

3. The priestly "ordination" 29
 - a. Putting on the garments 29:1-14 (ceremony)
 - b. The consecration offerings 15-28
 - c. Succession 29-30
 - d. Distribution of offerings 31-44
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 - c. maintaining purity 17-21
 - d. compounding and utilizing the holy oil
22-38

Practical lessons abound in this..the holy oil, for example, in its aroma marked the priestly group. No one was to smell like that unless that party was of the priestly office. That the people were not alone in sanctification is indicated by the fact that even the serving vessels were holy. Holy, of course, means to be set aside to the Lord. All Israel was holy in that regard, but this class of servants and all to which they attended was marked by peculiar and unique separation to God.

C. The designation of help 31

In the face of the work to be done, the technical nature and the requirement of precision, most craftsmen would have trembled at the assignment. But in chapter 31 a couple of things are noted of great importance:

1. God has prepared the workers: 31:1-11..Bezaleel and Aholiab. Remarkably for later purposes, the former is from Judah, the latter from Dan. The instruction and work was done by all of Israel..no part of the later community could claim superiority. Note that God had prepared these men..in some ways he was delivering His people from bunglers!

2. God placed a sabbatical limit on the work 31:12-17 and I think it is instructive here when the tendency would have been to have worked night and day.

3. And finally, God gives to Moses the tablets of the law 31:18, written with the very finger of God..a guideline for their conduct in the building and hereafter.