

THE STORY OF MOSES

Aunt Hattie's Bible Stories

by

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There is a free paraphrase of Scripture passages in use quite frequently throughout this book in the interest of youthful minds.
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CHAPTER THIRTY-SIX

THE TABERNACLE BUILT AND SET UP

When he came down from the mountain, from the glorious presence of Almighty God he carried the two tables of stone with the Ten Commandments written upon them.

Moses did not know it, but his face was so bright that Aaron and the children of Israel could not look at him. Finally Moses had to put a veil over his face until he was through talking.

The terrible experience of the golden calf made the children of Israel humble so that they listened with joy to Moses. He told them about the tabernacle that God wanted them to build for Him that He might come down and dwell among them.

How glad they were that God had asked them to give materials for His dwelling-place! What a happy, busy camp it soon became! There is no record of a quarrel or disagreement, but all the people worked together in love.

“The children of Israel brought a willing offering unto the Lord, every man and woman, whose heart made them willing to bring for all manner of work, which the Lord had commanded to be made by the hand of Moses” (Exodus 35:29).

Each one was to bring what he had. The women spun the cloth for the curtains and embroidered them, and the elders contributed of their treasures and helped with the building.

I smile when I read this part of the story because the spirit of giving was so contagious or “catching,” as we say.

From all over that great camp the people came with their gifts until the men in charge went to Moses and asked him to stop them. They had more than they could use.

“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.”

“And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, On the first day of the first month you shall set up the tabernacle.”

I'd like to have been there when Moses made the announcement to the people. How happy they must have been, for they had followed God's Word carefully!

Thus the tabernacle was put up on the first anniversary of the Passover, a year to the very day.

Eight times in the last chapter of Exodus it says they did **“according to all that the Lord commanded Moses.”**

What a thrilling time it must have been when they saw the golden boards and the silver sockets fitted together, and the lovely curtains hung up in their places! That beautiful white linen fence with its gate hung with the gorgeous embroidered draperies, must have been dazzling to the eyes in the glow of the morning sun!

“So Moses finished the work. Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.”

It makes us think of the Scripture which says:

“And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he shall dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God” (Revelation 21:3).

“And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went on in all their journeys; but if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the Lord was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.”

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