

The Tabernacle

The Tabernacle is known in Hebrew as the *Mishkan* (מִשְׁכָּן "Residence" or "Dwelling Place"). It was a portable dwelling place for the divine presence from the time of the Hebrew Exodus from Egypt through the conquering of the land of Canaan.

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. Its elements were made part of the final Temple in Jerusalem about the 10th century BC.

The English word "tabernacle" is derived from the Latin word *tabernaculum* meaning "tent." *Tabernaculum* itself is a diminutive form of the word *taberna*, meaning "hut, booth, tavern." The word sanctuary is also used as its name, as well as the phrase the "tent of meeting".

It was built following Moses' visit with God on Mount Sinai while the children of Israel were wandering in the wilderness.

There are 50 chapters in the Bible dealing with the tabernacle, besides other references. 15 of them are recorded in Ex. 25-40.

- Moses received instruction from God on his eighth trip up Mount Sinai.
- He was to make all things according to the pattern which he had given him. Ex. 25:40; Heb 8:5
 - God has always had a pattern in which to revive His people. The pattern of this revival was to make His people one
 - God is not making a tabernacle today out of natural material but from lively stones which are molded according to His will.

- Moses did not receive the entire pattern for the tabernacle on one day, but God added to it on a daily basis. Just as in our walk with Christ. He reveals more of Himself to us day by day.

- The pattern of revival for today is praise and worship. When we become full of praise and worship, we become full of the anointing which brings deliverance to others around us. We come to Mt Zion or the presence of the Lord by singing and shouting praise to Him. (Is. 35:10; Jer. 31:12-14.

- Moses prophesied concerning the building of the tabernacle in Ex. 15:2.
 - He fulfilled his own prophesy in Ex. 39:32, 43.

 - In I Pet. 2:5 it tells us that we are to become lively stones and build up our tabernacles.

 - Prophecy can give direction from time to time in building our spiritual house.

- The tabernacle was built for the people. Moses didn't need it to communicate with God. It would be a place where God would dwell on earth among His people.
 - Today in the New Testament and because of the work of Christ, God dwells not in a physical tabernacle but in the hearts of His people.

- The tabernacle was made of available material. Not one single article was imported.
 - We too are to build our tabernacles with the abilities that God has given and not borrow from the world.

- Three Metals were used in the tabernacles' construction:
 - Gold – Which speaks of deity
 - Silver – Silver which speaks of redemption
 - Brass – Brass that of judgment

- One wood was used:
 - Acacia or shittim wood. Wood speaks of humanity.

- Four colors were used:
 - Blue – Speaks of the heavens
 - Purple – Speaks of royalty
 - Scarlet – Speaks of the blood of Jesus
 - White – Speaks of the righteousness of the Law

- Two qualifications were needed to build the tabernacle as we as our tabernacles:
 - Needed to be “Wise hearted” Ex. 35:10 – We need God’s wisdom in order to build our tabernacles.
 - Needed to be “Willing hearted”. Israel ended up giving too much in their offerings for the tabernacle.
 - Israel had to give of their earthly possessions. We have to learn how to release all of our possessions into the control of the Lord. (Ex. 35:5; 20:24; 36:3, 5-7; 25:2)
 - A lot of people will give to the work of the Lord if they are pressed, but Israel gave willingly.
 - The Israelites gave 3/10ths of their substance and 1/3 of their time to the work of the Lord. What do we give?

A general picture of the Tabernacle

- Two and one-half million people dwelt in tents. Each tribe in their own particular place in the assembly as God ordained.
 - The tents speak of us as Christians, sojourners here on this earth. We have no permanent dwelling place here on this earth.
 - There position speaks that each one of us has a special place of ministry which no one else can fulfill. But no one person is complete in himself, but needs the entire company to complete the body. The Church needs every ministry to function, every tent in its place, which is body ministry with the Holy Ghost governing.
- The tabernacle was placed directly in the center with all the tents around about, each in their designated place.
 - This is a type of Christ that He is the center of the Church. (Num 1:52)
- Each tribe was to put up a sign with their name on it so each tribe would definitely be known (Num 2:2).
 - Today we will be known by which sign we display. Christ or Not.
- Although each tribe pitched before his own sign, the Levites pitched round about the tabernacle to keep charge of it. The Levites had no inheritance as they lived on the tithes of the other tribes. Legally speaking they were not considered a tribe.

- The tents of the Israelites were arranged outside the wall or fence of the tabernacle. These tents were made of black goat skin and were pitched outside the white fence of the tabernacle.
 - This is a picture of the world with the white righteousness of God standing out in the middle. It is also a contrast of the Christian and the world.

