

Exodus 30 & 31
“To Grow or Not To Grow?”

~ INTRO ~

AS WE CONTINUE...

- In the **Exodus** Narrative...
 - Let's reignite our understanding of this book.

THE BOOK STARTS...

- With God introducing a man – Moses...
 - Who then becomes the person...
 - God used to influence a Nation – Israel.

GOD...

- Drew the attention of the people of Israel...
 - By performing miraculous signs.

GOD...

- Taught His people how to live a life of faith...
 - By teaching them principles of truth.

HE USED THE...

- **10-Commandment**
- Instruction on **civil matters**
- Details about **religious matters**
- And the specifics with the **priesthood**

WE PICK UP TONIGHT... (Exodus 30:1a & 6b)

IDEA #1 – RELATIONSHIP BEGINS HERE

THERE ARE A FEW THINGS WE CAN GROW IN...

- Turn to **(Matt. 6:5-15) NLT**
 - Jesus breaks up religious prayer for relational prayer.
- He gives us (2) *don'ts* AND (2) *do's*

DON'T

1. **Don't copy the hypocrites (v.5)**
2. **Don't babble on-and-on (v.7)**

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DO

1. Private prayer precedes public prayer (v.6)
2. Prayer starts with relationship (vv.9-15)
 - Relationship (v.9a)
 - Worship (v.9b)
 - Obedience (v.10a)
 - Dependence (v.11)
 - Forgiveness (v.12)
 - Guidance (v.13a)
 - Deliverance (v.13b)

Ex. 30:7-8)

HERE’S WHAT WE KNOW...

- Incense represents the prayers of the saints
 - (Rev. 5:8) NKJV

HERE’S WHAT WE DO...

- Pray without ceasing
 - (1 Thess. 5:17) NKJV

IDEA #2 – FOLLOWING BY FAITH

(Ex. 30:9)

GOD PROHIBITS...

- Artificial worship... by calling it “*profane fire*”
 - Where activity replaces relationship!
 - He wants your heart first.

LESSON = We cannot substitute service for devotion.

- When our hearts get clogged up...
 - We need space to come back to a heart of worship.

OK...

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- Let me connect the next section...
 - By backing up to (Ex. 29:45-46)

(Ex. 30:11)

- God instituted this for His people (v.11)
 - a) Take a census (v.12)
 - b) Require financial contribution (vv.13-15)
 - c) Use the money for me (v.16)

LESSON = Money is a matter of faith for God’s people.

(Ex. 30:17)

- God ties worship to being clean...
 - Washed in the water of the word as Jesus put it.
 - (John 15:3) NKJV
- The disciples were clean because...
 - They accepted & did what Jesus said.
 - (There is NO fellowship without obedience)

(Ex. 30:30)

THE PRIEST WERE SET APART TO GOD.

- Today pastors are to be set apart to God.
 - (2 Tim 2:4) NKJV

FINALLY...

- Let me condense (chp. #31)...
 - Into three broad pictures.

(Exodus 31)

- I. (vv.1-11) = God provides specific gifted people for His work.
- II. (vv. 12-17) = Specific instruction from the Lord to Israel (Sabbath).
- III. (v.18) = All these instructions in faith were written by God’s hand.

IDEA #3 – REMAINING IN FAITH

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MUCH LIKE THE OLD TESTAMENT TAUGHT ISRAEL...

- The New Testament directs the church into healthy faith.
 - (2 Tim 3:16-17) NKJV

Doctrine = Tells us what's right

Reproof = Tells us what's NOT right

Correction = Tells us how to get right

Instruction = Tells us how to stay right

~ IN CLOSING ~

IF YOU'VE SEEN...

- An area of your life where you're not living by faith...
 - OR an area where you need to get right with someone else.

DON'T LEAVE TONIGHT...

- Without being renewed in the faith.

AMEN!