

**Friday, June 23, 2023 ▫ Read Exodus 39:32–43**

*Questions from the Scripture text: How much of what work was finished (v32)? According to what specifications had they done this? To whom did they bring it (v33)? How many of its parts? Which 33 parts are specifically named in vv33–40? And what other things in v41? According to what specifications had who done how much of what (v42)? Who looks it over in v43? What did he behold? How had they done it? How does Moses respond?*

**What does the inspection of the tabernacle construction work teach us?** Exodus 39:32–43 looks forward to the evening sermon on the coming Lord's Day. In these twelve verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **God completes, reviews, and blesses the work that He does—even the work that He does in and by His people.**

The Lord finishes His work (even through His people). The Lord had given very specific commandments for the design of the tabernacle. "According to all that Yahweh had commanded" (v32), "According to all that Yahweh had commanded" (v42), "as Yahweh had commanded" (v43). In between the giving of the design and the construction according to that design, we had seen how necessary such detailed commandment was. The incident with the golden calf showed just how dangerous it is for sinners to be in the presence of God.

How could they be in His presence safely? The ultimate answer is that it will be through Jesus Christ! And the very specific, very detailed commandments for worship are all ultimately bound up in who Christ is, what He would accomplish in His atoning work, and what He would accomplish in His intercession/mediation that continues upon the basis of that work.

So, the "was finished" of v32 finds echoes backward and forward in Scripture. "Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished" (Gen 2:1). "He said, 'It is finished!'" (Jn 19:30). "It is done!" (Rev 21:6). God finishes what He starts—in this case, what He was doing through His people, in anticipation of the work of Christ to make the tabernacling of God with man: "Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God" (Rev 21:3).

Israel desperately needed atonement, intercession, and mediation in order to have the presence of God safely and blessedly. And God had provided not only commandments, but the merciful and powerful sustaining work of His Spirit for the keeping of His commandments and the finishing of His work. For us today, who have a conscious union with Christ, we may be all the more sure that His Spirit is sustaining us in the part of God's plan that is being carried out in our lives.

The Lord reviews His work. In v33, they begin presenting everything to Moses. What a list it is of things that were to be presented! And Moses, as God's emissary to them, "looked over all the work." This too is reminiscent of the creation account: Gen 1:31, immediately preceding the "thus it was finished" of Gen 2:1, says, "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good."

God is a continual reviewer and approver of His work—particularly as it connects to His Son. It was the Son Who created all things, and through Whom they were created (cf. Jn 1:1–3; Col 1:15–16; Heb 1:2); and, God reviews the work and says, "very good!" At the beginning and end of Jesus's public ministry, at His baptism and transfiguration, God declares His reviews: "This is My beloved Son, with Whom I am well-pleased!" And the resurrection itself was a special declaration that Jesus is the well-pleasing, eternally-begotten Son (cf. Rom 1:3; Act 13:33).

This should warn us off of doing anything in ourselves, anything from our flesh, anything at all apart from faith in Jesus Christ and dependence upon His Spirit. He is reviewing the work!

The Lord approves His work. Here we come to our passage's parallels to "indeed it was very good" (cf. Gen 2:1) and "with Whom I am well-pleased" (Mt 3:17, 17:5; cf. Isa 42:1). "So they did" (v32). "So the children of Israel did all the work" (v42). "indeed they had done it... just so the had done it" (v43). And the ultimate, with Moses standing and speaking as God's emissary, "And Moses blessed them" (v43). Here is a great motivator to coming to the Lord in the way that He has commanded, in dependence upon His Spirit. When we come this way, we come through the Son, and the Lord is well pleased with Him and blesses us for His sake. What a glorious thing is the public worship of God's people, with which God is well-pleased in Jesus and blesses them for His sake!

What should we do in public worship? How should you approach your part in it? What joy does this passage teach you to take in it?

*Sample prayer: Lord, we thank You for bringing us near to Yourself through Jesus Christ. Help us, to come to You in detailed, diligent obedience to Your word, and depending upon Your Spirit, knowing that to come this way is to come through Christ. Please review and approve us in Him, and our worship in Him, and be well pleased with us and bless us, we ask in Jesus's Name, AMEN!*

**Suggested songs: ARP24 "The Earth and the Riches" or TPH354 "Not All the Blood of Beasts"**

**For more Hopewell @Home devotionals, please visit [hpwl.org/hah](http://hpwl.org/hah)**

(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))

Exodus 39 versus 32 through 43. These are God's words. Thus, all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting was finished. And the children of Israel did according to all that. Yahweh had commanded Moses. So they did. And they brought the tabernacle to Moses the 10 tendoles furnishings.

Its clasps. Its boards. Its bars pillars. Sockets. Um, the covering of ramkins diet red, the covering of badger, skins, avail of the covering the ark of the testimony with its poles. But the emergency seat the table, all its utensils on the showbread the pure gold, lamp stand with its lamps, the lamp set in order.

All it's utensils and the oil for light, the gold altar, the anointing oil, the sweet incense. The screen for the tabernacle door. The bronze altar, it's great greats of bronze. Its poles, it's utensils the lever with its base. The hangings of the court, its pillars and its sockets the screen for the court gate.

