

119

MINISTRIES

“The following is a direct script of a teaching that is intended to be presented via video, incorporating relevant text, slides, media, and graphics to assist in illustration, thus facilitating the presentation of the material. In some places, this may cause the written material to not flow or sound rather awkward in some places. In addition, there may be grammatical errors that are often not acceptable in literary work. We encourage the viewing of the video teachings to complement the written teaching you see below.”

Parashah Points: Vayakhel – Making Room For God’s Presence

Welcome to another episode of Parashah Points—short thoughts from the weekly Torah Portion.

This week’s Parashah Point comes from Vayakhel, which is Hebrew for “He gathered,” and it goes from Exodus 35:1 to Exodus 38:20.

This Torah portion gives some laws governing Sabbath observance in addition to telling about how Israel built the Tabernacle.

There’s a lot we can talk about in this Torah Portion. Today we’re going to present a thought on making room for God’s presence.

Exodus 36:1

[“Bezalel and Oholiab and every craftsman in whom the Lord has put skill and intelligence to know how to do any work in the construction of the sanctuary shall work in accordance with all that the Lord \[YHWH\] has commanded.”](#)

This week’s Torah Portion tells of the construction of the tabernacle. The people provided the materials needed to build the sanctuary. And then, under the supervision of Bezalel and Oholiab, all the designers, engravers, embroiderers, and other craftsmen among the people worked together to build every part of what would become the dwelling place of God’s presence on earth.

Curtains, the Ark of the Covenant, the table of the Bread of the Presence, the menorah, the altars of incense and of burnt offerings—everything skillfully designed and constructed from scratch.

God inspired regular human craftsmen—former slaves, no less—to build him a house. He sanctified the work of human hands, taking up residence in an earthly tent that somehow overlapped with the heavenly realm. God’s eternal divine presence inhabited a temporal space in the wilderness.

Think about that for a moment. Humans worked to create a space for God, and God saw fit to dwell there. How much effort do you put into making room for God’s presence in *your* life?

God is pleased to dwell with his people. But we often don't sense his presence because we haven't made room for Him. We haven't worked to create a sacred space for Him in the midst of our busy schedules and earthly pursuits.

Put forth the effort to encounter God's presence, and he will meet you there. Make the time to pray, to sing, to worship, to study the Scriptures. Set your heart on doing the will of God. Care for the widows and orphans and the poor. Walk in God's commandments. According to Leviticus 26:11-12, one of the blessings for obedience is that God will dwell among his people and walk with them.

At the end of the age, God will make his permanent dwelling among us (Revelation 21:3). His presence will fill the whole earth. Until then, we can still get a taste of his presence—but we have got to make room for him. Create a sacred space for God in your life.

Thank you for joining us for another Parashah Point!

We pray you have been blessed by this teaching.

Remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom!

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

EMAIL: Info@119ministries.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/119Ministries

WEBSITE: www.TestEverything.net & www.ExaminaloTodo.net

TWITTER: [www.twitter.com/119Ministries#](https://twitter.com/119Ministries#)