

EXODUS 24-26

Please turn in your Bibles this evening to Exodus chapter 24 as we continue our study through the Word of God.

As we have seen, the children of Israel are at Mount Sinai in Arabia, and there they are receiving instructions from God, the Mosaic Covenant, how to build and furnish the Tabernacle, the priestly function and-so-on.

And for 11 months they will remain here receiving these instructions before moving on in their journey to the Promise Land.

Tonight, we will finish up the second division of this book, which covers Exodus chapters 19-24. This section is dealing with the Law!

We then will move into the last division of the book that begins in Exodus chapter 25 and will continue on through Exodus chapter 40. This section focuses on the Tabernacle!

This is the portable worship structure that God told Moses and the children of Israel to build so that they can worship Him by.

With that as our background, let's begin reading in Exodus chapter 24, starting in verse 1 and see what the Lord has for us as we study His Word.

EXODUS 24**VERSES 1-3**

Keep in mind that in Exodus chapters 20:22 through Exodus 23:33 God spoke to Moses alone.

And what we see here is that Moses was able to speak to God and hear from God directly, while the other 73 men, with the 70 elders were Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and they could only go so far and then the rest of the people stayed at the base of the mountain.

That was the Old Covenant and man could not approach God, only the priests could and only so far.

But under the New Covenant we can approach God through the blood of Jesus Christ, which cleanses us from all our sins.

In Hebrews 4:16 we are told, **“Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”**

Any time of day or night no matter where we are at in this world, we can go before His throne of grace, not Law because we could never approach God through the Law!

And in Ephesians 2:13 we are told, **“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.”**

What a wonderful gift Jesus has given to us because apart from His shed blood, we could never approach God!

So the question is, ***“How close do you want to get to God?”***

The choice is yours!

We also see here that Moses came down with the Covenant and the people all agreed to obey and yet, within 40 days they would break this Covenant by making a golden calf to worship God by.

Isn't it easy to get excited about doing something and then, after a short period of time that excitement is gone, and we let those things fall by the wayside. That is what we see here.

And the reality is, apart from God's Spirit enabling us to live holy lives, we too will fail, no matter how hard we try.

It is as Paul said in Galatians 5:16-18, **“I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.”**

You can't complete in the flesh what God wants you to do, you have to walk in the Spirit and allow Him to enable you to do these things!

VERSES 4-8

So Moses writes the words of this Covenant down and he also read these words of the Covenant before the people.

These words were not based on tradition, but they were written down so they could not be changed or altered!

And once again the people agreed to obey the Lord.

You see, these words were good, there was nothing wrong with them, there was nothing evil about them, but man apart from God cannot keep them.

And even then, with God's help, he falls far short of perfection!

These young men, possibly the firstborn of each family, (Exodus 13:1-11), are acting as priests here since the Levitical priesthood was not established yet.

And at the altar the blood was shed, speaking of salvation for without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins!

And it is only after our salvation, by receiving the shed blood of Christ into our lives that the sanctification process begins as Moses sprinkles the people with the blood.

It is as Paul said in Hebrews 9:12-14, **“But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”**

The blood of the sacrifice was upon the altar – *SALVATION*, and upon the people – *SANCTIFICATION*, just as it is in our own lives!

In I Thessalonians 4:3 we are told, **“For this is the will of God, your sanctification . . .”**

In other words, God’s will for your life is that you would be set apart from the world and set apart unto God. That you would become more like Christ, aligning yourself with His will and not what your flesh desires or what this world is trying to make you into!

In II Thessalonians 2:13-14 we are told, **“But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.”**

Our sanctification is only possible by allowing the Holy Spirit to work in our lives in accordance with the Word of God! And this sanctification process begins the moment we get saved and will continue on until we go home to be with our Lord!

VERSES 9-11

From these verses it seems that they saw God and yet, in John 1:18 we are told, **“No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.”**

And yet, in Isaiah 6:1 we are told, **“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.”**

How can this be?

Are the Scriptures in error?

And if this is not God, who is it?

I believe this is none other than the Pre-incarnate Christ who Moses, and these elders saw and communed with.

In fact, in regard to Isaiah 6:1, John tells us in John 12:41, **“These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.”**

Isaiah saw Jesus and I believe Moses and these other men also saw Him on Mount Sinai because no man has seen the Father!

Now some say that these men just looked at the feet of God, but I think that is a big stretch. I do believe that this is the Pre-incarnate Christ!

VERSES 12-18

Moses took Joshua with him, a young man he was building up in the faith and a man who will one day lead the children of Israel into the Promise Land!