It's cords and its pegs all the utensils for the service. The tabernacle for the tentative meeting and the garments ministry to minister of the holy place. Holy garments for air in the priest and his son's gone, some ministers, priests. According to all that y'allah had commanded Moses. So, the children of Israel did old work.

That moses looked over all the work and indeed they had done it. Because y'all playhead command just So they had done. And Moses blessed. Amen. So far the reading of god's inspired and And errant wort. So wonderful. That conclusion here to The making of the things that were necessary.

For the tabernacle. For god to. Dwell favorably among his people. His sinful people. Uh, we've been in the design and We've been in the construction of the tabernacle for a while, but you remember, That in between the designing and the constructing. Now, we had the incident with the calf.

Uh, providence permitting. The people To display why it was so desperately needed that god would be with them by way, of grace, by way of atonement, you bring them near through a mediator through sacrifices. Uh, because he is. The hole in glorious. God and they are sinful people. And of course he had anticipated

this And all that he had.

Given in the design of the tabernacle, when Moses was on the mountain, And now, He sustains them in the work, that is needed to bring it to fruition. Everything now is prepared. Everything is ready. So again, we see that this grace comes that the initiative of god by the requirement of god.

Up in verse 32. According to all y'all had commanded Moses. So they did. And then you have a list. Of all the things they bring to Moses all the things and then Uh immediately at the end of the list verse 42, according to all that, you always command in Moses.

So the children of israel did All the work Moses looked over all the work. And they don't as yahweh had commanded. Just so They had done it. So, we see that in order, the sinners may We favorably received by and safely, blessedly half the presence of the living god he has given Is exact commands.

About how this can be done. And of course, we have the benefit. Of. More of the history of redemption and we can see that his exact commands All. Had their focus. On not just our coming near god, but god first coming near us and the lord jesus christ indeed taking upon himself.

Our own nature making himself. Our tabernacle. The god man more fit, more suited for coming near God than any. Any tent of divine design or temple? Uh, whatsoever. And god was bringing us near. To him. In christ and so it's wonderful to have This obedience to the commandments of god.

Now, By listing. Everything completely giving a full inventory like this. Uh, he's also, implying isn't he? That they didn't bring anything that the lord had not commanded. So what they brought was just as the lord had commanded, they didn't bring anything that the lord had not commanded. He's very A specific very detailed in this commands.

Out of grace, out of mercy. That we might not. Um, sin against his holiness and how we come near him, what a dreadful thing, it would be, what a dreadful thing, it will be. Um, not too many days. From now historically speaking. In the text, when the ordination. Of Aaron.

And his sons is completed. And on the last day, Um, two of his sons will Two of his sons will come near. Uh, bringing some something that the Lord has not commanded, they will sin against his holiness. And they will be consumed. By divine. Fire for doing so. But god is merciful and loves us.

And therefore he gives us the way of coming. And he shows us. On the whole in the account descriptor as a whole. That's the way of coming is through the lord. Jesus christ to many parts of his ministry character work. Or anticipate it. By the things. In in this list that they are presenting to most.

So that's the first part that That god.

Reviews. He Receives. All that he has commanded. And then the second part is, the Lord is pleased. With a towel, can the lord? Be pleased with the work of men. According to all that you always come in. Amongst said the children of israel did all the work. And, The lord approves of it.

And, Um, And his prophet, blesses them. Speaking in his place. Just as you always commanded, just so they had done it and moses blessed them. Well, the lord's is the one who's sustained them in the work. He's, he gave not only the instructions, of the commands, but remember, it was also his spirit of sustained them in it.

And we too, we want to come To worship lord's day by lord's day in the public worship. And do those things that the lord has commanded. Uh, but also to do then Independence upon his spirit. And knowing that as we do, what he has commanded as we do it independence upon his spirit.

Uh, that his spirit is consecrating us. Applying the sacrifice of christ's to us. Uh, removing by christ's sacrifice, the guilt of what we offer. Uh, Stirring up our faith, so that Coming in jesus, jesus is the righteousness and the worthiness. Of our worship. And there's this pleasure of god.

The pleasure that we saw it is baptism, pleasure that we saw at the transfiguration where god Uh says this is my beloved son. With whom i am. Well pleased. And now we know that when we come Than the way that god has commanded dependence upon his spirit. We come through christ and he considers us in christ, and he responds to his son in our worship.

And he says, this is my beloved son with him. I am. Well, pleased. And so, it's a wonderful picture of the israelites, bringing all the different things that god has commanded. And that god, the spirit himself has carried them along and doing exactly according to his word, exactly. According to the design that they didn't even know was anticipating, who jesus is what jesus would do.

But we have this, this picture of god's pleasure in approval of the worship that he has commanded, that comes to christ. They present all of them and you can imagine in each one of these things. A class sports sockets. Ramskins died? Right? Etc. All the way down, all the different things and How many different?

