

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via [hopewellarp.org](http://hopewellarp.org))

We Were finishing. Last week, we were considering The Lord preparing his people to receive material things when they do come into the land. As specifically tied to the spiritual condition of the church. That When the church was walking with the Lord in faithfulness and was being Therefore, More reflective of his own character.

This great nation with a God, so near to it and such good laws. Which you would hardly ever say about Israel? The way they ended up. Their track record. Throughout the Old Testament, but that when they were That the Lord would especially bless them with material things in which To make that display of him and his goodness.

Even in the ordinary things of this world. And so, that was Set against the backdrop of What sort of people they had been so far that even Between the Exodus. And Sinai. They had been. They conducted themselves as if complaining about material things was their primary calling? That they were just waiting for.

A little bit of scarcity in food or drink to, to grumble, and complain. And those two things. A kind of converge when it's time. For the Building of the tabernacle on the establishing of the worship of God, and the knowledge of his gracious and Merciful and glorious presence. Among his people.

Via the tabernacle, This is a little bit ahead of where we are in the Exodus breaching, but I think we're well prepared for it where we are and we actually already Seen when we were in. The previous chapter of Exodus. Remember 25 verse 2, he's already hinted at the willingness of the giving well not hinted at.

He's explicitly stated it not with the force that we will. That we will see. In chapter 35. But, When we see the Lord providing for his worship. And when we see that the great part of that provision isn't even. The material wealth that came out of Egypt and that's a miracle, right?

We when we started to hear preaching on The furniture in the, in the tabernacle and What what it was all made of which we're still doing and are going to do for another couple of weeks at least. One of the questions was, where would they get all these things?

Even knowing that there was gold and silver but you know, dolphinskins and Acacia wood, and So, that was miraculous. But considering who israel has been. Between even The Exodus and Sinai after seeing the plays. After seeing the Exodus. And even after the Red Sea, When we consider who Israel has been, we see that the greater miracle isn't actually the provision of dolphin skins and acacia wood and gold and Find woven linen and blue and purple and scarlet thread.

It's willing hearts. It's cheerful. Hearts. To be generous. This people. That we have seen act this way. After all of this that the Lord has done. And yet, that is one of the things that is especially highlighted in the overwhelming. Material provision, especially for His worship. And so, we see it first and The supplying of the tabernacle construction.

Exodus 35. Encourage you to have your Bibles open for this. We are Not going to read all of numbers chapter 7 That would take maybe half of our time. But, A Exodus 35. Importantly, it's after another restatement. Of the importance of keeping the Sabbath holy. And remember, this is going into the construction of the tabernacle.

So, You weren't allowed to weave for the tabernacle, curtains are veils On the Sabbath. It would be very easy to say, well that's church work. Well, Maybe, but you could do it during the six days, It's not worth it. The day is for worship. But the other part of Of the opening of Exodus 35 talking about the Sabbath, is that it reminds us The great generosity of God that he himself as the primary gift.

And that the purpose of all of the other gifts. Is the enjoyment of him. The reason they are so good is because he is good. And he gives us the one day a week to have that less mediated that more immediate. Fellowship with him worship of him. In order to shape the way.

That we operate in the other and the other six days. So he he's just come out of that. He gives that As a Preface. Now, as it were in chapter 35, and then he's and then it says, Moses spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel saying, this is the thing which you always commanded saying take from among you and offering to often.

Whoever is of a willing heart. Let him bring it as an offering to y'all but gold silver and bronze blue purple and scarlet. Thread, fine, linen and goat's hair, Ramskins died. Red badger. Dolphin, Skins and occasion would oil for the light and spices for the anointing oil and for the sweet incense, Onyx stones and tends to be set in the ephed And then the breastplate.

So, there is the material supply that God has given them, and they've had it For a couple of months now. And, One of the reasons that God had given it to them was so that they could give it back. For the purpose of supplying, the building of the tabernacle.

Now. You know what we are like when we have just received something precious. And you know what Israel has been like so far? But hold on, hold on to that. We're going to get to the The willing hearts. In a moment you already saw from it. You already saw it in verse 5 and we saw it back in chapter 25 and verse two already.