One writer put it like this. He wrote, “*Joshua accompanied Moses for a distance and there waited six days (a solemn reminder of God’s unapproachableness), when Moses was called higher to a personal and private interview with God, which lasted nearly six weeks (Deuteronomy 9:9).*” (Thomas)

So here is the picture of how they were assembled at Mount Sinai. The nation of Israel was at the foot of the mountain, that is as high as they could go. Then there was Aaron and his sons plus the seventy elders of Israel, and they were half-way up the mountain. And lastly there was Joshua and Moses and Moses went up further than Joshua to meet with God!

I have shared this before in our studies, that Mount Sinai is not a volcano, as some may speculate. It was made out of granite rock!

So this is not a volcanic explosion, but the glory of God shining brightly and for 40 days and nights in which Moses was on this Mountain with God. And he had no food or water and thus, God supernaturally sustained him during that time.

I think Paul nails this for us as he tells us in Hebrews 12:29, “**For our God is a consuming fire.**”

In other words, He will consume those who have rejected Him in the fire of His judgment, and He will purge out the garbage in the lives of those who love Him and believe in Him and He will do this with the fire of His sanctification!

Let me ask you this. What was given to Moses on Mount Sinai?

Now there can be several answers here but specifically, what did the Lord give to Him?

He gave to Moses – ***THE LAW!***

And it is here that we see God take the form of a consuming fire and that just tells me that the Law was never given to save man by, but to condemn man by. The Law is a mirror to show us how far short we come to what God desires. And thus, we are all guilty before God!

That is Paul's point in Romans 3:19-20 regarding what the Law can do. He wrote, "**Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.**"

I don't know how clear this can be – ***BY THE DEEDS OF THE LAW NO FLESH WILL BE JUSTIFIED IN HIS SIGHT!***

As I have said, we don't approach God by the throne of His Law but by the throne of His Grace and it is there we will find His mercy extended to us!

Paul goes on to say in Romans 3:25, "**being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.**"

And in John 1:17 we are told, "**For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.**"

And just one more, in Ephesians 2:8-9 we are told, **“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”**

The Law shows us that we are sinners and Jesus comes and extends His grace to us and thus, we are saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone!

If you want to stand before God through the Law, understand that He is a consuming fire, and you will be judged and found guilty. Praise God for His grace!

Now as we move on in our study, we will see the instructions or the blueprints you might say for the building of the Tabernacle.

While Moses was on Mount Sinai, he not only received the Law but also these instructions.

It is here at the Tabernacle, also called the Tent of Meeting that the people would gather as a nation and as individuals to worship God. It was placed in the center of camp to be the focal point of the nation!

EXODUS 25

VERSES 1-2

Notice that God does not tell Moses to let the people know what this offering is for but that he was to let the people know that there was a need.

Why did God do it that way?

The reason is really simple. God wanted Israel to be motivated by a willing heart and not that they felt guilty to give.

So Moses was to receive this offering from the people, whatever they felt they were to give.

It is far different today many times where people are forced to give!

Let me give you one example from Pastor Jesse Duplantis and you tell me if this is from God or from somewhere else.

He said: ***“I honestly believe this - the reason why Jesus hasn’t come is because people are not giving the way God told them to give.”***

He claimed that if more money is donated then Jesus’ return will ***“speed up”***.

- <http://bit.ly/40MEr9x>

I think you can clearly see that this was not of God but to make Jesse Duplantis more money!

That is far different from what we see here. They were not forced to give, they were not coerced to give, but if they ***“willingly”*** wanted to give, they gave.

And God accepts what is given willingly but not what is given out of compulsion or out of necessity!

We see this principle in the New Testament as Paul tells us in II Corinthians 9:7, ***“So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.”***

Here's the thing we need to remember. God is not poor, God is not broke, not at all. In fact, we are told in Psalm 50:10-12 what God has. We are told, "**For every beast of the forest is Mine, And the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the mountains, And the wild beasts of the field are Mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you; For the world is Mine, and all its fullness.**"

You see, God created everything and everything is His. And what we see is that God allows us to give back to Him what He has given to us to bless people, to minister to people, to give glory back to Him!

But you need to understand that God does not need our offering. And the reality is, like I have said, it's His anyway and He gives us an opportunity to give, not grudgingly or out of compulsion, but freely, cheerfully to Him to build the Kingdom of God!

We don't have to give to God. We get to give to God!

VERSES 3-9

This is what was needed to build the Tabernacle and in today's economy, there are estimates anywhere from 20 million dollars to over 200 million dollars. Whatever it was, it was a lot of money.

Now you may be wondering where they got all this wealth from. Think about it, they left Egypt as slaves, so they did not have much to take with them. So how could they give all these materials to build the Tabernacle?

If you remember from our earlier studies in the book of Exodus, all these things came from the Egyptians before the Jews left Egypt.

