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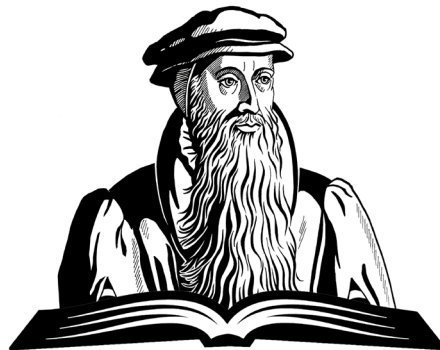
**BIBLE FOR
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

Old Testament

Lesson 34:

The Lord Dwells Among His People

Lecture Presenter: Mr. Daniel Van Brugge



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Module

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Old Testament

113 LESSONS

77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge

36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman

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|--|--|
| 01. The Bible: The Word of God | 26. Joseph and His Brethren |
| 02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God | 27. Jacob Comes to Joseph |
| 03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation | 28. God Heard Their Cry |
| 04. A Gracious Promise | 29. Moses and the Burning Bush |
| 05. Cain and Abel | 30. Let My People Go |
| 06. Only Noah Found Grace | 31. Deliverance |
| 07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape | 32. God's Patience with a Complaining People |
| 08. The Noahic Covenant | 33. Keeping the Law: Not Merit/Thankfulness |
| 09. The Tower of Babel | 34. The Lord Dwells Among His People |
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| 11. Abram Intercedes for Lot | 36. Moses Intercedes for a Rebellious People |
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| 13. Righteous by Faith | 38. Walk Not According to the World |
| 14. Two Sons | 39. Hearts of Ingratitude |
| 15. Lessons from Lot's Life | 40. Aaron's Rod Blossoming |
| 16. Faithless Abraham – Faithful God | 41. The Serpent of Brass Lifted Up |
| 17. Abraham Tested – God's Provision | 42. Phinehas Turning Away God's Wrath |
| 18. Isaac and Rebekah | 43. Cities of Refuge |
| 19. Jacob: A Better Desire than Esau | 44. A New Generation |
| 20. Jacob the Deceiver | 45. Moses' Last Days |
| 21. God Preserves Jacob | 46. Joshua—God's Promise Fulfilled |
| 22. Jacob Returns to Beth-el | 47. A Promise to Rahab |
| 23. Joseph Loved – Joseph Hated | 48. The Rise of Judges |
| 24. An Eye upon God | 49. Gideon—God with Him |
| 25. Joseph Raised Out of Prison | 50. Samson |

51. Ruth the Moabitess
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54. The Kingdom Established
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56. David Hunted by Saul
57. The Last Days of Saul
58. David, the Next King
59. Fetching the Ark
60. Thou Art the Man
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62. Seven Sons of Saul Killed
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67. David's Departing Instructions
68. Solomon Becomes King
69. Solomon Builds the House of God
70. The Kingdom is Rent
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72. Ahab's Reign and Death
73. Elisha Begins his Work
74. Elisha's Voice is Heard
75. A Succession of Kings
76. Ahaz and Hezekiah
77. The Captivity of Judah
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79. Isaiah's Vision & Song
80. Isaiah Prophecies about Christ
81. The Prophet Jeremiah Called and Sent
82. Jeremiah Opposed and Comforted
83. Ezekiel, the Captive Prophet
84. Ezekiel's Comforting Visions
85. Daniel and His Three Friends
86. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream
87. Three Friends in the Fiery Furnace
88. Nebuchadnezzar's Madness
89. The Writing on the Wall
90. Daniel in the Lions' Den
91. Daniel's Visions and Dreams
92. Ezra—Return from Captivity
93. Ezra—Rebuilding the Temple
94. Ezra—The Scribe
95. Nehemiah—Rebuilding the Walls
96. Nehemiah—The Task Completed
97. Esther the Queen
98. Esther—Haman's Plot
99. Esther—The Jews Saved
100. Hosea—The Minor Prophets
101. Joel and the Day of the LORD
102. Amos the Fearless Herdsman
103. Obadiah Prophecies Edom's Fall
104. Jonah's Flight
105. Jonah's Mission
106. Micah Preaches Judgment & Mercy
107. Nahum—A Message for Nineveh
108. Habakkuk's Questions, God's Replies
109. Zephaniah—Threatenings & Promises
110. Haggai Urges Building the Temple
111. Zechariah—The Night Visions
112. Zechariah Prophecies of Christ
113. Malachi—Last Old Testament Prophet

Lesson 34

The Lord Dwells Among His People

The Book of Exodus, chapters 25 through 40

Memory Verse

“And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.”

