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THE TABERNACLE

God's Portrait of His Son, the Lord Jesus



The Tabernacle gives us a vivid picture of our need towards God. God is represented by the "Glory Cloud" dwelling in the Most Holy Place. People are seen outside the gate.

"GOD IS INSIDE AND WE ARE OUTSIDE"

Every entry and all the "furniture" between us and God all picture various aspects of the Person and Work of the Blessed Lord Jesus.

The Tabernacle

The tabernacle is a picture of the Lord Jesus and His salvation. It is a picture story to teach us the true lessons of salvation that we do not easily grasp otherwise.

What did the tabernacle mean to the Israelites? It told the story of the Passover, or the Redemption of God for His people. The avenging God sees the lamb's blood and passes over His people, but judges and condemns the Egyptians (Ex 12).

Exodus 14 demonstrates the redeemed being saved from the power of slavery through the Red Sea. What was the goal or point of redemption? - to bring the people into the land of milk and honey? - or to bring His people unto Himself ?

Ex 19:4 - Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how **I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself.**

The tabernacle was to be a place for God to dwell among His people. This could only be done if the people were redeemed from their sins and bondage to sin. Then God could dwell/fellowship among His people.

Ex 25:8-9 - And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

The goal of redemption was for God to dwell among His people!

Why was the lesson taught before the promised land out in the desert? Because, the people quickly drifted from God. They told Aaron to make God "visible" for them, and the idol golden calf was created right after the Passover and safe passage through the Red Sea. They were redeemed so God could dwell among them, but they immediately created other gods!

Goal of redemption: to live among His people. The tabernacle teaches spiritual lessons about eternal realities (copy and shadow of heavenly things). = Heb 8 & Ex 25:40.

As you continue on through this web site and discover the lovely truths pictured in the Tabernacle, thank the Lord for such a God as this who stretched forth the heavens and bent towards us to open our hearts to the Love of a Savior who desires to be known by His people!

THE GATE



THE LORD SAID, "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND & THE LIFE"

The Lord Jesus is the only provision God has made where with He can save people and build the Body of Christ. The Lord is salvation. But yet He is far more the Lord is the entry into fellowship with the Divine Godhead. He is the Gate, the way into the presence and enjoyment of all that God is. As you enter through the Gate you come across several pieces of 'furniture'. Every piece and minute detail will speak to the 'spiritual' person as a picture of Christ, the action involved gives us a photo album detailing the Work of Christ. The items given in the list that follows are all links to the page they describe:

1. [altar](#) - salvation through the blood of substitute (Calvary).
2. [laver](#) - cleansing by the water/Holy Spirit. The Baptist "I use water, He uses the Holy Spirit." Jn 1:32 cleansing from the power and vileness of sin = renewal and regeneration, not cleaning up the old- Titus 3:5 (Pentecost).
3. [table of showbread](#) - bread of life, *means* of sustenance/life - (picture of the Lord).
4. [lampstand](#) - light, *source* of life..."
5. [altar of incense](#) - intercession of High Priest (prays for us) at right hand of God now. "saved to the uttermost to make intercession for us..."
6. [ark/mercy seat](#) - Whom God sent forth as our mercy seat/propitiation = where we meet God. God provided a sacrifice and man is welcome in the presence of God at the mercy seat = Lord Jesus Christ where we can now come boldly into the presence of God. [The tabernacle court and gate reveals that if you want fellowship with God, you must come god's way through the gate.](#) The white linen surrounding the court told all that this was holy ground.

John 10:9; I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

At the east end of the tabernacle was a gate unto God's presence where God's glory could be enjoyed in the peace and rest of the tabernacle. To receive blessing, you must enter in. **This was the residence of holy God and was to remind man of his unholy state.** "If any man" = all are welcome, but must "enter the true door = by me". "If enter" = not automatic salvation, each must enter willingly, knowingly.

Luke 13:23-28 - Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, **Strive to enter in at the strait gate:** for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are: Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. **But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.** There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.

What eternal benefits do joining church, performing rites, hearing sermons etc bring? The way in (salvation) is by coming personally to the Lord Jesus Christ and knowing him and him knowing me.

John 10:26-28 - But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. **My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish,** neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

Matt 7:13-14 - Enter ye in at the strait gate: **for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.**

If you still live a "do as you please" life you have entered the wrong gate. Few find the straight gate leading to the narrow path of salvation. How can one be sure they have entered into the way of life? It is entered only by **knowing** the Lord Jesus Christ!

John 10:9 - **I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved,** and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

Nicodemus knew the law, but it did not provide eternal life. He came to Jesus and stood "at the gate." Nicodemus recognized Jesus as a teacher from God. Yet, until Nicodemus personally entered in the gate, he could not have eternal life:

John 3:3-7 - Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.** Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.** That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, **Ye must be born again.**

If Nicodemus did not believe earthly thoughts, how could he believe heavenly thoughts of the one sent to provide salvation. **We must believe the one God sent down from heaven to earth to be the door unto eternal life.** The door is here on earth today for all lost souls. There is no "future door" to be opened in heaven at a later date. "If any man enter in, he shall be saved." Each must confess Jesus as Lord and enter in personally. We are brought near by the blood of Christ.

Eph 2:13 - But now **in Christ Jesus** ye who sometimes were far off **are made nigh by the blood of Christ.**

The way to God begins at Calvary's cross when a sinner comes to Jesus for new life. When we first enter the gate of the tabernacle we see the brazen altar first reminding us of this truth. There are **two sides to the gate** that opens in, **those "in Christ"** and those **outside the gate under the wrath of God.** Do we make others see the reality of entering into God's holy presence or remaining outside the gate for eternity?

