

in italics. Possibly the subject is indefinite, and refers to whichever craftsman did each work.

36:8 does not indicate that the items were made in the exact order in which they are mentioned. Probably they were all being made simultaneously.

36:16 - The instructions in 26:9b about doubling back the sixth curtain (the one that lay at the front of the tabernacle) is not repeated here, because chapters 36-39 do not give details about how the tabernacle parts were positioned. Similarly 26:12-13 is not repeated after 36:18.

36:38 - "He overlaid their capitals and fillets with gold." In the passage parallel to this (26:37) it says only that he was to "overlay them (the pillars) with gold." This is an example of the infrequent but interesting variations between chapters 26-31 and 36-39.

THE TEXT OF EXODUS  
TRANSLATION

**37** And Be-zal-el made the ark of acacia wood: two cubits and a half was the length of it, and a cubit and a half the breadth of it, and a cubit and a half the height of it. (2) And he overlaid it with pure gold within and without, and made a crown of gold to it round about. (3) And he cast for it four rings of gold, in the four feet thereof; even two rings on the one side of it, and two rings on the other side of it. (4) And he made staves of acacia wood, and overlaid them with gold. (5) And he put the staves into the rings on the sides of the ark, to bear the ark. (6) And he made a mercy-seat of pure gold: two cubits and a half *was* the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof. (7) And he made two cherubim of gold; of beaten work made he them, at the two ends of the mercy-seat; (8) one cher-ub at the one end, and one cher-ub at the other end: of one piece with the mercy-seat made he the

cher-u-bim at the two ends thereof. (9) And the cher-u-bim spread out their wings on high, covering the mercy-seat with their wings, with their faces one to another; toward the mercy-seat were the faces of the cher-u-bim.

(10) And he made the table of acacia wood: two cubits was the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. (11) And he overlaid it with pure gold, and made thereto a crown of gold round about. (12) And he made unto it a border of a handbreadth round about, and made a golden crown to the border thereof round about. (13) And he cast for it four rings of gold, and put the rings in the four corners that were on the four feet thereof. (14) Close by the border were the rings, the places for the staves to bear the table. (15) And he made the staves of acacia wood, and overlaid them with gold, to bear the table. (16) And he made the vessels which were upon the table, the dishes thereof, and the spoons thereof, and the bowls thereof, and the flagons thereof, wherewith to pour out, of pure gold.

(17) And he made the candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work made of the candlestick, even its base, and its shaft; its cups, its knops, and its flowers, were of one piece with it. (18) And there were six branches going out of the sides thereof; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side thereof, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side thereof: (19) three cups made like almond-blossoms in one branch, a knop and a flower; and three cups made like almond-blossoms in the other branch, a knop and a flower: so for the six branches going out of the candlestick. (20) And in the candlestick were four cups made like almond-blossoms, the knops thereof, and the flowers thereof; (21) and a knop under two branches of one piece with it, and a knop under two branches of one piece with it, for the six branches going out of it. (22) Their knops and their branches were of one piece with it: the whole of it was one beaten work of pure gold. (23) and he made the lamps thereof, seven, and the snuffers thereof, and the snuff-dishes thereof, of pure gold. (24) Of a talent of pure

gold made he it, and all the vessels thereof.

(25) And he made the altar of incense of acacia wood: a cubit was the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof foursquare; and two cubits was the height thereof; the horns thereof were of one piece with it. (26) And he overlaid it with pure gold, the top thereof, and the sides thereof round about, and the horns of it: and he made unto it a crown of gold round about. (27) And he made for it two golden rings under the crown thereof, upon the two ribs thereof, upon the two sides of it, for places for staves wherewith to bear it. (28) And he made the staves of acacia wood, and overlaid them with gold. (29) And he made the holy anointing oil, and the pure incense of sweet spices, after the art of the perfumer.

#### EXPLORING EXODUS: CHAPTER THIRTY-SEVEN

1. *Topic:* The Inside Furniture. The chapter discusses the ark and the mercy-seat (37:1-9), the table of showbread (37:10-16), the lampstand (37:17-24), and the altar of incense (37:25-29). All of these items were inside the tabernacle building.
2. *Parallel passages:* (See the notes on the earlier parallel passages.)
  - (1) 37:1-9 (Ark and mercy-seat) - 25:10-22.
  - (2) 37:10-16 (Table) - 25:23-30.
  - (3) 37:17-24 (Lampstand) - 25:31-39; 27:20-21.
  - (4) 37:25-28 (Incense altar) - 30:1-10.
  - (5) 37:29 (Anointing oil and incense) - 30:23-25, 31-33, 34-38.
3. *Notes:*

Several statements in chapter twenty-five about the positioning of the articles of tabernacle furniture are not repeated in the parallel sections in this chapter. Compare 25:15b and 37:5; 25:21-22 and 37:9; 25:30 and 37:16; 25:37b and 37:22.