Exodus 25:22

Who is God?

In the world, there are different views of God. Some believe that God cannot be known. Others believe that God is distant. Yet others believe in an impersonal God—a God that has no feelings toward his creation. And there are those who even deny that God exists. These thoughts are all wrong, for:

- God is made known to us in the Scripture.
- God is near those who call out to him—“The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth” (Psalm 145:18).
- God is motivated by love—“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).
- God is clearly seen in creation—“For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” (Romans 1:20).

In these chapters, we can see many wonderful things about God, for here we see that he comes to dwell in the midst of his people.

Willing Worship

The first thing that we read in Exodus chapter 25 is that for the Tabernacle to be built, the people needed to bring all sorts of items. This offering was not a forced offering, nor was it to be an offering made with fear. We are told that every man’s gifts needed to be given “willingly with his heart” (Exodus 25:2). Worship of God is more than outward obedience. It is a willing obedience that flows from a heart of love. The psalmist said, “O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day” (Psalm 119:97).

Salvation Is of the Lord

It is interesting to note the instruction that God gives for the building of the Tabernacle, and the items to be included in it. The people do not come up with the idea of building a Tabernacle. Nor does God suggest to them that they build a Tabernacle and leave the details to the people. No, it is God's desire and God's design. As we read in Jonah 2:9, "Salvation is of the LORD."

The Tabernacle

The Tabernacle points to the reconciliation which is found in Jesus Christ. God's glory rested in the Holy of Holies, a symbol of his throne in heaven. Similarly, God's glory is in Jesus Christ. Would you glorify God? Then you must come to the mercy seat, Jesus Christ. In the Tabernacle, God came to be in the midst of his people, to live among them. Jesus Christ came among his people, and dwells among us by the Holy Spirit. We read in John 1:14, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) fully of grace and truth." Let us consider some of the items that were to be constructed for the Tabernacle.

Items that Needed to Be Made

Located inside the Holy of Holies, the last room of the Tabernacle:

- **The Ark (covered with gold)**

The first item we find mentioned is the Ark. In the Ark were contained the two table of stone that had the Ten Commandments on them. There was a pot of the manna, and also Aaron's rod that blossomed. These items signified God's continual faithfulness. However, they also were a sign of the ingratitude of his people. How often had they transgressed the commandment! How often had they murmured! If this was all there was to the Ark, then it would not have spoken of peace, but of dread.

- **The Mercy Seat (pure gold)**

But God offered forgiveness by faith in the coming Messiah, as seen in the Mercy Seat. In a later time, the Lord spoke through the prophet Isaiah, "Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned" (Isaiah 40:2). To leave the ark without a mercy seat would be to speak terror and not comfort. Therefore, God commanded that there should be a Mercy Seat placed on top of the ark. His mercy will blot out the iniquity of his people. Jesus Christ is the Mercy Seat.

Located inside the Holy Place in the Tabernacle:

- **The Altar of Incense (covered with gold)**

The Altar of Incense sat immediately before the entrance to the Holy of Holies. The incense, which was to burn continually, provided a delightful odor. This typified the intercessory prayers that Christ makes for his people. "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 (Hebrews 7:25).

