

# Exodus 40:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses reared up the tabernacle, and fastened his sockets, and set up the boards thereof, and put in the bars thereof, and reared up his pillars.

## Analysis

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Moses' erection of the tabernacle—'reared up' (וַיָּקֵם, vayaqem, caused to stand)—emphasizes human agency under divine direction. Moses personally 'fastened' (וַיַּנֵּחַ, natan, gave/set) sockets, 'set up' (וַיִּשָּׂא, sam, placed) boards, 'put in' (וַיַּנֵּחַ, natan) bars, and 'reared up' (וַיָּקֵם, heqim) pillars. The detailed verbs teach that God's work requires human action—divine sovereignty includes human responsibility. Moses' hands-on involvement, despite delegating construction (chs 35-39), models leadership's engagement. Christ 'pitched His tabernacle' among us (John 1:14, ἐσκήνωσεν, tabernacled), divine initiative with human participation.

## Historical Context

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Moses personally erected the tabernacle, though Bezalel and Oholiab's teams constructed components (chapters 35-39). This hands-on involvement by God's appointed leader ensured exact conformity to the heavenly pattern Moses saw on Sinai (Exodus 25:9, 40). The assembly's success vindicated the artisans' faithful craftsmanship.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does Moses personally erecting the tabernacle despite delegating construction teach balanced leadership engagement?
2. What does divine direction requiring human action reveal about God's ordinary means of working?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיִּקָּם	מֹשֶׁה	אֶת	הַמִּשְׁכָּן	וַיִּתְּ	אֶת	אֲדָנָיו	
reared up	And Moses	H853	the tabernacle	and fastened	H853	his sockets	
H6965	H4872		H4908	H5414		H134	
וַיִּשֶׂם	אֶת	קַרְשֵׁי	וַיִּתְּ	אֶת	בָּרִיחַ	וַיִּקָּם	אֶת
and set up	H853	the boards	and fastened	H853	in the bars	reared up	H853
H7760		H7175	H5414		H1280	H6965	
עַמֻּדָיו:							
his pillars							
H5982							