But there's not just Material, giving there's skill giving And time-giving. Not everyone would have the same amount. I guess it depended on who your neighbor was because everyone asked their neighbor and God gave them favor in the eyes of their neighbor. Not everyone has. The same skill. Verse 10.

All who are gifted artisans among you shall come and make all that. Yahweh is command it. The Tabernacle it's tent, it's covering its clasps, it's boards, it's bars, its builders and sockets, the arc and its poles with the mercy seat and the veil of the covering the table and its bulls all its utensils on the showbread also the lampstand for the light hits utensils.

Its lamps and the oil for the light. The incense altar. It's pulsey Anointing oil. The sweet incense. The screen for the door at the entrance of the tabernacle The ultra of burnt offering with its bronze grating. It's poles, all its utensils and the lavarin, its base, the hangings of the court.

It's pillars their sockets and the screen for the gate of the court. The pegs of the tabernacle, the pegs of the court and their courts The garments of ministry, for ministering, in the Holy place, The Holy garments for air in the priest. And the garments of his sons to minister his priests.

You see how much? How many details there were? And how many different types? Of skill or necessary. And, The Lord giving his people opportunity to do things. By what they were able to

do. Now, this is multiplied for the church. Because the number of skills that is needed for the church.

Is actually rather few by comparison. We have less outward glory. In the Covenant administration under Jesus Christ but we have more fullness of knowledge and more evidence of the glory of God in Jesus himself. And in his church and in what he has done and is doing in his people and more efficacy.

By the spirit. Something that will be. Highlighting again and again, as we as we continue through the The material on the tabernacle in this second half of the book of Exodus. Why? Because that's where Hebrews goes with it and you learn from God, how to interpret God's word, So, We interpret Scripture with Scripture, But that means That just having time.

Just knowing of need just being able to sacrifice whatever it is that you're spending discretionary time on when you find out. That there's a way that you could serve a brother or sister Instead, Sacrificing, whatever you're spending discretionary funds on. When you find out that there's someone with legitimate need, That you could be spending those funds on instead.

Sometimes. We wish we were children again. I'm speaking for the old people children. I know you all wish you were adults. So that life would be very simple. Because when you're a child and your parents home and mom or dad, give a command or even couch it as a request, which you receive as a command because God's law says honor and not just obey.

So if mom says could someone please, then everyone who has ever come out of her womb as just received a command from heaven. You don't have to wonder about God's will for your life. God's will for your life just became whatever. Followed could someone please out of the mouth of your mother?

Well, it's actually fairly simple for a believer, too. When there is need in the church. When there is need for the things that are necessary for the worship of God in his church. When there is, When there is need, Among other congregations. And your deacons, Let you know of that need and the intent that God has for us in in how we respond.

Praise God. We have Most of us, maybe all of us. Not sure. Gotten out of the. Prison paralysis. Of the herd school mentality. We are homeschooling families. That means we can be the special forces of displaying the goodness of God. And responding to needs. Our former congregation was very similar, almost everyone in the congregation.

Homeschooled, we had A chicken farmer with 180,000 laying hints. And his machinery broke. And suddenly 170,000 eggs. Had to be gathered and packed by hand. Every day. Well. It takes a special kind of A family to be able to drop everything. You know, if dad's the principal and moms the teacher, you just cancel school, right?

And if you've been led in, Deactonal service, if that's been part of Dad's leadership, over the home. Then you can suffer and it is suffering. Because that's 180,000 hens worth of chicken poop. And it is strong, and your nose, and your eyes burn, and you can only be in the hand house.

You know, these long barn got houses. For a minute or two at a time and you're constantly tagging out. But if you have a few homeschooled, Christian families, Who say that? My brothers moment of need is a providential assignment from God. Then, you don't have to wonder what God's will for your life is today.

God's will, for my life, is to nitrogen, burn my eyeballs and my nostrils. And, Collect eggs today. Just like when you were a child, hopefully, If you're reared and the discipline and instruction of the Lord, And whatever came out of mom's while Mom's now. Immediately. Revealed to you, God's will for your life.

