

# FILLED TO BUILD

**The Head. The Heart. The Hands.**

**Text: Exodus 31:1–5 | Mark 6:3 | Ezekiel 36:26**

*Sunday, May 31, 2026*

Opening Statement: God has never wasted a skilled person – He has only waited for the right filling?

Who was the first person in the entire Bible to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Not Moses. Not Elijah. Not a king. Not a priest. Not a prophet. Not an apostle. Not a pastor. Not a shepherd.

It was a craftsman. A builder. A man named Bezalel.

Exodus 31:3 — *“I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of craftsmanship.”* The first recorded filling of the Holy Spirit in all of Scripture was poured into a man whose identity was defined by what his hands could make.

Next question - What was Jesus' occupation before He began His public ministry?

Mark 6:3 — “Is not this the carpenter?” The Greek word is tekton — builder.

Craftsman. A man whose hands shaped wood and stone and constructed things.

The first person who was filled with the Holy Spirit in Scripture was a builder. The Son of God came to earth as a builder. And when the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus at the Jordan — a builder was filled with the Holy Spirit.

- ***The Holy Spirit has always been drawn to builders. Because the Spirit has always been in the business of building — tabernacles, temples, people, and a dwelling place for God in the earth.***

Today we are going to look at what the filling of the Holy Spirit actually does. Not just the theology of it — the anatomy of it. What happens inside a person when the Spirit fills them completely. And we are going to use Bezalel — a former slave, a craftsman, the first filled person in Scripture — to show us.

Three things...The Head. The Heart. The Hands.

The Spirit fills the mind. The Spirit heals the heart. The Spirit activates the hands.

And what comes out is not a performance. It is a dwelling place.

---

## **THE HEAD The Spirit Fills the Mind — Wisdom. Understanding. Knowledge.**

*[Exodus 31:3 / Romans 12:2]*

*“I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge.” — Exodus 31:3*

The first thing the filling does is cognitive. Not intellectual in the academic sense — revelatory. The Spirit goes into the mind first because you cannot build what you cannot see. You cannot construct what you have not first comprehended. The Head has to be filled before the Hands can move.

### **Three Dimensions of the Mind’s Filling**

Wisdom — *chokmah* in Hebrew. The practical application of knowledge. Not just knowing what to do — knowing how to do it rightly, in the right way, at the right time, for the right purpose. Bezalel already knew how to work with gold and silver and bronze and wood. But after the filling, his skill was Spirit-directed. Wisdom told his hands not just how to craft — but how to craft in a way that honored the presence of God. Same hands. Different seeing.

Understanding — *tebunah*. The ability to see how the parts connect to the whole. How your specific piece fits inside the larger purpose. Understanding is what allows a builder to look at separate materials — linen and wood and gold and bronze — and see a finished tabernacle before a single nail is driven. The Spirit gives the filled mind the ability to comprehend the full scope of the assignment. Not just your part. The whole.

Knowledge — *da’at*. Intimate, experiential knowing. The same word used in Scripture for the intimate knowing between husband and wife. Not information — relationship.

The filling gives the mind an intimate knowledge of the craft that goes beyond

technique. Every decision made in cooperation with the Spirit. Every measurement, every proportion, every choice of material — done not from training alone but from the Spirit's direct involvement in the thinking.

- ***The Spirit does not always give you new skills. Sometimes He fills what you already have — and makes it more than it was. The same mind. The same hands. But now — wisdom, understanding, and knowledge redirecting everything toward God's purpose.***

Romans 12:2 — “Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” This is not a suggestion for self-improvement. This is the description of what the Spirit's filling does to the Head. The mind gets renewed. The seeing changes. What was built for Egypt now sees the tabernacle. What was developed in the wrong house now comprehends the right assignment. The Head has to be filled first. Because what you see determines what you build.

***He was filled. Three words in English. One root word in Hebrew. And those three words carry more weight than most people have ever placed on them.***

The Hebrew word for filled in Exodus 31:3 is **male** — pronounced mah-LAY. It means filled to capacity. Filled completely. Filled to the point where nothing else can enter. It is not a partial deposit. It is not a measure of the Spirit proportional to Bezalel's skill level or his spiritual résumé. It is the complete occupation of a human being by the Spirit of God. The same word is used in Isaiah 6:3 — the whole earth is full of His glory. Same word. The glory occupying every available space. Nothing left unclaimed. And in Joshua 3:15 — the Jordan overflowing its banks. Male describes a river so full it has exceeded its normal boundaries. That is what God poured into Bezalel. Not a trickle. Not a measure. A river beyond its banks. A glory that leaves no space unoccupied. A filling that goes to the boundary and past it.