Heb 6:18-19 - That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, **who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil.**

BRAZEN ALTAR

"cleansing by blood"

2 vessels in outer court:

a. Altar - animal sacrifice cleansing by blood = The CROSS (salvation).

b. Laver - cleansing by water (removing character flaws) Neither cleansing is enough alone - *a double cleansing is needed.*

Heb 10:22 - 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.**

John 3:5 - Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

What is cleansed by blood and how?

Heb 9:14-16 - **How much more shall the blood of Christ**, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, **purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?** And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.

- What = conscience - (defiled by sin guilt) - sin - leads to guilt (aware of the wrath of God).
- How cleansed = by blood of Christ due to wages of sin = death - life is in the blood - Christ's death paid sin debt Christ's resurrection provided life!
- Evidence = death has taken place = penalty paid.

The conscience may now be cleansed and free.

I Jn 2:1-2 - My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: **And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.**

Heb 9:14 - How much more shall the blood of Christ cleanse the conscience to serve..."

We may come only on the basis of the "blood of Christ." That is why "... the body that thou hast prepared for me..." (Heb 10:4) was sacrificed. How did this sacrifice differ from the OT sacrifices?

OT---- CHRIST

1. animal---- human body

(What did animal know about sin?)

Many people today want to live like animals. Humanist do not believe in sin and want to live by instinct. SINS are not just "bad deeds" but transgressions against God's HOLY LAW. As man loses his sense of sinning against God, he begins to live like an animal (he loses his relationship and responsibility to God). This is from a creature created to do God's will for God's pleasure! Only one human body (Christ's) came to do the will of God. At Gethsemane Christ would say "Not my will, but thy will be done."

Heb 10:1 - For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, **can never with those sacrifices** which they offered year by year continually **make the comers thereunto perfect.**

Heb 9:9 - Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, **that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience.**

The law and animal sacrifices could not clear conscience of guilt. The must be repeated year by year "remembrance of sin" = legal term used by God/Judge - He looks His into ledger book and says "guilty sinner" = remembrance

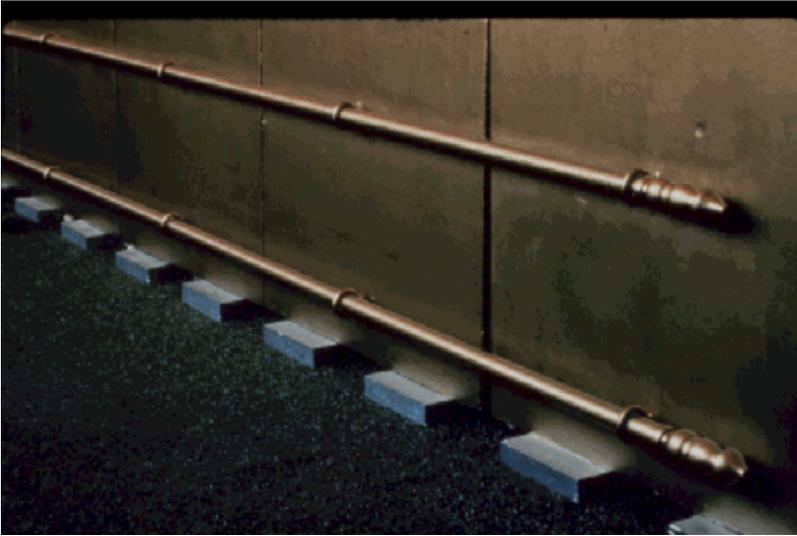
Heb 10:9-12 - Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. **By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.** And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: **But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God.**

David had forgiveness but not "conscience made perfect" and could not go into "holy of holies". Yet now under the New Covenant, the conscience is cleansed once for all! **Why is Christ's cleansing good after only one time?** The righteous judge will never bring up sin charges again to one cleansed by His blood.

Heb 10:14-19 - For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; **And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.** Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Christ

Has Christ made your conscience perfect? Do you have complete forgiveness of sins. Setting people free is the true gospel. It produces a conscience made free.

WOODEN FRAMES OF THE TABERNACLE



‘Having done all, we stand’

Ex 26:15-29 - And thou shalt make **boards for the tabernacle** of shittim wood standing up. Ten cubits shall be the length of a board, and a cubit and a half shall be the breadth of one board. Two tenons shall there be in one board, set in order one against another: thus shalt thou make for all the boards of the tabernacle. And thou shalt make the boards for the tabernacle, twenty boards on the south side southward. And thou shalt make **forty sockets of silver under the twenty boards**; two sockets under one board for his two tenons, and two sockets under another board for his two tenons. And for the second side of the tabernacle on the north side there shall be twenty boards: And their forty sockets of silver; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board. And for the sides of the tabernacle westward thou shalt make six boards. And two boards shalt thou make for the corners of the tabernacle in the two sides. And they shall be coupled together beneath, and they shall be coupled together head of it unto one ring: thus shall it be for them both; they shall be for the two corners. And they shall be eight boards, and their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets; two sockets under one board, and two sockets under another board. And thou shalt make bars of shittim wood; five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle, And five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the two sides westward. And the middle bar in the midst of the boards shall reach from end to end. **And thou shalt overlay the boards with gold**, and make their rings of gold for places for the bars: and thou shalt overlay the bars with gold.

