red Sea!
 - Sizes Not Given - But Likely:
 - Used For Further Protection Of Entire Tent!
 - In 26:15-30 - We Find:
 - The Details About The:
 - Frame & Foundation Of The Tabernacle! (Read Verses)
 - Frame - "Boards" Or "Frames!"
 - 10C High / 1.5C Wide (15'x2.25')
 - Each With Two Tenons
 - Together - Formed The Main Tabernacle:
 - 30Cx10X (45'x15')
 - Overlaid With Gold!
 - Foundation - 96 Sockets / Bases Of Silver:
 - With Mortices - Into Which The Frames Sat!
 - Fasteners - Bars - 5 Per Side:
 - Also Overlaid With Gold!
 - With Gold Rings To Hold Them In Place!
8. Obviously - The Lord:
 - Had A Great Practical Purpose:
 - For All Of The Details:
 - Of His Tabernacle!
 - But - The Purpose Of These Details:
 - Is Much Greater Than:
 - Keeping Any Dust & Rain Out!
 - Because - The Entire Structure Of The Tabernacle Was Meant:
 - To Point To & To Teach Us About Jesus Christ!
 - Because - In The Tabernacle:
 - We Can See:
 - Both The Divine Side & The Human Side:
 - Of Christ's Nature!

- John Gill Describes Christ:
 - As The True Tabernacle Of God:
 - “In Which The Fulness Of The Godhead Dwells Bodily, Where The Glory Of God Is Seen, In Whom He Grants His Gracious Presence To His People, And Accepts Of Them And Their Sacrifices Of Prayer And Praise!”
 - Jesus Christ Himself Is:
 - The True & “More Perfect” Tabernacle:
 - Of God!
- And So - While Thinking About The Details:
 - Of The Tabernacle:
 - We Should First See:

1. *The Nature Of Christ As Man!*

- Even - His Human Nature!
 - And - How The World Saw Christ:
 - When He Was Born Into This World!
 - And - This Truly Was The Christ:
 - That We Needed - To:
 - Meet With Us, Sanctify Us, And Dwell With Us:
 - So That We Might Know God Through Him!
 - We Needed Christ:
 - To Come To Us First:
 - So That We Might Be Able To:
 - One Day - Through Faith In Christ:
 - Go To God!
 - And This Is What We Find:
 - In That Old Testament Tabernacle!
 - Because - Even:
 - The Exterior Coverings:
 - Of Goat Hair & Rams Skin & Badgers / Dolphins Skin:
 - All Point Us To The Human Flesh Of Christ!
 - Because - In Several Of The Messianic Prophecies:
 - That We Have In The Old Testament:
 - We Find An Entirely Human Christ!
 - In Isaiah 7:14 - We Are Told That:
 - “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel!”
 - And This Was Fulfilled:
 - When Jesus Was Born To Mary:
 - With A Real, Physical, Human Body!
 - But - Along With:
 - The Human Nature Of Christ:
 - The Coverings Of The Tabernacle Also Teach Us About:
 - His Humble Nature!
 - Another Old Testament Prophecy That We Have:
 - In Isaiah 53:1-2 - Tells Us:
 - “For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, [there is] no beauty that we should desire him!”
 - Just Like The 3 Outer Coverings Of The Tabernacle:
 - There Wasn’t Much Physically Impressive About Christ!
 - He Was As Plain & Ordinary As They Were - In His External Appearance To This World!
 - Only The Words & Works Of Christ Betrayed His Glory That Was Veiled By His Body!
 - And - This Is One Of The Reason Why:
 - As We Are Told In John 1:11 - That:
 - When Jesus - “Came Unto His Own” - “His Own Received Him Not!”

- But - Think About What They Were Missing!
 - They Were Only Looking On The Outward Appearance!
 - And - The Rough Exterior Of God's True Tabernacle!
- If Only They Had Remembered:
 - What The Interior Of The Tabernacle:
 - Was Like! They Might Have Recognized:

2. ***The Nature Of Christ As God!***

- Or - His Divine Nature!
 - And - How God Saw Christ:
 - While He Was In This World!
 - Because - As In The Tabernacle:
- There Was An Inner Purity:
 - In Christ - That Went Unseen By The World!
 - A Holy Nature:
 - That Is Represented By:
 - The Curtain Of "Fine Twined Linen" - That We Read About In 26:1!
 - Though That Linen:
 - Was Embroidered With:
 - Threads Of Various Colors:
 - The Initial Color Of The Linen:
 - Would Have Been Pure White! As White As Lamb's Wool!
 - In Hebrews 7:25-26 - We Are Reminded Of This Truth:
 - "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. / For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens!"
 - This Was & Still Is:
 - The True Holy Nature Of Christ!
 - And - It Is Through His Holiness:
 - That You Now Can Become More & More Holy:
 - In The Wilderness Of This World!
 - But - Not Only Was There:
 - This Inner Purity In Christ - Also:
- There Was An Inner Beauty:
 - In Christ - That Went Unseen By The World!
 - A Heavenly Nature:
 - That Is Represented By:
 - The Blue & Purple & Scarlet Thread & Cherubims That Was Woven Into The Linen Panels! (26:1)
 - Those Colors Were Rare & Valuable Colors:
 - And Were Mostly Used By:
 - Members Of Royalty And Nobility!
 - And Yet - Who Is More Noble & Majestic Than Christ?
 - In Hebrews 1:3 - We Are Told About Christ:
 - "Who being the brightness of [his] glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high!"
 - There Were Other Indications Of The Majesty Of Christ:
 - Including The Precious Metals Used:
 - In The Tabernacle!
 - Gold & Silver!
 - And - Of Course - As The King Of Kings And Lord Of Lords:
 - This Was & Still Is:
 - The True Heavenly Nature Of Christ!
 - And - It Is Through His Heavenly Royalty:
 - That You Are Now "A Royal Priesthood!" (1 Peter 2:9)
 - But - Not Only Was There:
 - This Inner Sinless Purity & Royal Beauty In Christ:

- There Was An Inner Strength:
 - In Christ As Well - That Went Unseen By The World!
 - A Hardy Nature:
 - That Is Represented By:
 - The Foundation & The Frame & Even The Fasteners Of The Tabernacle!
 - The Foundation Was Made Of Silver!
 - A Total Of 96 “Sockets” - That Were Made From:
 - A Talent Of Silver Each!
 - Which Means That Each Base Was Around 250 Pounds Each!
 - Nothing Was Going To Blow That Tent Down!
 - The Frame Was Made Of The Strongest & Hardest Wood!
 - “Shittim” Or Acacia Wood!
 - That Was Resistant To Moisture & Insects!
 - And That Frame Was Tied Together:
 - With Fasteners & Poles:
 - That Ran The Entire Length Of The Tabernacle!
 - The Entire Structure:
 - Was Strong!
 - And Pointed To The Great Strength:
 - Of Our Great God & Savior Jesus Christ!
 - His Inner Strength:
 - Was Especially Seen When He Was Tempted By The Devil In The Wilderness!
 - The Tent Of His Flesh Could Not Be Swayed By The Devil:
 - No Matter How Many Times He Huffed & Puffed At Him!
 - Christ’s Strength Was Firm - Because:
 - His Foundation Was:
 - The Word Of God! And:
 - His Frame Was:
 - The Will Of God!
 - This Was & Still Is:
 - The True Hardy Nature Of Christ!
 - And Now - It Is His Strength:
 - That Is Made Perfect:
 - Even In Your Weakness! (2 Corinthians 12:9)
- And In These Ways:
 - The Tabernacle Points Us To:
 - Christ - As The True Tabernacle Of God:
 - Who Came To Meet With Us, Sanctify Us, And Dwell With Us:
 - So That We Might Know God Personally Through Him!
 - Because - Christ Himself Is God!
 - And Now - All That He Is:
 - He Shares With You!
 - His Holiness! His Heavenly Home! His Hardiness & Strength!
 - Because - As Christians:
 - You Are In Christ!
 - Imagine Being A Priest Inside The Tabernacle!
 - And Seeing All Of This Glory & Beauty!
 - In Christ - This Is Where You Stand:
 - This Very Day!
 - So Now - You Can Live This Way!

Conclusion:

1. The Tabernacle Was Designed:
 - To Bring Heaven To Humanity:
 - In A Limited Way!
 - But - As The “More Perfect” Tabernacle:
 - Jesus Christ Was Able To Bring:
 - Humanity To Heaven:

- Through What He Did In His Body - His Tabernacle!

2. So - Tonight:
 - Let Us Remember:
 - That We Needed Both:
 - The Human Nature & The Divine Nature:
 - Of Christ - So That:
 - We Might Truly Know God!
 - Are You Growing In:
 - Your Knowledge & Relationship:
 - With The Lord?
 - Is His Nature:
 - Being Formed In You:
 - More & More Each Day?
3. Let The Tabernacle:
 - Remind You Of:
 - Who Jesus Christ Is - And:
 - What He Did For You!

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