- **The Table of Shewbread (covered with gold)**
On this table, made of shittim wood, and covered in gold, were placed twelve loaves of bread, pointing to God’s abundance for all his people. The Israelites looked forward to the time that God would fulfill his promise in the promised Messiah. Jesus Christ fulfilled that promise, for he is “the bread of life” (John 6:35).
- **The Lampstand (made of pure gold)**
The Lampstand, called a candlestick in the Bible, was ornate, having seven lamps with oil, which provided light in the Holy Place. It was the only object in the Holy Place made of pure gold. It was to burn continually. Without the light of the Lampstand, all would be dark. It points to Jesus Christ, who is the “light of the world” (John 8:12).

Located in the Outer Court:

- **The Brazen Laver (made of solid bronze) (called brass in the Bible)**
The Brazen Laver stood between the entrance to the Holy Place and the Brazen Altar, where the sacrifice was made. The laver was used for washing away the filth on the priest’s hands and feet. When a priest came before God, he had to be clean. In Christ, his people not only have their sins forgiven, but are made clean. Jesus declares, “Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you” (John 15:3).
- **The Brazen Altar (made of acacia wood and covered with bronze, (brass in the Bible)**
>Just inside the entrance into the outer court, stood the Brazen Altar. There was only one entrance into the outer court from outside. It was the only way by which one could approach God. This entrance represents Jesus Christ, “The way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).

>The Israelite came before God acknowledging his sins. He was to approach with an animal sacrifice, which would be killed, and its blood shed. This reveals how we are to come before God. Not as righteous in ourselves, but as sinners, confessing our sins, and recognizing our need to be cleansed. Thus, the gospel exhorts sinners to “repent.” The necessity of repentance indicates the reality of our guilt.

>The Brazen Altar represents the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on the cross, and the shedding of his blood, “And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission” (Hebrews 9:22).

>At this altar, the Lord would not deal with the people according to the law, but according to grace. For in that altar, God graciously accepted a substitute—not their life for their sins, but the life of a sacrificed animal, pointing to Jesus Christ. How important was the Brazen Altar! Without an offering for sin, there was no approaching to God. Jesus Christ is that final sacrifice, “The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world” (Revelation 13:8).

The details of the Tabernacle were to instruct the Israelites about God’s plan of redemption, as they looked forward to the time when the promised Messiah would come. Today, Christ having come, we may look back to the Tabernacle to appreciate the depth of the riches of God’s mercy in Jesus Christ.

Review Questions

1. Which of the following was not a metal that the people were to offer for the building of the Tabernacle?
 - a. Silver
 - b. Gold
 - c. Brass
 - d. Iron
2. All of the following were to be placed in the Ark of the Covenant, except _____.
 - a. Aaron's rod
 - b. David's harp
 - c. A pot of manna
 - d. The two tables of the Ten Commandments
3. There were to be _____ cherubims on the mercy seat.
 - a. Two
 - b. Three
 - c. Five
 - d. Seven
4. TRUE or FALSE: The cherubim were to face away from the mercy seat.
5. What image was to be woven into the tapestry of the veil in the Tabernacle?
 - a. Golden calves
 - b. Doves
 - c. Sheep
 - d. Chrubims
6. Where would the following items be located? Place the correct letter next to the item described.
a. Holy of Holies b. The Holy Place c. The Outer Court
____ Table of Shewbread ____ The Golden Lampstand
____ The Brazen Laver ____ The Mercy Seat
____ The Altar of Incense ____ The Brazen Altar
____ The Ark of the Covenant

7. For oil to keep the lamps lit, the children of Israel were to bring _____.
- a. Vegetable oil
 - b. Olive oil
 - c. Whale oil
 - d. Palm oil

Discussion Questions

1. Explain why each of the following views of God are wrong.

- God cannot be known _____

- God is far away from man _____

- God is impersonal and unloving _____

2. We read in this lesson that the Lord desires obedience that flows from a heart of love.

Read the following verses and explain where a heart that loves God originates.

- “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me” (Psalm 51:10).
- “For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness” (Romans 8:6–10).
- “We love him, because he first loved us” (1 John 4:19).

3. Explain how each of the following are fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

- a. Mercy Seat: _____

b. Altar of Incense: _____

c. Table of Shewbread: _____

d. Golden Lampstand: _____

e. Brazen Laver: _____

f. Brazen Altar: _____
