

As the LORD commanded

*And Moses did look upon all the work, and, behold, they had done it as the LORD had commanded, even so had they done it: and Moses blessed them.
Exodus 39:43*

Multiple chapters in Exodus describe the instructions for making the tabernacle and all its accoutrements, the offering of the people providing the necessary materials, and then the workmanship to create, assemble, and prepare it all according to the instructions. Moses had spent forty days in the mount receiving and recording the instructions. The LORD's instructions included His appointment of Bezaleel as the chief craftsman, along with Aholiab to assist, in leadership of the craftwork needed to accomplish the task (Exodus 31:1-6). The LORD also spoke of these, as well as an unnamed group of men who would accomplish the work, as receiving their wisdom, understanding, and cunning abilities in workmanship from the spirit of God. In particular, Bezaleel's and Aholiab's leadership included teaching the wise and willing hearts of the others. With these instructions and the materials that the people of Israel had offered "with a willing heart" (Exodus 35:5, 29), the work commenced. *Then wrought Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whom the LORD put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, according to all that the LORD had commanded (Exodus 36:1).*

The result of the work is described in our text. It is obvious from this description that Moses was quite impressed with all the work, insomuch that he promptly blessed them. And the characteristic of the work that seems to have impressed him the most is that they had done it as the LORD had commanded. These workmen had obviously used the gifts that the LORD had equipped them with to obey Him, and thus honor Him, in their work. If we review the instructions recorded by Moses in the preceding chapters, it is evident that, beyond the basic requirements, there was also room for application of their individual skills. Yet, in application of those skills, they did not depart from the commanded instructions, and the results of their work made that obvious, provoking blessing.

May this example remind us that there is no beneficial work that we perform that is not a result of His gracious equipping, whether in workmanship, or in mentorship. Although we may perform our work within the sphere of our own individual learning and acquired several abilities, we must remember that we are stewards of His gifts, and thus complete the work as the LORD commanded. This should impact not only the final product, but also the manner and attitude with which the work and required mentoring is accomplished. As we are admonished regarding our service: *And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ (Colossians 3:23-24).*