

Exodus 25

Verses 1-7

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Tell the sons of Israel to raise a contribution for Me; from every man whose heart moves him you shall raise My contribution. ³This is the contribution which you are to raise from them: gold, silver and bronze, ⁴blue, purple and scarlet *material*, fine linen, goat *hair*, ⁵rams’ skins dyed red, porpoise skins, acacia wood, ⁶oil for lighting, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, ⁷onyx stones and setting stones for the ephod and for the breastpiece.

Tell the sons of Israel to raise a contribution for me; from every man whose heart moves him

God wants our gifts to be free will offerings

This is the contribution which you are to raise from them

Many of these items were probably gifts from the Egyptians

Dolphin skins suggests that Israel was trading goods with surrounding nations

Verses 8-9

Let them construct a sanctuary for me, that I may dwell among them. ⁹According to all that I am going to show you, as the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furniture, just so you shall construct *it*.

According to all that I am going to show you, just so you shall construct *it*.

The tabernacle and its furniture was to be made according to the pattern that God gave to Moses.

The size and shape of each item, the materials to be used and the placement of it in the structure.

Verses 10-16

The Ark

¹⁰ “They shall construct an ark of acacia wood two and a half cubits long, and one and a half cubits wide, and one and a half cubits high. ¹¹ You shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and out you shall overlay it, and you shall make a gold molding around it. ¹² You shall cast four gold rings for it and fasten them on its four feet, and two rings shall be on one side of it and two rings on the other side of it. ¹³ You shall make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. ¹⁴ You shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to carry the ark with them. ¹⁵ The poles shall remain in the rings of the ark; they shall not be removed from it. ¹⁶ You shall put into the ark the testimony which I shall give you.

They shall construct an ark

See pics 2505 The Ark of the Covenant



You shall cast four gold rings for it and fasten them on its four feet

This picture is better than most you will see online but the poles should be fastened to its feet not the side of the ark

The size

Two and a half cubits (3.75 feet) long

One and a half cubits (2.25 feet) wide and high

The poles shall remain in the rings of the ark; they shall not be removed from it.

See 2 Chron. 5:9

See Video 2510 Staves of the ark

<http://www.levickfamily.com/8.44.html>

You shall put into the ark the testimony which I shall give you.

The two stone tablets containing the law and the 10 commandments

See Pic 2515 The Ark



Other articles will be added, a pot of manna, and Aaron's rod that budded.

See Hebrews 9:3 - 5

But, by the time of the 1st temple, the jar of manna and the budding rod were gone

See 2 Chron. 5:10

The poles are on the wrong sides in this picture, but that is true for 95% of the Ark pictures one sees online.

Verses 17-22 **The Mercy Seat**

¹⁷ **"You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold, two and a half cubits long and one and a half cubits wide. ¹⁸ You shall make two cherubim of gold, make them of hammered work at the two ends of the mercy seat. ¹⁹ Make one cherub at one end and one cherub at the other end; you shall make the cherubim of one piece with the mercy seat at its two ends. ²⁰ The cherubim shall have their wings spread upward, covering the mercy seat with their wings and facing one another; the faces of the cherubim are to be turned toward the mercy seat. ²¹ You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the testimony which I will give to you. ²² There I will meet with you; and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony, I will speak to you about all that I will give you in commandment for the sons of Israel.**

Moses was probably given much more detail about how to make all of the items that are mentioned in chapters 25 thru 30 but these were the essentials.

See Video 2520 The Mercy Seat

<http://www.levickfamily.com/9.5.html>

You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark

One author mentioned that the placement of the mercy-seat on top of the ark symbolized that God's mercy ranks higher than God's law.

This might be the case, but it seems more likely that it is just a matter of function, since the lid of a container normally belongs on the top. ☺

There I will meet with you

The High Priest only went into the Holy of Holies, where the Ark was placed, once a year on the Day of Atonement.

This was the most holy place because God's presence was above the Ark

Verses 23-30 **The Table of Shewbread**

²³ “**You shall make a table of acacia wood**, two cubits long and one cubit wide and one and a half cubits high. ²⁴ You shall overlay it with pure gold and make a gold border around it. ²⁵ **You shall make for it a rim of a handbreadth around it**; and you shall make a gold border for the rim around it. ²⁶ **You shall make four gold rings for it and put rings on the four corners** which are on its four feet. ²⁷ **The rings shall be close to the rim** as holders for the poles to carry the table. ²⁸ **You shall make the poles of acacia wood** and overlay them with gold, so that with them the table may be carried. ²⁹ **You shall make its dishes and its pans and its jars and its bowls** with which to pour drink offerings; you shall make them of pure gold. ³⁰ You shall set the bread of the Presence on the table before Me at all times.

See Video 2525 Table of Shewbread

<http://www.levickfamily.com/9.6.html>

You shall set the bread of the Presence on the table before Me at all times.

The Shewbread, also spelled Showbread, also called Bread of the Presence, were displayed in two stacks of 6 loaves that stood for the 12 tribes of Israel.



³¹ “**Then you shall make a lampstand of pure gold.** The lampstand *and* its base and its shaft are to be made of hammered work; its cups, its bulbs and its flowers shall be *of one piece* with it. ³² Six branches shall go out from its sides; three branches of the lampstand from its one side and three branches of the lampstand from its other side. ³³ Three cups *shall be* shaped like almond *blossoms* in the one branch, a bulb and a flower, and three cups shaped like almond *blossoms* in the other branch, a bulb and a flower—so for six branches going out from the lampstand; ³⁴ and in the lampstand four cups shaped like almond *blossoms*, its bulbs and its flowers. ³⁵ A bulb shall be under the *first* pair of branches *coming* out of it, and a bulb under the *second* pair of branches *coming* out of it, and a bulb under the *third* pair of branches *coming* out of it, for the six branches coming out of the lampstand. ³⁶ Their bulbs and their branches *shall be of one piece* with it; all of it shall be one piece of hammered work of pure gold. ³⁷ Then you shall make its lamps seven *in number*; and they shall mount its lamps so as to shed light on the space in front of it. ³⁸ Its snuffers and their trays *shall be* of pure gold. ³⁹ It shall be made from a talent of pure gold, with all these utensils. ⁴⁰ See that you make *them* after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain.

Then you shall make a lampstand of pure gold

The design of the lampstand was very detailed.

See video 2535 The lampstand

<http://www.levickfamily.com/9.7.html>

The Tabernacle had one lampstand and it was the only source of light in the sanctuary.

In the temple of Solomon, there were 10 lampstands, 5 on each side.

See 1 Kings 7:48-50

³⁹ It shall be made from a talent of pure gold

A talent of gold would equal about 1,200 ounces.

It would cost about 2 million dollars in today's value of gold.

The golden lampstands in the Temple of Herod were taken from the temple by the soldiers of Titus before the temple was destroyed.

A carved representation of one is engraved on the Arch of Titus

See Pic 2540 The Arch of Titus



The engraving is on the inside of the Arch

See pic 2545



There are two good videos that give us some history behind the Arch

See video 2540

<http://www.levickfamily.com/8.18.html>

See video 2545

<http://www.levickfamily.com/8.17.html>

⁴⁰ **See that you make *them* after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain.**

Moses was given and shown information about these items while he was on the mountain that is not included in chapters 25 thru 30.

God also provided men that he had gifted to make all that he commanded.

See Exodus 31:1-11