

# THE HOLY PLACE



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

**The picture is an image map, click on the furniture you would like to know about or scroll down to read about the Holy Place.**

Exod 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)

Exod 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 of 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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!