The frame held up the tabernacle suggesting "unity". The boards stood "side by side". How did they get the boards to all stand up straight? How do you get unity in Christ = one body? This is what the tabernacle is to teach us. The sockets of silver insured that each plank was positioned properly. Each time they were to be carefully set up after the pattern given from heaven. The silver represented the ransom price for the redemption of the individual from the civil government in the book of Exodus.

How will we stand in God's presence? The NT fulfillment is seen in:

1 Pet 1:18-19 - Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

Each board of the tabernacle had to stand in the silver socket for the frame to be upright. **Each believer must be personally standing in the redemption of the Lord Jesus**. The church is not association of believers and unbelievers. **The unconverted can not stand alone before God**. Those

unsure of their salvation, having one foot on the blood of Christ and one foot on performance/self, are not saved. Redemption ground demands both feet standing on the silver of salvation.

How was the tabernacle kept at the proper form and angles? Special "corner" clips or sockets maintained right angles. The temple was built using this same architecture means by working from the first stone being set properly and the rest of the building being established from that point. The NT uses this analogy of the temple referring to the cornerstone. If the chief cornerstone was misplaced or in error, the whole building as out square and unstable. What a contrast to the cornerstone and foundation of our faith:

Eph 2:20-22 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone**; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: **In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.**

1 Pet 2:4-8 - To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, **Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.** Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, **Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.** Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

Peter uses the picture of the cornerstone to illustrate how God builds His spiritual house where there are to be sacrifices offered unto God. What is acceptable unto God (what does God like)? God likes the chief corner stone and wants us to be fitted unto it as living stones.

Man rejected God's corner stone. Peter remembers rebuking Jesus over the same thing,

Matt 16:22 - Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.

Why must Jesus be rejected? God thoughts are not our thoughts, His ways not ours. The Pharisees took Jesus and killed Him and went back to worshipping their god. **Are we prepared to let our ideas go and be completely conformed to Him?** We are to come constantly to Him in His word and through His spirit to be shaped, conformed, and changed to His image.

Has God made provision for there to be practical unity in Christ? What is the key? Notice the word "**one**" in the following passage:

Eph 4:3-6 - Endeavouring to **keep the unity** of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is **one body**, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in **one hope** of your calling; **One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God** and Father of all, **who is above all, and through all, and in you all.**

Note: Keep the unity, not create it. One body, not Jew and Gentile church, not Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, etc. **ONE** hope, baptism, faith, Lord NOT TWO! **Labels advertise disunity, not harmony. Beware!** Why do we work for unity? How are we to do it?

Eph 4:11-16 - And **has given** some, apostles, and some prophets and some evangelists and some pastors and teachers; **For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:** Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the

Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; **But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:** From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

We have not yet arrived at the state of full grown spiritual beings. Yet our assurance has already been fulfilled.

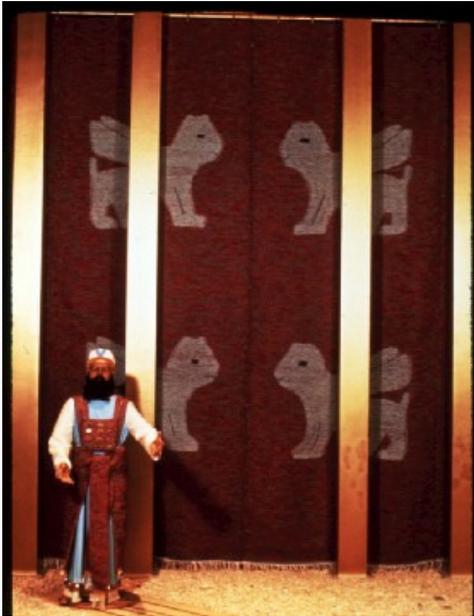
Eph 4:7-10 - But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things). The frames all covered in gold and standing in silver looked like one perfect structure. So it is in the spiritual tabernacle.

John 17:22-24 **And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one; I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one;** and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me. Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

Today I may stand in the very presence of God. Do I see the glory, the cost, and the pleasure that the Father finds in His Son?

THE VEIL

"THAT IS TO SAY HIS FLESH"



Ex 26:31-33 - And thou shalt make a veil of blue, purple, scarlet and fine twined linen of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made: And thou shalt hang it upon four pillars of shittim wood overlaid with gold: their hooks shall be of gold, upon the four sockets of silver. And thou shalt hang up the veil under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the veil the ark of the testimony: and the veil shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy. (KJV)

Heb 6:16-20 - For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife. Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, **who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:** Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which **entereth into that within the veil; Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.**

Heb 10:19-22 - Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an 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.**

The study of the tabernacle opens up the teaching of New Testament salvation for our understanding. The second door in the Tabernacle proper (the veil) prevented entrance into God's presence by unholy people. When the veil was rent top to bottom, it signified the end of Judaism and the beginning of Christianity. Christ's death tears down the veil, "It is finished" = the end of Judaism.

Lesson #1 - all tabernacle furniture, symbols, ceremonies finished

Lesson #2 - reality of **the Lamb of God** in the person of Jesus Christ

Heb 10:19-20 - Having therefore, brethren, boldness to **enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way**, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh.

The teaching of the veil could not be stated any clearer, "that is to say, His flesh". What we have in view here then is the Person of Christ. What beauty there is in our Blessed Lord, oh! The colors of His life!

The blue, is the color of the Heavenlies. The purple, is the royal color, the robe of the King! The scarlet, the pouring out of His life in sacrifice! The fine twined linen, the perfection of His character. The CHERUBIM, the power of God.