We see this in Exodus 3:22, “**But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, namely, of her who dwells near her house, articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing; and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians.**”

And we see this take place in Exodus 12:36, “**And the Lord had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they granted them what they requested. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.**”

And please understand that they did not steal this from the Egyptians. This was backpay for the 400 years that they were slaves!

Now the purpose of the Tabernacle was that it was to be the dwelling place of God and where the people could come and worship God. It was not that God exclusively lived in the Tabernacle and later on in the Temple, specifically the Holy of Holies, but again, that was the place where they could meet with God!

Now in Exodus 25:8 the Lord told Moses, “**According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it.**”

Why was God so particular in how this Tabernacle and all its furnishings were to be constructed?

Yes, it would be the dwelling place of God, but I believe that it is more than that!

In Hebrews 8:5 we are told, “**who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, ‘See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.’**”

In other words, this Tabernacle was a copy of heavenly things, the throne of God.

It was just a shadow of what was to come also, the Messiah, Jesus Christ!

You see, He is the substance so don't hold onto the shadow!

Paul, in Hebrews 9:6-11 put it like this, **“Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the first part of the tabernacle, performing the services. But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people’s sins committed in ignorance; the Holy Spirit indicating this, that the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing. It was symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience - concerned only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances imposed until the time of reformation. But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.”**

Thus, God gave very specific instructions on how to build this worship center, the Tabernacle!

Now we will into some of the furnishings that were in the Tabernacle.

VERSES 10-11

As I have said, God is going to give to them the various items within this Tabernacle and notice that this is from God's perspective, from the Holy of Holies outward.

When we look at it through man's perspective, it is the opposite, there must be the sacrifice first and-so-on, before we can approach God and that is how the Tabernacle was set up.

And we will see this as we move on, but first what God sees.

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

The Ark of the Covenant was a small rectangular box measuring 3 feet 9 inches long, 2 feet 3 inches wide and 2 feet 3 inches high.

It was made of Acacia wood (from a shittah tree and called shittim wood), and it was overlaid with gold.

There was no cover on this box yet, but God is going to show them what that cover will be and what will be placed in this box.

And no, Indiana Jones did not find this Ark and it is not stored in a warehouse in Washington. But I do believe it will be found one day, when they are ready to rebuild the Temple!

VERSES 12-15

The Ark did not have handles on it so that you could lift it up and carry it with your hands; you were not to touch the Ark.

It had rings on the four corners for which poles were inserted so that once again no one could touch it.

Remember in II Samuel 6:6-7, as David was bringing the Ark back to Jerusalem on a cart, not the way it was supposed to be carried, and the Ark began to tip and Uzzah tried to steady it and was struck dead.

You see, inside the Ark was the Law and you can't touch the Law and live, only God's grace and mercy allows us to live!

And you remember Raiders of the Lost Ark where Indiana Jones found the Ark and the evil people tried looking inside and they were toast.

That was true and you can read of that in the Scriptures, not like the movie but God had very strict rules about this box!

We read of this in I Samuel 6:19 where we are told, **“Then He struck the men of Beth Shemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the Lord. He struck fifty thousand and seventy men of the people, and the people lamented because the Lord had struck the people with a great slaughter.”**

VERSE 16

As I have said, the Law of God, the Ten Commandments were placed inside the Ark.

And according to Hebrews 9:4 Moses also placed a jar of Manna and Aaron’s rod that budded, besides these two Tablets of the Covenant!

VERSES 17-22

THE MERCY SEAT

The Mercy Seat was actually the lid for the Ark of the Covenant, and it was made of pure gold.

And, if it were 1 inch thick, it would weigh about 750 pounds!

On this Mercy Seat were two cherubim and as God looked down from His dwelling place, He meet with the children of Israel above the Mercy Seat.

And keep in mind that in the Ark was the Law, which they never kept and thus, they were found guilty before God.

But what about the Mercy Seat? Wasn’t there any mercy for them?

Not without the shedding of blood and I will show you what I mean in a minute.

Paul put it like this in Romans 3:23-26, **“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”**

Jesus, by His death, became the substitute sacrifice for us, a propitiation.

When He hung on the cross of Calvary He was judged in our place as the sins of the world were cast upon Him.

Thus, the Father could demonstrate His righteousness in judgment against sin while sparing us who deserve His judgment!

The word **“propitiation”** in the Greek is *HILASTERION*, (hil-as-tay'-ree-on) and it is used in the Septuagint for the Mercy Seat, which was the lid that covered the Ark of the Covenant where the Law of God was kept.

And on the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur the High Priest would enter the Holy of Holies and sprinkle the blood of a goat upon the mercy seat to atone for the sins of the people, Leviticus 16:15.

But Jesus has come to be that perfect sacrifice and to take away, not cover our sins.

