

- Intro: 1. I was asked a question once about the artwork the I do...,
“Dwight, why did you draw the distant mountains, then cover them over with a house in the foreground?”
2. The answer: “In order for you to have the whole picture in your mind, you must see what’s behind the house.”
 3. One might think God would start His work on the tabernacle from the outside in, but he really shows us here in Exodus 25 that God’s most important work begins with His holiness in the hearts of man, then manifests itself in their lives. Let us examine God’s beginning in your life.

Prop: **You must Begin with the Holiest!**

I. By Accepting God’s Humble Approach (25:10).

1. wooden base = Acacia/Shittim wood was grown in the desert, as Jesus was prophesied to be a “root out of dry ground” (Isa.53:2)...fully God, yet approaching by the man Chr.Jesus.
2. God’s interst in dwelling among us demonstrates His love.
3. Hebrews 4:15 speaks of the ultimate demonstration of God’s desire to help mankind relate to him personally in J. Christ.
4. Movie scene from “Richie Rich” thieves were angry and awestruck after breaking into a wealthy man’s huge vault only to find that his riches were keepsakes from family experiences—only those things which touched the heart.
5. Dear friend, the riches of God’s glory are seen in the simplicity of His love for you, enough to become a man. Will you accept your own worthlessness materially (as the wooden box) and accept yourself as one who needs God’s mercy?

II. By Believing God’s Golden Seal of Divinity(25:11-16).

1. Gold=of divine/royal origin (as we are)
Plating=fit for divine use; dedicated to royal use
Rings/Staves=ways for people to carry
2. Divine markings and purposeful hardware indicates a personal responsibility of faith.
3. Mark 8:34 indicates individual responsibility in faith—follow!
4. Sing Hymn, “Lead On, O King Eternal”
5. Folks, will you recognize God’s marks and structure given to you and put yourself in the service of the King of Kings?

III. By Confessing Jesus Christ as God’s Mercy-Seat (25:17-22).

1. Cherubim~the chief ruling power by which God carries on his operations in providence (see Ps.18:10).
2. God graciously lifted the burden of sin and death from mankind when he covered the law with His mercy.
3. Romans’s 3:21-28 speaks of a seat of satisfaction (propitiation)—God is satisfied by the sacrifice made.
4. Where is the Ark of the Covenant today? Rev.11:19-in heaven with our Great Savior.
5. Dear friend, Jesus is our Mercy Seat, the only, the closest way to approach God. Will you, dragged in the mire of sin, be lifted up today by God’s great love?

**Conc: LET YOUR Eternal Live truly
BEGIN TODAY with the HOLIEST...**

- by Accepting this Humble Symbol
God’s Love for Humanity
John 3:16, “God so love THE WORLD” →sinful you and me
- by Believing this Golden Seal
Glorious Leadership
“that He gave His only begotten son”→King Jesus
- by Confessing Christ as your Mercy Seat
Gracious Lifting of Sin’s burden & the Law’s Consequences
“that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting live.”

Invit. Hymn: _____ (#_____)