It is very interesting to note the appearances of the cherubim in Scripture. Their first appearance is in Genesis 3. To protect the Tree of Life God posted cherubim at the gate of the Garden of Eden. Man was exiled from the garden, an act that prevented him from eating of the Tree of Life, lest he be locked in his sinful state forever. When we consider these angelic messengers, especially with flaming sword in hand, we tend to think of judgment. Yet the cherubim were a provision of God's mercy. We find the next mention of the cherubim here in the tabernacle, symbolically woven into the veil between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. Certainly they were there to speak to the heart of the ministering priest, saying, "Do not enter here", but the veil also allowed God to be near His people. "Come this far, but no farther. God dwells on the other side." Yes, the cherubim kept men out, but allowed God to come near. The next scene involving the cherubim was the Mercy Seat. Here the cherubim were on either side of the Mercy Seat witnessing the offering of blood. Again this is a picture: the High Priest alone could enter the Most Holy Place, never without blood, He could enter, knowing that the blood would satisfy the claims of God and that the cherubim looked at God's provision, not at the priest. Isn't it remarkable to when we think of the two angels the Gospel of John speaks of, in chapter 20, one at the head and one at the foot of the spot where the body of Jesus had lain. Could this be the fulfillment of the task of the cherubim, not now with flaming sword keeping people out, but with a word of good news, "He is not here: He is risen"?

The way to heaven is now open to all! God is present in His "heavenly tabernacle" Christ can lift our heart into presence of God now = "I've been to heaven today already." Christ entered as our forerunner through the veil = our assurance of salvation = our hope!

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

This hope is not human "wishful thinking" but anticipation of a sure thing, something divine = Heb 6:19, "anchored fast in heaven" = within the veil. Our "hope" is not anchored in ourselves, the earth, human government, wealth, etc. but in the ETERNAL.

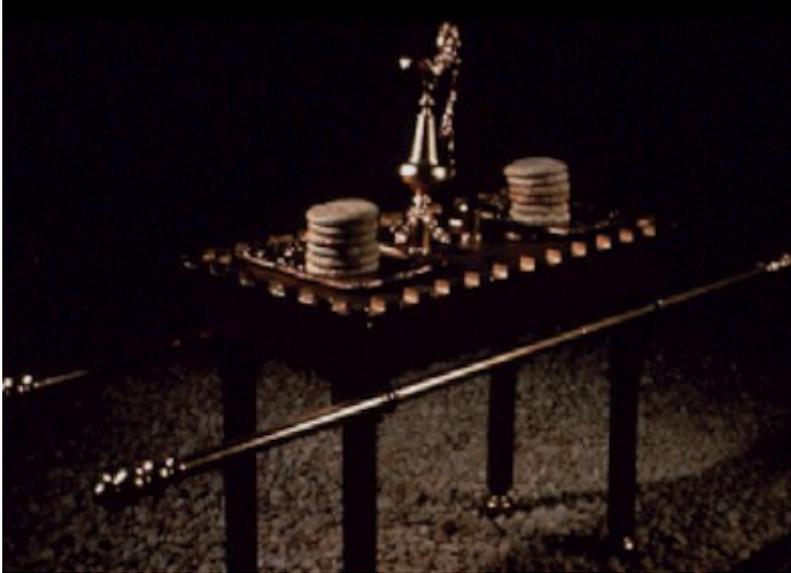
What was within the veil in the tabernacle? (a) the ark (with law, manna, rod). (b) the cover with cherubim (mercy seat). **The blood** carried within the veil came from goat that was the substitute goat, not the scape goat. **It represented the just dying for the unjust so that we might be brought to God.** The veil reminds us of God previously hid in heaven, yet in complete access to believer today. The ark/mercy seat point to our forerunner, the Lord Jesus Christ. This is based on the propitiation for our sins:

Rom 3:25 - Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

1 Jn 4:10 - Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

The Veil is the last entrance that the priest had to go through to enter before he was in the Presence of God. The last enemy of God's people was death. Christ has burst through the portals of death removing its sting. How good to know when we depart this scene we shall enter through the Veil and be before God in love. "AND SO SHALL WE EVER BE WITH THE LORD." AMEN!

TABLE OF SHOWBREAD



"I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE"

Ex 25:23-30 - Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, and make thereto a crown of gold round about. And thou shalt make unto it a border of an hand breadth round about, and thou shalt make a golden crown to the border thereof round about. And thou shalt make for it four rings of gold, and put the rings in the four corners that are on the four feet thereof. Over against the border shall the rings be for places of the staves to bear the table. And thou shalt make the staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold, that the table may be borne with them. And thou shalt make the dishes thereof, and spoons thereof, and covers thereof, and bowls thereof, to cover withal: of pure gold shalt thou make them. And thou shalt set upon the table shewbread before me always. (KJV)

The table is found located on the right side of the holy place. Twelve loaves are placed on the table each week for God's enjoyment. The next week when replaced by the new loaves, the priest may eat the "older" loaves.

The table symbolizes fellowship. It shows a gesture of friendship, as inviting a friend to share a meal. The table in the tabernacle shows God's desire for fellowship with us. Jesus was a friend of publicans and sinners because He sat and ate with them at the table. *God wishes to satisfy our hunger.* God's salvation is likened to a banquet with the table spread for royalty.

The table was opposite the lampstand. The **lampstand** supplied light in the holy place.

It symbolized Christ, "in Him was life" = source of life = **in Him**. **The bread on the table symbolized the means of life.** It maintained physical life or was the sustenance of life. You do not get life by eating bread, it is not a source.

God knows what we need:

1. New life = source (light of regeneration)
2. Sustain life = means (continuing life)

Together they produce eternal bliss. Jesus knows we are hungry when He offers himself. We are a people of hearts unsatisfied and hungry for life. What is the solution?