It is as Isaiah 53:4-6 tells us, **“Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”**

It is as Clark said: *“Here we learn that God designed to give the most evident displays of both his justice and mercy. Of his justice, in requiring a sacrifice, and absolutely refusing to give the salvation to a lost world in any other way; and of his mercy, in providing THE sacrifice which his justice required.”*

You see, God does not meet with us upon the Law, which condemns us but upon His Mercy Seat where the High Priest would sprinkle the blood on the Day of Atonement and thus, the blood covers the Law and God can have mercy on us because our sins have been paid by the blood of the sacrifice of another, a picture of what Christ would do!

In I John 2:2 we are told, **“And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.”**

The Amplified Bible puts this verse like this, **“And He [that same Jesus Himself] is the propitiation (the atoning sacrifice) for our sins, and not for ours alone but also for [the sins of] the whole world.”**

And The Living Bible puts it this way, **“He is the one who took God’s wrath against our sins upon himself and brought us into fellowship with God; and he is the forgiveness for our sins, and not only ours but all the world’s.”**

John is saying that Jesus is our propitiation or Mercy Seat for the Septuagint, or the Greek translation of the Old Testament Scriptures uses the same Greek word for Mercy Seat in Exodus 25:17 as John uses here in I John 2:2.

VERSES 23-30

THE TABLE OF SHOWBREAD

As you looked into the Holy Place, which was outside the Holy of Holies, on the right side was the Table of Showbread.

It too was made out of Acacia wood and overlaid with gold and its dimensions were 3 feet long, 1½ feet wide and 2 feet 3 inches high.

Rings were placed on the corners of this table and poles placed through them so that when it was time to move, it would not be carried by the hands of men but lifted by these poles!

The Hebrew word for “**showbread**” literally means “*bread of faces*” and the idea here is the priests would eat this bread before the face of God!

There were 12 loaves of bread placed on this table representing the 12 tribes of Israel and once a week they would be replaced and only the priests could partake of this bread. (Leviticus 24:5-9).

Keep in mind that all these furnishings as well as the Tabernacle itself is a picture of Christ and you don't have to think too hard to figure out what this Table of Showbread represents.

In John chapter 6 we are told, **“And Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. . . . Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.’”** John 6:35, 47-51.

Just as physical bread is needed to sustain our physical bodies, spiritual bread, partaking of Jesus is needed for our spiritual bodies, our spiritual wellbeing.

And apart from Him, spiritually we are dead.

And, since He is the Word, then as we partake of the Word of God, we are, in a sense partaking of Jesus, our spiritual food!

VERSES 31-40

THE LAMPSTAND

The Lampstand, made of pure gold, had a middle shaft with three branches that came out of each side, so there was a total of seven lamps.

And please keep in mind that this was an oil-burning lamp and not a wax candle as we see so often today.

Each morning and evening the priests would tend to the wicks and the oil to keep it burning, they would not let the light go out.

As you looked into the Holy Place this seven-branched oil-burning Lampstand was on the left side.

Now keep in mind there was no light in the Holy Place except from this lampstand and the only light in the Holy of Holies, where God dwelt was from His glory as He dwelt above the Mercy Seat between the cherubim!

Again, this is easy to figure out how this is a picture of Jesus.

In John 8:12 we are told, “**Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.’**”

Thus, as we look to Jesus, He will guide us by the light of His Word illuminated by the light of His Spirit.

In fact, in Revelation 4:5 we are told, “**And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunders, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.**”

Keep in mind that the Tabernacle is a picture of the throne of God in heaven. And Moses was told, “**And see to it that you make them according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain.**”

Also notice the six branches coming out of the seven.

Six is the number of man and seven is the number of completeness, of Jesus.

Our life is in Him!

Also, in the Holy Place was the altar of incense located in the middle of this room, right before the veil that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies, and we will cover that as we move on.

EXODUS 26**VERSES 1-6**

Keep in mind this structure is being described from the inside out, but we can only approach the sanctuary from the outside in. That is interesting to me because that is how God works in our lives, inside out. Man tries to do it on his own, to clean himself up outwardly, to approach God through his good works, by doing this and doing that, but only God can transform a person from the inside out!

The Tabernacle proper was 45 feet long, 15 feet wide and 15 feet high.

Within this was the Holy Place and it was 30 feet long and 15 feet wide and 15 feet high.

There was also the Holy of Holies, which was 15 feet long and 15 feet wide and 15 feet high.

The interior curtain was beautiful blue, purple and scarlet with cherubim weaved into it.

The dimension of this fenced in area was 150 ft. long by 75 ft. wide by 7 ½ ft. high. It's door was made of beautiful designs and you would enter into the Tabernacle area from the east.