How many different men were involved and each perhaps big assigned to bring before. Moses the part that That he was the lead on or whatever. Um, and they present them all. And then, it's all been done. And they're waiting for the verdict. And Moses says, this is exactly according to the commandment of yahweh.

And he blesses them. Just as he commanded them in the name of yahweh, he blesses them in the name of Yahweh. And it is the foreshadowing of Or participates in the same dynamic of. This is my beloved son. With him by and wealthiest. We could even say it. This is worship.

Through my beloved son. With it. I am. Well, pleased. And that was true of tabernacle for a time. That was true of temple for a time. It was true wandering in the wilderness at first in the tabernacle, then it's silo and other places. It was true in jerusalem where the lord chose to put his name to his language of the scriptures and then you remember the Samaritan woman.

Um, Asking the question about either jerusalem or the mountain and surely mountains are better than jerusalem. And she thought, but of course, Whatever god chooses is better. He doesn't choose like man does. He chooses, according to his command, which is according to his pleasure, he chooses, especially according to the place.

Where his son would offer himself as once, were all sacrifice and his consecrating blood is atoning, blood would be said, and it would also be consecrating blood And jesus's answer is. Uh, yes. The jews were right, the salvation is from the Jews, but the time is now here, which neither on the mountain, nor in the tabernacle Because, Neither.

Well, the time is now coming. Uh, where it's not in jerusalem, but all who worship him would worship in spirit and truth. Because when they came through the tabernacle, he would say of the tabernacle worship, this worship comes through my beloved son with whom i'm well pleased. And then when it was at the temple, this worship comes through my beloved son through my well pleased.

And now We worship with jesus literally in heaven, having taken the blood of our atonement of the blood of our consecration there with him. And we come through faith in jesus, and we have jesus lead in the reading and the preaching in the praying, the one who prophesies from heaven even in the singing.

He sings God's prayers in the midst of the assembly, and what an amazing thing it is to go from one act of worship to another every Lord's day and to know that God says of that worship. This is This comes in my beloved son. With whom I am.

Well pleased. And we in Jesus are his beloved children with whom he is. Well pleased. So there's that there's that wonderful Well, conclusion verse 39 and Moses blessed them. It's all presented for review, not 39 verse 40. That three and Moses blessed him. Everything has been presented for review.

And God was pleased with it. And it's all based on That wonderful at the end or in the middle of verse 32. Thus, all the work. Of the tabernacle of attentive meeting. Was finished. And we can hear. Echo is going backwards and echo is going forward to three places in the Bible.

The end of creation. Thus, all the work of creating was done. He says. God reviewed. By God. The held what he had made and behold. It was very good. And so there's a significant to just finished there. And the most famous, it is finished. At least up until this point, of course, the it is finished on the cross.

And forsakenness. Of the sun for our sake because suffering punishment in our place. Has been completed. And he is back in. Um, Covenantally speaking. Of course, he never loses the love of the father. Father, never loves him so much. That's when he is giving himself. To receive the the penalty for our sins.

But the penalty is finished. The sin is finished the mission, the work is finished. And because Jesus did this Philippians to says the Lord gave him the name. That is above every other name. How pleased he was. With the finished work of his beloved. So, There's coming yet. Another glorious.

It has done. At the end, when the Lord Jesus. Returns those enemies are destroyed. The judgment is completed. And he has shown himself. Not only alpha the word. Um, who is God? And creator from the beginning of the omega. The one who concludes all things at the judgment. And the dwelling place of God is with man and it is done.

The tabernacling of God with man. In the last day. God completes. The good work that he has started out. And he reviews his work. Behold, it is very good. And we may rejoice to belong to him to be sustained by him. If this was true in a small or shadowing way in these Israelites, as they were making the tabernacle, how much more true For us, we are in Christ.

That we can look forward. To the completion of all things. So, Here we are at the beginning of another day. Retired small of us were sick. And our sanctification is very incomplete. And, We've we've got all of this. Ongoing weakness sinfulness. And yet, we know. That the work of Christ is already been finished and God is Perfectly pleased within Um, the work of Christ in his own life.

And now, the work of Christ and his people's lives is ongoing. But will soon be finished. And with it, the Lord. Will be. Well, pleased, praise God. So, let's Rejoice. That God has ordained to bring us near himself in Christ. And let us seek to live. According to all his good commands.

Father, thank you for this passage. Thank you for Reminding us that The point to the construction, wasn't just that it would be completed, but That you would be pleased with it. And with your people, for the sake of your son. Whom you have given in your love. We pray oh Lord that you would make us to know your pleasure in us in the Lord Jesus.

And to see, Your commandments as. Opportunity. Uh, to walk in the way that participates it him. Help us by your spirit, we pray. Just like you helped. The craftsman with the different parts of the tabernacle. Help us. With the part of your work in this world. That is assigned to our life.

Specific part that is assigned to this specific day. And make us to. Consider. With joy. Your pleasure in the Lord. Jesus and your pleasure in us. As united to him. Make us to know your blessing, the smile. Of your cabinets. Outpouring of continual favor on us. For the sake of Christ.

We asked these things in Jesus name.