John 6:35 - And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

John 6:48-69 - I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat? Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever. These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum. Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it? When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you? What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before? It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father. From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

The ancient world was a sad place due to NO HOPE. The people sought immortality by any means. What hope do we have today beyond this life? "I am the bread of life, come down from heaven, to satisfy the hunger you have and give you eternal life." Jesus came from the eternal world, like the manna of the Old Testament, to bring the bread of life.

The miracle of the fish and the loaves preceded the sermon on the "everlasting bread." The 5000 were fed and there was extra food. In Jn 6:12 the disciples are told to gather all the fragments left. The lesson is that not one will be lost that was given Him and all will be raised up the last day. If only a crumb comes your way, take and eat of the bread of life! "I take Christ and do believe on Him. I shall be saved because He will do God's will to the last crumb."

Man is hungry for life and does not want to die. Is he also hungry for a better kind of life?

John 6:63 - It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Christ said [I am returning to the spiritual world](#). We are to live by His words and follow Him to this same spiritual kingdom. [The secret of satisfaction is spiritual in the end](#). There is another world, a great and eternal world that we see signs and symbols of in this world. We eat bread to satisfy our hunger, God offers the Bread of Eternal Life. We have parents, God offers to be our Father. We live in a home here, God offers an eternal dwelling! In the temporary things of this world there is no permanent satisfaction. In the eternal world of our Savior, there is everlasting joy and satisfaction. We may enjoy things here, but the heart longs for something lasting, something eternal.

This is eternal fulfillment, but we may have it now by **fellowship with God** today. The hand of God reaches out to us to provide eternal food to satisfy all today. Will you receive it before the offer comes to an end? How shall we go into eternity? With Christ as our eternal source of satisfaction or eternally unfilled? **Eternity will be meaningless and forever unsatisfying without the bread of life**. We may gather at the Father's table in fellowship in the light and life of our blessed Savior.

All the furniture in the tabernacle on the way to God speaks of Christ because He is the only way to God. The spiritual level must be established when studying the tabernacle. To the ancient Israelites it was a means of approach to God, a pattern of heavenly things, and a shadow of coming things. The bread of life is offered to satisfy the hunger for life. The table is the basis of fellowship with God. **A picture of our Lord as our basis of fellowship with God**.

The Lord Jesus Christ's sacrifice and death is connected with all facets of the tabernacle and nothing can be enjoyed without Calvary. The Lord's Table (New Testament) looks back to the table of showbread (Old Testament) as a picture of fellowship with God.

The lampstand and table of showbread are vessels of presentation. The 7 lamps on the lampstand provide a lovely light in the holy place. The world would be a drab place without light. The quality of light fills the world with color. We use the metaphor "please shed some light on the problem." God is light - He adds color to life and meaning to eternity. Sin takes the color out of life and leads to darkness.

What's the purpose of being saved?

1. Saved from eternal damnation
2. To witness to a dark world to see others saved

Ephesians 1:4 says we chosen before we were even created. It also gives us the purpose of our creation, "to stand holy and unblameable before Him." The table of showbread and the lampstand were both vessels used to present things "before Him". The tabernacle illustrates Ephesians 1:4 with the 2 vessels of presentation: 1). Lamps are to shine continuously before the Lord to allow the priest to function. This points us to the source of light and life. 2). Table of 12 loaves before the Lord. Is God hungry for bread? What do the twelve loaves of bread represent to God? Does He desire our fellowship? The all sufficient One decided to need you!

Why did God create you? Why did He redeem you? He needs nothing but decided He wanted us. He determined we should be before Him holy and unblameable.

Rev 3:20 - Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, **I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. The risen Lord desires to dine with us! He stands outside the doors of our lives and desires to be fed.** Do we provide Him fellowship? Uninterrupted? This is not the man Jesus asking, but the glorious risen one, the Son of God!

We were created for His pleasure and are to stand before Him holy and unblameable. God's purpose was to have *me before Him*. The world has no interest in us, but almighty God desires that we are before Him in fellowship. Unwilling creatures which He demanded to come before Him would be unsatisfying. His own were "foreordained as sons of God". Sons given to fellowship with the heart of God! **His own would have the very life of God within them, God's spirit, mind, and life to minister unto God intelligently for His pleasure.** Creatures had no choice if they would be here on earth. They were put here for God's pleasure. Man does have a choice if he will become a son of God. It is a decision of faith for each man or woman.

John 1:12-13 - But as many as received him, **to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:** Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Phil 2:15 - That ye may be blameless and harmless, **the sons of God**, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among **whom ye shine as lights in the world.**

We can not be born married. We must make a decision to become married. God has an offer that we should become the sons of God? Have you decided? God thought it worthwhile to create a planet to support creatures who would choose to become sons of God before Him. **Man turned his back to God and gone his own way.** Why didn't God just crush the planet and end the disobedience? His love and mercy provided an opportunity to fulfill his purpose for us. How can we fulfill his desires?