VERSES 7-13

Covering this beautiful curtain was another curtain made probably of black goats' hair.

This too is interesting to me because the only way you could enter into the heavenly realm, see this beautiful curtain of blue, purple and scarlet with all these cherubim on it, was from the inside, as you entered through the door or the veil!

Jesus is that door! To get into the Tabernacle area, you came through an area that measured some 30 feet wide.

VERSE 14

Covering the black goat's hair curtain was rams skins that were dyed red, and finally, covering that was another curtain made of "badger skins" or probably porpoise or sea cow skins.

Thus, no light could penetrate in; the only light came from the seven-branched oil-burning lamp in the Holy Place and the Shekinah glory or the presence of God in the Holy of Holies!

VERSES 15-25

The walls of the Tabernacle proper, the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies was made of acacia wood, and it was overlaid with gold.

The boards were held together with bars that came across them and each board rested on two sockets of silver. These sockets of silver were made with a talent of silver, or each board rested on a base of 264 pounds of silver!

Silver is the metal of redemption in the Scriptures, and thus, the foundation of the Tabernacle was silver. (Exodus 21:32, Leviticus 5:15, 27:3, 27:6, Numbers 18:16, and Deuteronomy 22:19).

Jesus was betrayed for silver (Matthew 26:15). That points us to the redeeming work of Jesus Christ, for if our foundation is not based upon His finished work, there is no redemption, the structure will fall apart!

VERSES 26-30

Like I have said, these walls were held together by a series of bars that ran through these boards, making the walls very sturdy.

VERSES 31-33

This veil separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies, where God dwelt. No man could enter the presence of God except the high priest and only once a year on the Day of Atonement or Yom Kippur after he was ceremonially clean!

When Jesus was crucified on the cross of Calvary the veil in the Temple, during the evening sacrifice, was torn from top to bottom.

And no man could do that.

Some say that this veil was as wide as four fingers or some three to four inches thick! The veil in the Temple was much thicker but keep in mind that this was a portable worship structure and it needed to be taken down and set up every time they moved.

Thus, no man opened the way to the Holy of Holies, the presence of God. But that view was torn from top to bottom when Jesus was crucified, opening up the way to God the Father!

You see, this place where only the High Priest could enter and only once a year was now open for all of us to enter in through Jesus Christ.

Paul tells us in Hebrews 10:19-22, **“Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.”**

We have access to the Holy of Holies, the presence of God through Jesus Christ! What a blessing we truly have, something that the Old Testament saints did not have!

Tragically, many today have done what the Jewish people have done; they have sewn the veil back up by rejecting Jesus and trying to enter in by a works relationship, the Law!

VERSES 34-35

Here is just the arrangement of the furnishings of the Tabernacle in the Holy Place and Holy of Holies.

The Ark of the Testimony or the Ark of the Covenant was in the Holy of Holies and upon it was the Mercy Seat with the cherubim.

Outside the veil in the Holy Place was the Table of Showbread on the north side or on the right as you entered the Tabernacle, which speaks of fellowship.

The Lampstand was to the south side or on the left side as you entered the Tabernacle, and it speaks of illumination.

And lastly, not mentioned yet, was the Altar of Incense, which was in the middle, between the Table of Showbread and the Lampstand, and it speaks of prayer!

VERSES 36-37

This was the only way to enter the structure, through the east gate. That should sound familiar to us because, as Peter said in Acts 4:12, **“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”**

Did you see that there is salvation in nothing else, no one else, it is only through Jesus. In other words, Jesus is the door that we must enter into for that eternal life. There is no other door or doors and that is the tragedy for many as they are deceived that they can enter the presence of God any way they want. You can't!

It is as we are told in John 10:7-10, **“Then Jesus said to them again, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.’”**

In other words, you can't enter into heaven any other way except through Jesus.

If you try to climb over the wall, climb in another way you are a thief and a robber because you are stealing what doesn't belong to you, eternal life! And you can't steal eternal life from God, but you can receive it by faith!

That is so important for us to understand, that you can't possess eternal life until you enter through the door – Jesus Christ!

As we close this evening, remember that these things were a shadow of what was to come, Jesus Christ. He is the substance.

Tragically, many hold onto the shadow and they do not embrace Jesus.

Apart from Him we are dead in our trespasses and sins.

Thus, we cannot fellowship with God, we cannot be illuminated by God, we cannot pray to God and thus, we cannot enter into the Holy of Holies, the presence of God!

He is the Lamb of God who has come to take away the sins of the world!