God's will for your life has not to find the thing that you feel fulfilled by. God's will for your life as to feel fulfilled by God. And do that, which is glorifying unto him. And useful. Unto his image-bearers and especially, Those of who are and renewed into his image in Christ.

So there's the material giving in verses four through nine. There's the skill and time and effort giving and verses 10 through 19. And it's especially to show the miraculous work of God in the hearts of those whom he redeems. So look at this emphasis Unwilling hearts. We've already mentioned a couple instances.

I'll read them as well. Exodus, 25:2 speak to the children of Israel that they bring me an offering from everyone who gives it willingly with his heart. You shall take my offering, and then we're finally to the point of collecting the offering. In chapter 35, verse 5, take from among you and offering unto Yahweh, whoever is of a willing heart.

Verse 21. Then everyone came whose heart was stirred and everyone who's spirit was willing. And they brought Yahweh's offering. Verse 22. They came both men and women as many as had a willing heart. Verse 26. All the women, whose hearts stirred with wisdom, spun yarn of goat's hair. Verse 29.

The children of Israel brought a free will offering to Yahweh all the men and women whose hearts were willing to bring material for all kinds of work, which Yahweh by the hand of Moses. Had commanded to be done. This is one of the ways that, you know that taxes should be Should be well less than they are.

We've already seen that. The 20% that was targeted. Egypt was considered slavery. If any of you pay the less than 20% of your total income in taxes, Let me know about like to. Higher your accountant as well.

God. Can say. Everyone who is cheerfully willing. Among my people. Give what you determine in your heart for. I love a cheerful giver. Because it's God's love that made you cheerful. It's God's grace that made you willing. The government cannot say. Everyone who's cheerfully willing to pay taxes, pay taxes.

Because that would not end with All right. Now, everyone stop paying taxes. We've received too much. Because the government would never be satisfied. The first place. But in the second place, the people wouldn't get Just like we've been seeing in Second Kings. You know, the government can't heal your leprosy.

King says this man. Think I am God. That I can that I can heal a man. The government cannot produce. Economically. Something that we live in an age of insanity and have denied, but The king on the wall. Is it in today's Serial reading. I study multiple passages at once.

I think it's today's Where the woman cries out to him and he says if y'all he doesn't help you What can I do for you? Would you like for me to help from the wine press or from the dressing floor? He says, don't you know, you silly women that woman that kings can't.

Yeah, are not producers economically. Would we resources? Can only come from God, not from government. And the government can certainly not, if it can't give you health, then it can't give you funds. It cannot give you. A cheerful heart. Cannot give you generosity. God. Can. It's

wonderful. The Lord's Providence to us were in these places at the same time as we are in Psalms 72.

When it describes the rain of the forever king, the son of David King, Jesus and much of it has to do with his people, with the the subject of the king fearing God's name and blessing God's name and being a people of prayer. There's no government that can produce a people.

Well, there is one. There's one king. Who can? Produce that. In his people. And that's the point. Of deaconal service in the church. And that's the point. Of the leadership of the deacons over that service. In the church. So that whether the rest of the world says, oh look, they're better at social justicey than we are or not.

Which happens sometimes. After the ordaining and installing and effective ministry of the first deaconet, A great number of the priests you remember. I hope it's not too far back in Acts. A great number of the priests came to the faith. Why? Because they were Levites who A were supposed to be provided, for, by the cheerful, giving of the people and B were supposed to be managers of the charitable giving for the poor.

They knew. By experience. That even God's own legislation. God's own law. Could not produce what they had seen in the church. They saw the reality of the forever king and his kingdom. In the effective carrying out of the diagonal ministry of the church. The world doesn't always do that.

Sometimes the church saves babies that are being exposed in order to murder them, you know, the First century and second century equivalent to Partial birth abortion. And, The world says that's because they're cannibals. That's why they kick us out before, they're going to have the Lord's supper. Never mind your They were kicked out.

Lest they should. Profane the table and the whole church come under judgment and those who took in the wrong way and drink judgment to themselves, But they combined the mercy ministry of the church. To all of those babies that were being saved. And, With being kicked out. And they said, That's when they eat the flesh and drink the blood of those babies that they're Collecting.