But here is the pastoral question that male raises — and I want you to sit with it honestly. You cannot fill what is already occupied. A vessel that is full of something else cannot receive the male. Which means the filling of Bezalel was not just God pouring something in. It was first God emptying something out. Egypt had to come out before

the Spirit could go in. The fear had to go. The Pharaoh-shaped reflexes had to go. The identity that was built by slavery had to go. The motive of building for a master who never honored the gift had to go. And the wilderness was not just the place where Bezalel was filled. It was the place where Egypt was emptied so the filling had somewhere to go. The sequence is always the same — emptying precedes filling. Always. And the question that male places before every person in this room is not only ‘do you want the filling?’ The question is: what are you holding onto that God wants you to empty out — so there is room for what He wants to pour in? What is still in the vessel that is preventing the male? What piece of Egypt — what wound, what wrong motive, what fear, what habit of building for the wrong master — is still occupying the space the Spirit is waiting to fill? He was filled. And before those three words were true — something else had to become untrue. Lord have Your way in this room today.

- ***Head Thread: The Spirit fills the mind with wisdom to know how, understanding to see the whole, and knowledge to build in intimate cooperation with God. A renewed mind is the foundation of everything the hands will do.***

---

## **THE HEART: The Spirit Heals the Heart — *From Egypt's wounds to God's worship.***

*[Ezekiel 36:26 / Exodus 1:11–14]*

*“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you.” — Ezekiel 36:26*

Before the Spirit can activate the hands — the heart has to be healed. Because a builder who has not been healed will build from wounds. A craftsman who is still carrying Egypt will build for Pharaoh even when they think they are building for God.

### **What Egypt Does to a Heart**

Bezalel was a slave. He did not choose Egypt. He was born into it. Every day he worked with his hands, he was producing things for someone else’s glory, someone else’s kingdom, someone else’s agenda. Egypt does not just affect the body. Egypt wounds the heart in specific ways.

Egypt teaches you that your gift belongs to someone else. That your skill exists to serve a master. That what your hands produce will never be yours — will never carry your name, build your legacy, or honor your God. Egypt produces a heart that builds out of obligation. Out of fear. Out of the ingrained habit of producing for a quota rather than from a calling.

And many people in this room know exactly what that feels like. Not as ancient history. As current reality. You have a gift. You have a skill. You have an ability that God placed in you — and it has been used. For the wrong master. For the wrong agenda. For someone else's glory. For a system that took what your hands produced and gave you nothing in return. Egypt doesn't have to be a country. Egypt is any place that owns your gift without honoring your calling.

- ***Egypt does not just take your labor. Egypt takes your sense of purpose. It convinces you that your gift is a commodity — something to be used and discarded — rather than a sacred endowment for a divine assignment.***

### **What the Filling Does to the Heart**

Ezekiel 36:26 — a new heart. Not a repaired heart. Not a patched heart. A new one. The Spirit's filling does not renovate Egypt's damage. It replaces it. The heart that built for Pharaoh becomes a heart that builds for God. The affections get redirected. What you love changes. What you want changes. The soul is reoriented from obligation to worship.

This is why the wilderness matters so much in the filling's story. Bezalel received the filling in the wilderness — after Egypt. Jesus received the filling at the Jordan and went immediately into the wilderness. The wilderness is where the heart gets healed of Egypt. It is where the affections get detoxed. Where the reflexes of slavery get replaced by the posture of sonship. Where the heart learns — sometimes slowly, sometimes painfully — that it is building now from love rather than from fear.

A filled heart does not build to earn God's approval. It builds because God's approval has already been declared. "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased" — spoken before a single miracle. Before a single sermon. Before a single thing was built. The declaration came first. The building flowed from it.

***Heart Thread: The Spirit heals what Egypt wounded. Before the hands can build for God, the heart has to be freed from building for Pharaoh. The filling does not just redirect the skill — it heals the motive. And healed motives produce holy buildings.***

---

**THE HANDS: The Spirit Activates the Hands — *Your gift redirected toward the tabernacle.***

[ Exodus 31:4–5 / Mark 6:3 / 1 Corinthians 3:16 ]

*“To make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship.” — Exodus 31:4–5*

Now the hands move. Not before. After the Head has been filled and the Heart has been healed — the Hands are activated. And what comes out of the hands is not performance. It is not striving. It is not Egypt’s quota. It is the overflow of what has already happened on the inside.

