

Sermon Text Discussion 5/29/2016

Exodus 35-40: "Building the Tabernacle Then and Building the Church Today" by Drew Hunter

Overview

As we close our series on the book of Exodus, we reflect on three hopes that were in mind at the beginning of this series. The hope was that the book of Exodus would strengthen three things in us: That we would know the language of the gospel, that we would see the story of the Bible, and that we would know God. And our text this morning not only brings Exodus to a climax, but it ends on a very practical note. Here we see God's people joining together in the work of building the tabernacle. This text shows us:

- 1) The significance of the tabernacle
- 2) The work of the tabernacle
- 3) The gift of the tabernacle

As we reflect on these things, we are reminded of both our need to receive (from God and from others) and our call to serve others.

Quotations

"It is of some interest that the first 'spirit-filled' individual in the Bible is not Adam, Noah, or one of the patriarchs, or even Moses. It is a construction foreman, Bezalel. The Bible sanctifies the work and craftsmanship of the laborer as much as it does the work of patriarch, prophet, and priest. What one does with one's hands is as sacred as what one does with one's mind. Excellence in metalworking and fabric making, because of the Spirit, is no less vital than excellence in law-giving or preaching." -Victor Hamilton

"So you can start and end every day – no matter what comes in between – with this thought: God wants to dwell with me." -Drew Hunter

Understanding & Application

- 1) What is the goal of the exodus? For a hint, read Exodus 29:46.
- 2) How does the story of the exodus of Israel parallel the story of the gospel of Jesus Christ in our lives today?
- 3) It can be said that the tabernacle points backward, upward, and forward all at the same time. Explain what this means.
- 4) Using these six key phrases, give an overview of the story of Scripture: a) Eden b) Israel (tabernacle) c) the Temple d) Incarnation e) Ascension & Pentecost f) New Creation
- 5) What is the attitude of your heart when you give to God (financially, with your time, and/or with your spiritual gifts)?
- 6) What greater "exodus" did Jesus lead you on if you are a believer? How will that affect the way you start and end your day tomorrow?
- 7) How has your faith in Jesus and your great gratitude for his grace changed the way you handle your money, time, and giftedness?