Remember what Paul wrote in Hebrews 4:16, **“Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”**

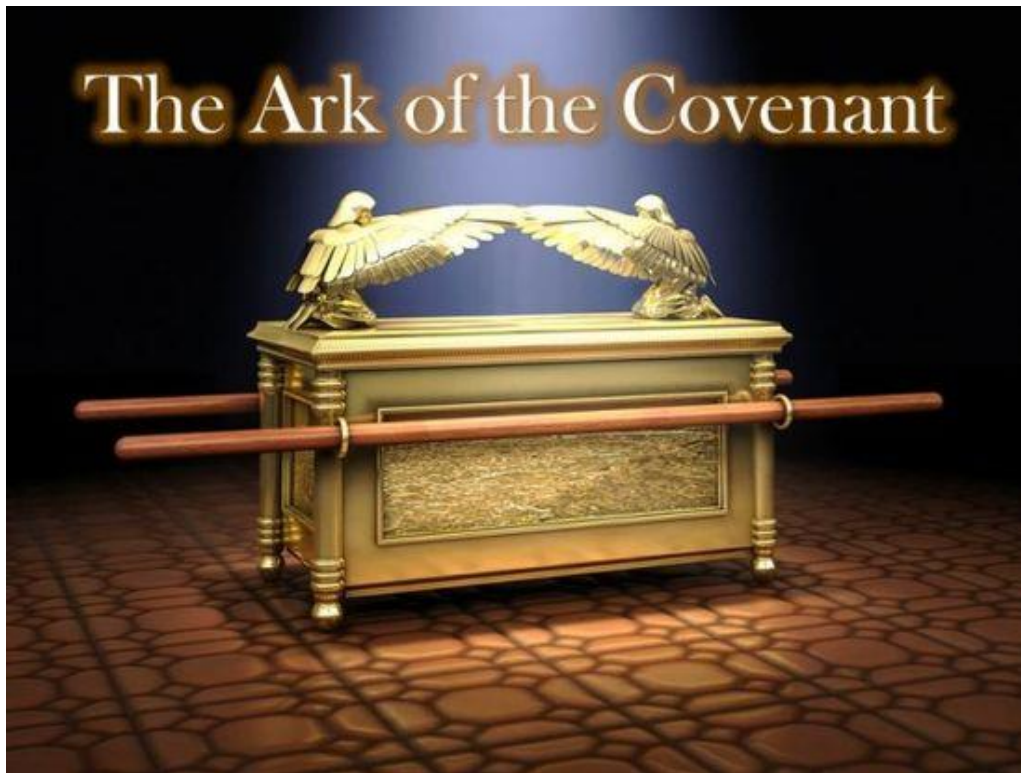
We can come before God not through our good works, not through any man or priest, but ***WE CAN COME BEFORE THE THRONE OF GRACE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST AND IT IS HERE THAT WE CAN FIND THE GRACE WE NEED FOR WHAT WE ARE GOING THROUGH!***