Don't expect, don't do this. For the world to recognize the glory of Jesus in his church. They're not wired that way. They will speak of you unjustly as evildoers still. Peter says. Okay, you will be slandered as evildoers. But in the day, when God vindicates you, You having suffered as those who do good.

Will bring glory to God at his judgment. God is glorified by what God sees in his people first and foremost because God has produced it in Christ. And that is the great audience for our good deeds. Now. That which is light in and of itself and not and not compartmentalized light that's, which is light everywhere that it is and salt everywhere that it is, is going to be seen.

And God who is in In the midst of a plan of redemption, in which he's bringing to people, to faith is going to make that visible to others. And he is going to shame the world for their lack of love and their lack of mercy. And even as they slander you because you don't do it their way or believe in, in their methods, God will be glorified by the comparison between his church in the world.

But God will also be glorified by those, whom he is bringing to faith in that way. Sometimes displaying who Christ is and what he is like and what he does in his people and what they are like. Through diagonal ministry. But you do have first and foremost for him, who sees in secret?

You don't do it to be seen. You do it because you are. And whom the Lord wants to see it. He will let them see it. But he sees in secret and he rewards in secret. Because he is glorified in the giving and then in the displaying Of willing parts.

One of the things that helps many of us, I hope, In battling against. Secret sin is the fact that it will be. Revealed and exposed at the judgment. Well, there's a positive counterpart to that. That you delight in secret righteousness. Because Christ is going to be glorified. For the judgment.

Now. Emphasis on willing hearts. Emphasis on the spirit's work. We already saw this a little bit in verse 26, when we're seeing the shaping of the hearts, all the women, whose hearts stirred with wisdom, This is the first place in the Bible. That the language of being filled with the spirit, Actually appears There's, you know, some earlier, A Joseph has.

The spirit of God in him to Reveal dreams and to have wisdom and so far, so forth. But the language of being filled with the spirit of God appears first, in Exodus 35 verse 31, Yahweh called bezel L and he has filled him with the spirit of God. In wisdom and understanding and knowledge all manner of workmanship.

Etc. Verse 34. He has put in his heart, the ability to teach In him and the holy Abs, son of a Hisa map of the tribe of Dan. Verse 35, he has filled them with skill. Chapter 36 and verse 1. Every gifted artisan in whom yahweh has put wisdom and understanding Etc.

Chapter 36, verse two ever, gifted artist and whose heart. Yahweh has put wisdom, Everyone who's heart was stirred to come and do the work. There is. We suffer a lack of knowledge of biblical, theology of the Holy Spirit something again in God's providence that will be thinking about and considering in Acts chapter 16 today, And that is the The.

Omnipresent. And omnipotent work of the Spirit in the creation, something that was an emphasis Right from the opening verses of the Bible. God, created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and void and the spirit of God hovered over the waters. So that as God continues to create by his word, which we know are not just words but The person who is the Word, especially being the speaker of those words.

God, the Son. And you know John 1 Ephesians 1 Colossians 1, Hebrews one. All of those. Places where Christ is. The creator. We know that the spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son, we're not going to take time now to To look at all those passages. But it was the spirit by whom he superintended the creation, all the work that he did in the creation by his word.

There's a triune exercise and activity and not just the creation. But in all of God's providence, The spirit is also. Working. So, When you children. Advance. In your understanding of mathematics. And your understanding of the creation, what sometimes? Called the hard sciences. Although in an age where there is no such thing as truth, and The primary purpose of every class is to teach you to be woke.

Probably the idea of hard science. It's as it stays numbered if it hasn't gone already. But when you increase and understanding of those things, you who know God, the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, especially through the great revelation of himself, and Jesus Christ, You know, the spirit has filled me.

With mathematical knowledge, The spirit has put in me. A knowledge of chemistry and physics. The spirit has given me, whatever skilled trade it is that you learn. The Spirit has given me excellence in whatever these chores, are that mom is training me to do. Because all providence is personal.

And sometimes for unique moments of Providence, there have been Unique and greater. Gifts of the spirit. You know, we need to stop thinking of spiritual gifts as these Kind of Christian. Super talents. That's not the point. The point of the language of gifts is that Whatever you are, and whatever is in, you is from God, the Holy Spirit for the purpose of serving his church, It doesn't belong to you.