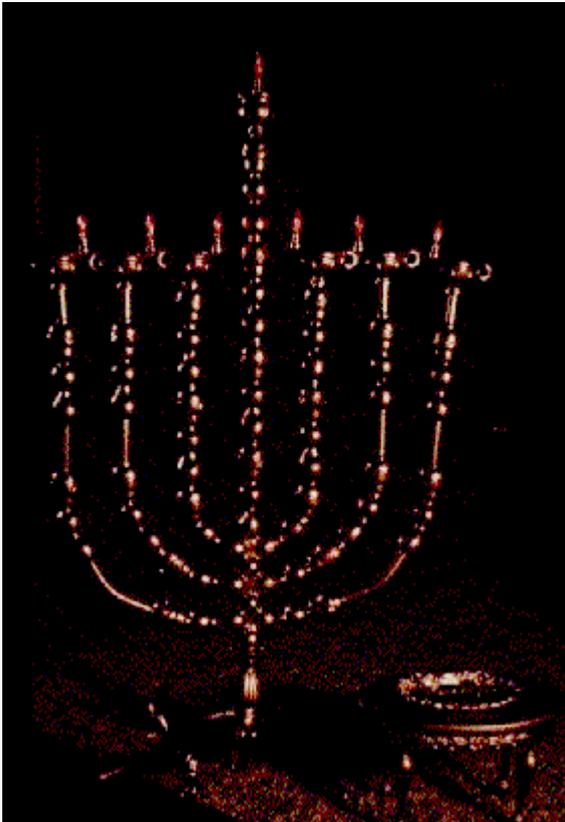
Eph 1:18-19 - The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; **that ye may know what is the hope of his calling**, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power.

God has seated us before Him (Eph 2:6) and Christ presents us to Him. This is **not** in a earthly tabernacle, but in the spiritual realm of the eternal tabernacle (the holiest of all). There Christ is before the Father to present me to Him. He does this High Priestly work not only now, but all week long like the loaves on the table for God's satisfaction.

It is a continuous presentation = I was made to be a son of God, a forgiven creation of God to be presented before God for His satisfaction. **May we be found sitting before him for His pleasure "shining before the Lord".**

The Lampstand

"I am the Light of the world"



Ex 25:31-37 - And thou shalt make a **candlestick of pure gold**: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same. And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side: **Three bowls made like unto almonds, with a knop and a flower in one branch; and three bowls made like almonds in the other branch, with a knop and a flower**: so in the six branches that come out of the candlestick. And in the candlestick shall be four bowls made like unto almonds, with their knops and their flowers. And there shall be a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, according to the six branches that proceed out of the candlestick. Their knops and their branches shall be of the same: all it shall be one beaten work of pure gold. And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that **they may give light over against it**.

John 1:1 - **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

The lampstand was made to look like a tree. It had members that demonstrated the 3 stages of life: 1) buds - potential 2) flowers - beauty 3) almonds - fruit

All 3 were present at the same time. The lampstand and members all pointed to the Lord. It was a "vehicle of light" of God, "I am the light of the world." **The lampstand was a method of self-revelation (making God known to man). This is the purpose of "the word" in John 1:1.**

The lampstand was solid gold, not gold "plated". The laver was wood and copper, The ark

was wood and gold. They had 2 natures/materials due to the 2 natures of our Lord: humanity - to die (God can not die) = High Priest-know man's infirmities God - divine to endure fires of Calvary = Priest forever

The ark pictures the Lord Jesus' human and divine natures. The laver that of the Holy Spirit baptizing the regenerated. The pure gold lampstand = the deity of the Lord Jesus = the word of God because the word *was God!*

The word of God (= the Lord Jesus) was the agent of creation (Jn 1:1). Where and what was the source to create all these things?

John 1:4 - **In him was life; and the life was the light of men.**

The Lord Jesus Christ is the source of all life. Parents are a channel of physical life. What a contrast between being a channel of physical life and the *source of all life*. The Lord said unto the Pharisees that you search the scriptures as if was a source of life, but it is not! **"I AM the way, the truth and the life."**

John 11:25-26 - Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

The Lord Jesus is not a means or a channel, but the source of all life.

John 5:26 - For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself.

This is seen also in John 11, "Lazurus, come forth..." and he rose and came from the tomb. = "life giver" and "that life was the light of man." What allows life to make sense and to have knowledge of life and its source? **Without God as its source, life has no meaning.** It becomes vain, futile and ultimately has no point.

Rom 1:21 - Because that, when they knew God, **they glorified him not as God**, neither were thankful; **but became vain** in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

In John 15 we see the life lived out and flowing through the branches of the vine. The trunk of the vine is symbolized by the lampstand's central shaft. It was meant to look like a tree trunk that He may bring forth fruit by the life of God flowing through the branches.

How is this possible? Where does it begin? Creatures who have physical life may now **receive a higher life, that as a child of God.**

The buds on the lampstand take the mind back to Aaron's rod that budded, a picture of Christ in resurrection life. Christ is the source and vehicle God uses to provide the life of God to His own. The gold symbolizes the divine glory involved.

John 11:25-26 - Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

The lampstand represents the vehicle of light and demonstrates the self-revelation of God. The 7 lamps at the end of the branches burned with oil continuously in the tabernacle. The following passage reveals a visionary lampstand similar to the one in the tabernacle.

Zech 4:1-6 - And the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep, And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof: And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof. So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my lord? Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, **This is the word of the LORD** unto Zerubbabel, saying, **Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.**

The secret of success revealed in Zech 4:6 = "by my spirit, saith the LORD..." The Holy Spirit represents the oil in the lamp. The lampstand (symbol of testimony) is maintained by the HOLY SPIRIT of God. Where do we see this fulfilled in the NT?

John 15:1-4 - I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

This is the key to testimony and witness. The Holy Spirit came to testify of God. What was the subject of the witness?

Num 8:1-2 - And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto Aaron, and say unto him, When thou lightest the lamps, the seven lamps shall give light over against the candlestick. (=showed glory of lampstand).