THE TABERNACLE





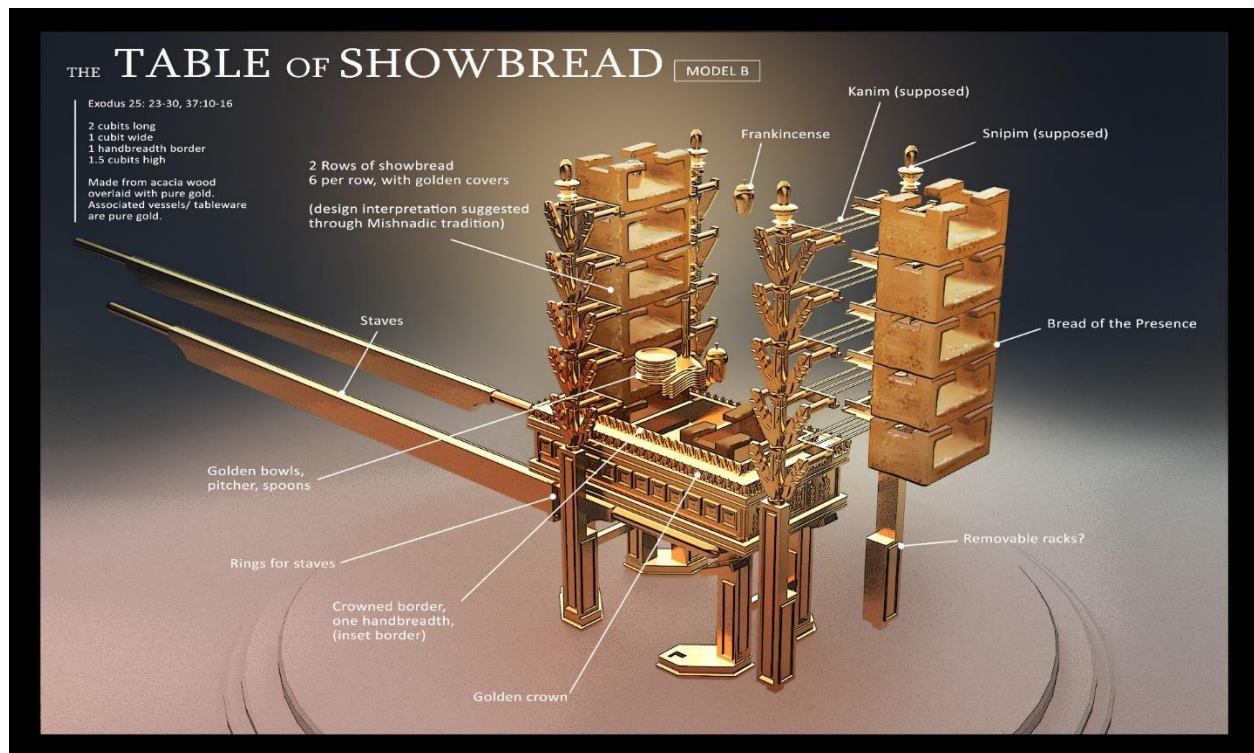
THE ARK OF THE COVENANT



ALTAR OF INCENSE



TABLE SHOWBREAD

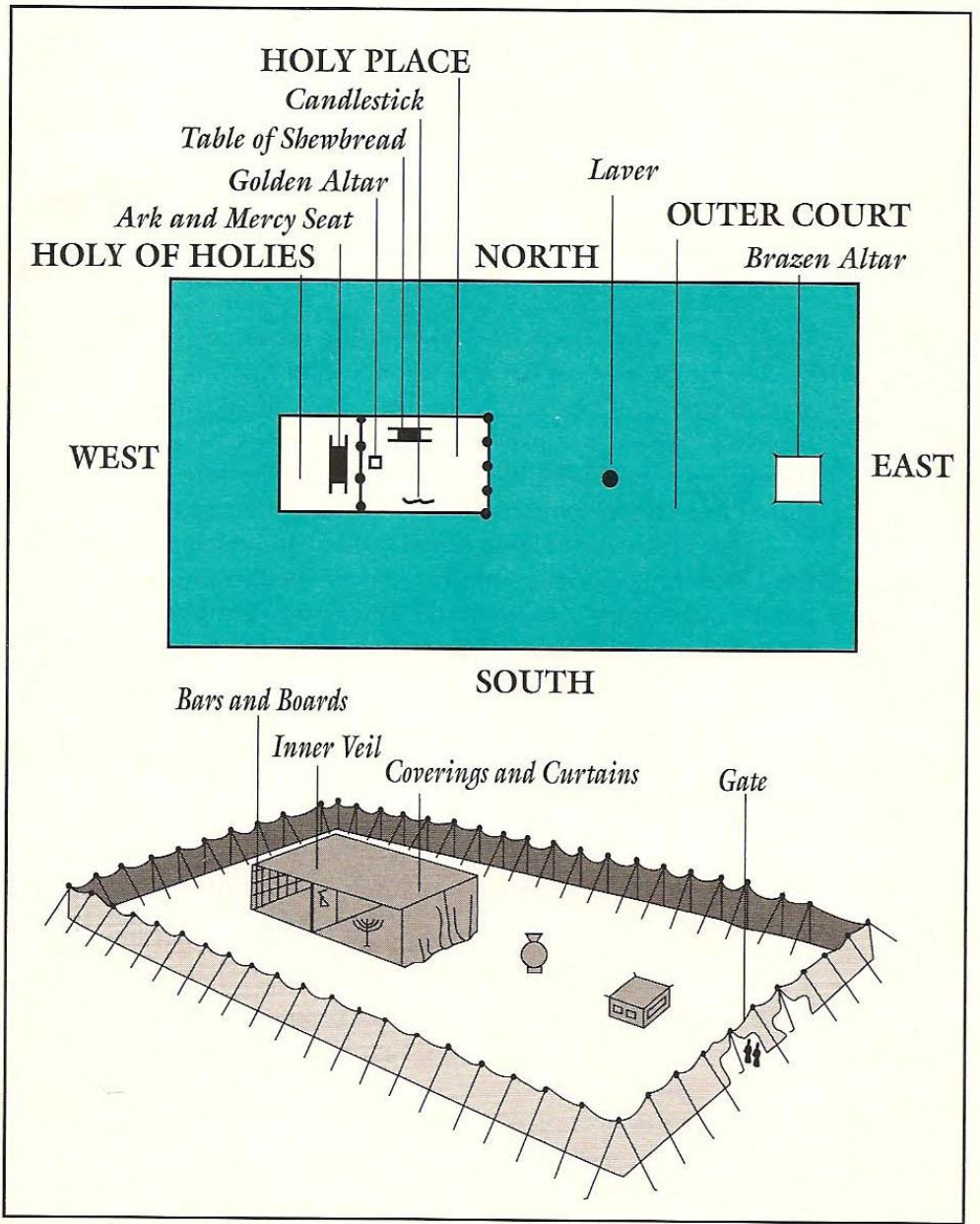


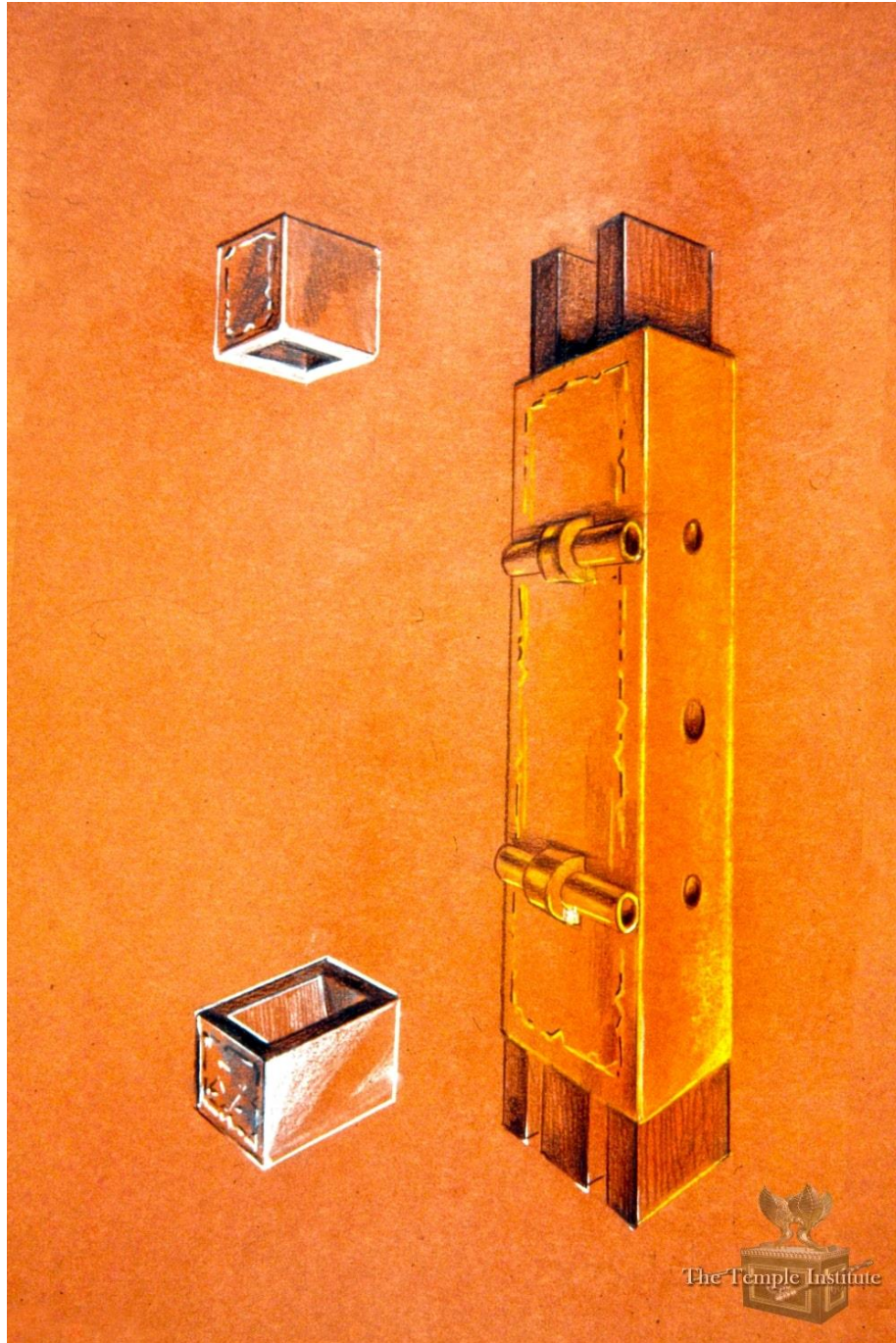


SEVEN-BRANCHED OIL-BURNING LAMP (MENORAH)



Arrangement of the TABERNACLE





The Tabernacle Beams and their Fittings

The Tabernacle beams, (*krashim*), were made of acacia wood overlaid with gold. At the top of the beam were three tenons and at the bottom, a double tenon. The beams were adjoined at the top by silver sockets, (*taba'ot*), that fit over the tenons. The double tenon at the foot of each beam were inserted into silver sockets, (*adanim*), that served as a base for the wall. For additional support, bolts were inserted into gold rings placed along the length of the beams.