And you don't have the prerogative to withhold it. So that sometimes you read about the gift of hospitality, which you also read commands of hospitality. And at an age in which we have suffered charismia and started to view spiritual gifts as As Christian super talents, you talk about Hospitality or giving or service all of which are listed as gifts.

And well that's not my spiritual gift. Well, God commanded you to do it So yeah it is your spiritual gift.

Every one of you have the spiritual gift of hospitality, every one of you have the spiritual gift of giving Every one of you have the spiritual gift of service. How do I know? Because God who gives those things in the Christian also commands, those things of the Christian, Now, there are some things that we are not all.

You know, we're not all preachers, we're not all. Teachers. Just as not all were apostles or prophets and not all at tons or prophecy. In the age of the Completion of the revelation. Of God's Word to His people. But there are some things that we are all. And so, there's this.

This view of the God of all of creation and all of Providence, as redeeming for himself, a specific people in whom he does a gracious work that they would identify that it is he Who has given them all that, they are, and all that they have for the knowing and enjoying Of and making.

Known of the God who made them and redeemed them. That's what's going on in Tabernacle service, really thought we were gonna Finish. What you've got is number two there.

Not think we have. Enough time to get into it. But I'll give you a preview, I hope. That, if you, if you have A few minutes for it every week, especially If you're one of the men. Whom the Lord might be calling to be a deacon. Already. In our congregation that you're taking The time to listen to.

The family worship lessons through the serial readings in the first Timothy. We had. The. Likewise the women etc or the wives. A nicking James said. We had that this week and It's not the first time and that. That the fact that the oversight of Diagonal ministry in the church is given to men only.

Is taught in the Bible. 1st Timothy 3:11 where Women is not an office whereas overseer and deacon were offices. Women is something else. I explain it in the passage. Don't have time for it now. And you know, this coming week in verse 12 where the deacon is a man.

Of one woman. Act 6, where it was man on air. From, from which we get the the prefix and drove very specifically. The male sex. That was commanded for all the deacons. It's not the first place. That we see that in the church. We'll see that Lord willing next week.

Number seven. When we see the, the duty of the leadership, In giving. In provision. Being assigned to heads of Father's households, heads of plans, Chiefs have tribes Etc. And, Yeah. Pure father, or a husband, or a future father or And husband are hopeful future father or husband. Buckle up.

Because we're going to be learning something else. About. The leadership that we're supposed to have in our families, That we're not just in our families as Shepherds in the means of grace. But we're also to be. Leaders of our families in. Earthly ministry things. As well, and all We'll see that together.

Lord, willing next week, Let's ask for his blessing on this board. Our Father, how we thank you and praise you that you have created a people. For knowing you and making you known. Something you did not need us for. Something that you who live and reign. With the sun and the spirit from all eternity to all eternity.

In adoration. And appreciation. Love and glory in yourself. That you created us out of a generosity. That is not given to any of the other creatures. That we would be. The ones who have this fellowship. And all the more. In our union with Christ and our indwelling, by the Spirit.

By which, we know our adoption. By you, our father. And now we pray that You would bless to us, that which we have heard from your word. That you would grant each of us that work that your spirit does, Scripture interpreting scripture increase our understanding of the rest of your word.

By your increasing, understanding of the portions, we have just heard taught And then we pray, especially as you gather the family in heaven and on earth. To yourself. On this day, the family. From which The entire family of which get their name. From you. That does Jesus. Represents us in heaven and says, behold I in the children whom you have given me We pray that your Spiro would work in us, faith.

That we would come to Zion. That we would know the The Almighty-speaking of his blood as better than able. That in the reading and hearing and praying and preaching and hearing preached of your word in the visible sign. And seal Upon your word. That you would make us to hear and to heed that you would open our hearts.

To heed. The voice of him, who speaks from heaven. Who was shaking, heaven and earth. And bring us at. Last we pray to inherit. That unshakable kingdom. By working graciously in us. So that when we are finished with our works in this world, We will enter that rest of yours that you have already made us to know.

And to see from afar in, Jesus Christ your Son. Our Lord. In his name, we ask it all. Amen.