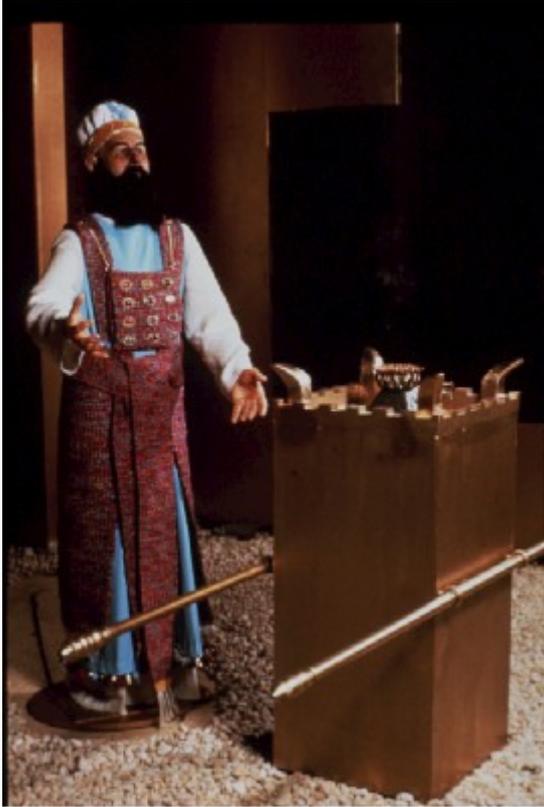
The Holy Spirit witnesses to Christ and convicts the world of sin because they did not believe in Christ! The Holy Spirit is the primary witness to turn our eyes to Christ and show us the wealth of Him. His witness is to turn us to the source of life!

We must have the HOLY SPIRIT "filling the lamp for fuel" to know Him. In the holy place, all 7 lamps were needed, not just one. Every believer is a lamp with the HOLY SPIRIT and all are needed to make God known. We receive the HOLY SPIRIT by being "justified by faith":

Our gracious High Priest must come often and "trim our wick" to restore the flame and radiance of His light. It is a filthy, awful job to do. The picture of our Lord's intercession for us is given by the incense going up from the altar to God for us as a pleasing fragrance.

GOLDEN ALTAR OF INCENSE

"Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec



Ex 30:1-8 - And thou shalt make an [altar to burn incense upon](#): of shittim wood shalt thou make it. A cubit shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof; foursquare shall it be: and two cubits shall be the height thereof: the horns thereof shall be of the same. And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, the top thereof, and the sides thereof round about, and the horns thereof; and thou shalt make unto it a crown of gold round about. And two golden rings shalt thou make to it under the crown of it, by the two corners thereof, upon the two sides of it shalt thou make it; and they shall be for places for the staves to bear it withal. And thou shalt make the staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold. And thou shalt put it before the vail that is by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy seat that is over the testimony, where I will meet with thee. And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense every morning: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it. [And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations.](#)

Heb 8:5 - [Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things](#), as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, see, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

God was preparing man's minds for the coming of His Son.

1. [Altar of sacrifice](#) = 1st need- forgiveness of guilt of sin = the blood- by sacrifice- admit we are guilty sinners and in need of God's righteousness that condemns our sin- innocent victim dies in place of sinner. If the blood of bulls and goats does not put away sin, God must have another plan.

Heb 10:4-5 - For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

In 1:29 - "Behold the lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." **Taken from the dark power of sin back to God by the power of the cross.** It all starts at the place of sacrifice = God's provision for my sin = Christ's perfect shed blood.

I am then to place my hand upon the sacrifice and confess my sin.

2. **Laver** - water cleansing of the wreckage of sin- defects of character (defilement of sin as opposed to guilt of sin at altar).

John the Baptist said "I baptize with water, but He baptizes with the Holy Spirit." **This is not just "patching up the old man" but a whole new life = REGENERATION.** This is the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Spirit.

The Brazen Altar = Cross = blood

The Laver = Pentecost = water/Holy Spirit

The **golden altar of incense** points us to the Lord. It tells of His ministry of intercession today. Exodus 30:1 tells us there is no sacrifice on this altar. **There is to be the burning of incense symbolizing prayer and intercession going up to God as a sweet fragrance.** This is why we pray "in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" because it is solely through His merit, not our own merit or power.

If my guilt is put away, why do I need an intercessor? Why do I need the HOLY SPIRIT poured in me? If I am saved to the uttermost, why do I need saved more?

Intercession

1. Intercession strengthens the believers in daily life as they face temptation. How?

Heb 4:15-16 - *For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*

Children are distracted by selfish and self-centered impulses. The young are attracted by the allure of a world that looks good. The old are afflicted with pain and infirmity all to draw our sight away from God. WE NEED AN INTERCESSOR! Is eternal security a certainty? "He that believes has everlasting life", can man quit believing? Can faith be lost?

Paul, the chief of sinners was saved. Peter's belief was tested when Satan got a hold of him. But the Lord had anticipated Peter's testing and stumbling and interceded for him. This showed an incredible example of our High Priest.

Luke 22:31-34 - And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: **But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.** And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison and to death. And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou **shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.**

Peter was assured by his Savior when you are restored, not *if* you are restored. The rooster crows to announce "dawn has come" and Peter sees that his denials prove his vileness. Yet Christ's knowledge of us and His High Priestly ministry strengthen our feeble faith like Peter's in the end.

The golden altar has 4 horns that symbolize power. This is the power of our Lord's intercession. It's power is derived from the blood of the sacrifice.