**The Hands That Built for Pharaoh Now Build for God**

Bezalel’s hands did not change. They were the same hands that worked in Egypt. The same dexterity. The same calluses. The same muscle memory. But the assignment changed. The master changed. The motive changed. And because the Head was filled and the Heart was healed — the same hands that built for Pharaoh’s kingdom now built the tabernacle. The dwelling place of God among His people.

And I need somebody to hear this today. Some of you have been apologizing for your gift because of where it was developed. Because Egypt trained you. Because the wrong system sharpened what God placed in you. You feel like the skill is tainted by the place it came from. Like God cannot use what Pharaoh touched.

But God is not confused by your history. He watched the development of Bezalel’s craft in Egypt the whole time — knowing that the hands being trained under Pharaoh were the hands He had already assigned to the tabernacle. Egypt did not contaminate the gift. Egypt unknowingly sharpened it. And the filling did not erase what Egypt built into

those hands. The filling consecrated it. Redirected it. And put it to work on something that would outlast every pyramid Pharaoh ever built.

- ***The skill you developed in the wrong place is not disqualified. It is pre-positioned. The filling is what redirects it from Pharaoh's agenda to God's tabernacle. What your hands know how to do — the Spirit knows exactly what to build with it.***

### **The Builder Thread — From Bezalel to Jesus to You**

Mark 6:3 — “Is not this the carpenter?” Jesus’ hands knew wood and tools and construction before He ever entered public ministry. And when the Spirit filled Him at the Jordan — those same hands went to work on a different kind of building. Healing the sick. Touching lepers. Breaking bread. Washing feet. Stretched out on a cross. And the carpenter’s hands became the hands that built the church.

Same hands. Different filling. Infinitely larger tabernacle.

And now — 1 Corinthians 3:16 — “Do you not know that you are God’s temple?” The progression is deliberate. Bezalel’s hands built a physical tabernacle where God dwelled. Jesus’ hands built a living temple — the church. And the Spirit now fills the believer so that they become the dwelling place of God. The building did not stop with the tabernacle. It did not stop with the cross. It is still happening. Right now. In you.

The filling that started with a craftsman in the wilderness is the same filling that now dwells in every submitted, Spirit-led, wilderness-forged believer in this room. You are what He is building. And you are what He is building with.

- ***The Spirit fills the Head so you can see the assignment clearly.***
- ***The Spirit heals the Heart so you can pursue it purely.***
- ***The Spirit activates the Hands so you can build it faithfully.***
- ***The same skill. The same hands. But now — consecrated. Redirected. Filled.***

***Hands Thread: The hands are the last to move and the most visible to move. But they only build well when the Head has been filled and the Heart has been***

*healed. What flows from a renewed mind and a healed heart is not performance — it is worship expressed through craft. And the building that results is a dwelling place for God.*

---

## CLOSING

Bezalel came out of Egypt with wounds and a skill. He went through the wilderness. And in the wilderness — the Spirit filled him. The Head received wisdom, understanding, and knowledge. The Heart was healed of Egypt's damage and redirected toward God's purpose. And the Hands — the same hands that built for Pharaoh — built the tabernacle.

Jesus came out of Nazareth as a carpenter. He went to the Jordan. The Spirit filled Him. He went into the wilderness. And He came out in the power of the Spirit — and His builder's hands constructed the kingdom of God.

And you — you came out of Egypt with wounds and a skill. You have been through the wilderness. The four F's have been stripped. The enemy's strategy has been named. The internal war has been fought. The feelings have been felt and the faith has held. And what the wilderness produced in you is a life that is ready to be filled.

Not partially filled. Not a measure of the Spirit proportional to your performance. Filled — male — to capacity. To the point where nothing else can get in. Filled for the assignment that was pre-assigned before you were born. Filled for the tabernacle that only your hands — with your specific skill, your specific history, your specific craft — can build.

- ***You are not building for Pharaoh anymore. You are not building for comfort or approval or survival. You are building for the One who filled you. And what you build will become a dwelling place for God.***

**The Head - Filled  
The Heart - Healed  
The Hands - Activated  
Filled to Build**

*The Spirit has always been drawn to builders. And He is looking at you right now — at what your hands know how to do, at what the wilderness built in you, at what Egypt unknowingly sharpened for this moment — and He is saying: I know exactly what to build with that. Come. Be filled. And build.*