1 Jn 2:1-2 - My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: **And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.**

When representing me before God, Christ presents me at my worst. I must confess everything, and then He is my advocate and the propitiation for my sins.

THE HOLY PLACE



"GOD CAME NEAR, THAT I MIGHT DWELL AMONG THEM"

Ex 25:8-9 - And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it. (KJV)

Ex 29:45 - And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will be their God. (KJV)

Deut 4:7 - "For what great nation is there that has God so near to it, as the LORD our God is to us, for whatever reason we may call upon Him? (NKJ)

IKing 6:13 - And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake my people Israel. (KJV)

Isa 12:6 - Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel in your midst!" (NKJ)

Zech 2:10 - Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the LORD. (KJV)

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

What a picture the Tabernacle becomes for us as we consider the elaborate details that God gave Moses to build. God had a desire to be near His people. While the Son of God had planned from eternity past that He should give His life for the children of God. God in all His fullness determined to give a vivid portrait of the Person & Work of Christ that it could be used to prepare a place in the hearts of those who desired to know HIM! The actual tent that God would dwell in, was separated into two compartments, the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. In the Most Holy Place was the Ark & the Mercy Seat. The Glory cloud which represented the very presence of God hovered over the Mercy Seat and remained there whenever the Tabernacle stood still. What a comfort it was for His people to know God was so near. As He protected His people from the heat of the sun by day and provided a fire by night to assure them He was there.

It is the first room, the Holy Place, that is in view now. Three pieces of furniture and the Veil occupied this area. The Lampstand, the Golden Altar of Incense and the Table of Showbread. In this area the priests entered daily in ministry of God. They maintained the oil and the wicks of the Lampstand, prayed and loaded incense in the Golden Altar and weekly they changed the loaves of Showbread.

We'll deal with the various meanings of the furniture separately, suffice it to say for now the Lampstand provided light, speaking of illumination, the Golden Altar speaks of the prayers going up to God and the Table of Showbread speaks of fellowship as the priests & God share a common 'food'.

The apostle John may have had this in mind as he penned, in 1st John 1:5-7. This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. (KJV)

What a God is our God, who has gone out of His way for us to know Him!

The Ark of the Covenant



THE ARK OF THE COVENANT Ex 25:10-22 - And they shall make an ark of acacia wood; two and a half cubits shall be its length, a cubit and a half its width, and a cubit and a half its height. And you shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and out you shall overlay it, and shall make on it a molding of gold all around. You shall cast four rings of gold for it, and put them in its four corners; two rings shall be on one side, and two rings on the other side. And you shall make poles of acacia wood, and overlay them with gold. You shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, that the ark may be carried by them. The poles shall be in the rings of the ark; they shall not be taken from it. And you shall put into the ark the Testimony which I will give you. You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold; two and a half cubits shall be its length and a cubit and a half its width. And you shall make two cherubim of gold; of hammered work you shall make them at the two ends of the mercy seat. Make one cherub at one end, and the other cherub at the other end; you shall make the cherubim at the two ends of it of one piece with the mercy seat. And the cherubim shall stretch out their wings above, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and they shall face one another; the faces of the cherubim shall be toward the mercy seat. You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the Testimony that I will give you. And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel.(NKJ)

The Tabernacle that the Lord instructed Moses to build was a picture or an illustration of New Testament truth. We know well the teaching of our Lord Jesus on the road to Damascus, "beginning at Moses and the prophets He showed them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself".

There can be no doubt of the value of this portion of scripture. Just think of how much of the Bible God devoted to the "types" of His dear Son. The sermon on the mount occupies 3 pages of our Bible. The tabernacle takes much of the room of 3 chapters in our Bibles. Just read the book of Hebrews and study the descriptions concerning the system of sacrificial worship given to Israel, there can be no mistake that the writer knew of the spiritual correspondence with the literal Levitical offerings.

In this opening study of the ancient tabernacle we will attempt to relate the truths given to the truths found in the New Testament. The Ark was the first piece Moses was instructed to make. How anxious our God is to meet with man, He declared He would meet Moses between the Cherubim covering the Mercy Seat, and we read over and over that it was so, God came down to meet with His poor sin sick people and He "tabernacled among them."

On what ground was Christ accepted as our forerunner? The Ark is a picture of the person of Christ. What beauty there is in that Man from Heaven, the beauty of Holiness. Pure gold with beaten work all from one piece of gold. The Ark was overlaid with-in and with-out with pure gold. The only Person who could truly estimate worth of the Son was the Father. The beauty of the ark was not seen by every passerby, when the nation would travel the average person could not see the ark. The priest would walk backwards through the Veil and cover the ark lest they die! Not so with God He had the Ark always before him!

1. Ark - contained holy law - no hope for me there - "all come short of the glory of God and every mouth is stopped." = condemned to DEATH Do I know that I am bad enough to be damned? I am guilty before God. Where is your hope? "It's the best I could do?" Can I have hope based on the law?

2. Mercy Seat - cover of ark with cherubim = represents justification by the covering of sin Propitiation = Christ set forth to be a covering or complete payment for the "sin of the world." God provided sacrifice to completely fulfill penalty of sin.

Where do the cherubim look? They look down on the mercy seat at the blood and the site where God meets His own. This teaches: Christ accepted on my behalf in the presence of God! The pure gold represents the most valuable possible symbol to show the price to unlock the gate of heaven to us.

The veil reminds us of God previously hid in heaven, yet in complete access to believers today. The ark/mercy seat point to our forerunner, the Lord Jesus Christ. This is based on the propitiation for our sins.

Rom 3:25 - Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God,

- I Jn 4:10 - Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.