- The tabernacles relation to the camp:
 - All the tribes pitched their tents at a distance from the tabernacle with:
 - Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun on the east side
 - Reuben, Simeon, and Gad on the South side
 - At the back of the tabernacle or on the west side was Ephraim, Manasseh, and Benjamin.
 - Dan, Asher, and Naphtali were on the North side.
 - The tribe of Levi was in charge of the tabernacle was divided into 4 families and pitched their tents between the tabernacle and the camp; one family on each side. On the front or east side was the family of Moses, Aaron and Aaron's sons. The family of Kahath on the south side. The Gershonites were on the west and the Merarites on the north side.

The significance and beauty of this arrangement is better understood if we consider a Bedouin company moving about the desert. Every camp has its sheikh or chieftain. We see him leading the way on his camel or horse, carrying in his hand his spear. When the chieftain wanted to settle his camp for a while he would just plant his spear into the ground. That was the sign of rest. His servants would immediately erect their master's tent behind the spear and then pitch their own tents around in a circle or circles according to the size of the camp. The sheikh then dwelt in the midst of his people. When he wanted to move on, he removed his spear and rode forth. So we see the picture of a huge company of people wandering through the wilderness. Their Chief is Jehovah God, whose spear is a pillar of cloud and fire. When it moves they move - when it stays they stay. His servants, the Levites, pitch their Master's tent (the tabernacle) while the tribes pitch round about. We must be ready to move when God moves, and to stay when God wishes. This is truly what God would have us do to be ever sensitive to the moving of His Spirit, and to move as He directs.

- Its relation to heaven: Boards on the north! Boards on the south! Boards on the west! That means the entrance is on the east; or, in other words, the tabernacle in the wilderness always faced east. This should be the attitude of the church - looking eastward for Jesus to return; "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be" Matt 124: 27. Although the tabernacle faced east, the worshiper, in attitude, would be turning his "back on the sin of the world and on the idolatry of sun worship. Ezek. 8:16 tells of the terrible crime of having the back toward the temple of the Lord and the face toward the east.
- The Position of the Furniture: God told Moses exactly where the furniture should be. Just inside the gate was the brazen altar, between the altar and the tabernacle was the laver; these both were inside the courtyard. Inside the sanctuary on the south side stood the candlestick, and on the north side the table of shewbread. Before the veil, the altar of incense stood and beyond the veil the Ark of the Covenant.
- The position while Journeying:

God had an order to things while they were moving from one place to the other. As soon as the pillar of cloud would move (We must be sensitive to the leading of the Spirit), the three tribes before the tabernacle moved forward under the standard of Judah.

Judah means "The praise of Jehovah". God always puts praise first. (Ps 100:4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.) The praising man will always be found in the forefront of victory.

- The Levites were responsible to pack up the tabernacle and handle its movement.
- The Gershonites removed, folded and packed on to two wagons all the fabrics (curtains, coverings, hangings of the court, gate and door).
- The Merarites were responsible for the structural parts of the building. They dismantled it and pack it on four wagons. This included the boards, bars, pillars, silver sockets of the tabernacle, also the brass sockets, pillars, pins and cords of the court. These moved next in line.
- The people of the tribe of Reuben followed behind these wagons.
- The Kohathites were at the center of the procession bearing the sacred charge, the furniture. The ark covered by the veil and badgers' skins and then an outer covering of blue cloth. Two poles were inserted into rings on the side of the ark in order for it to be carried.
- The covering of the furniture was done by the High Priest Aaron and his sons. The Table of Shewbread was covered with a blue cloth, upon which were laid the dishes, spoons, bowls and covers as well as the bread. Over all this was a cloth of scarlet, then badgers' skins.
- The candlestick came next also covered with a blue cloth and placed into a bag of badgers' skins through which was placed a bar in order to carry the candlestick.
- The golden altar of incense with also covered with a blue cloth and badgers' skins
- The vessels of the sanctuary are mentioned as being put into a blue cloth and carried on a blue bar. This included many things such as oil vessels etc.
- Finally came the brazen altar. This was covered with a purple cloth upon which were placed its censers, flesh-hooks, fire pans, shovels, basins, etc. All were covered with badgers' skins.

- No mention is made of the Laver. Whether because it is uncovered is unknown, but it must have been in the processional.
- Also with this group was Eleazer, the son of Aaron, who was responsible for the lighting oil, anointing oil, incense, meal, etc.
- It is important to note the variation of color and order of these coverings, all having a divine purpose.
- These holy vessels were followed by the tribe of Ephraim, Manasseh, and Benjamin. Dan, Asher, and Naphtali brought up the rear.
- *God has a task for each one of us to perform, one responsibility differing from another. We must not covet another man's calling, but see to it that we faithfully perform our own. If we do the work of the Lord will make steady progress.*
- **The Fence or wall of the Tabernacle.**
- The tabernacle was placed in the center of the courtyard which was fenced by a wall 7 ½ feet tall. This wall was made of white fine-twined linen.
- *This is a type of righteousness of the Law; by which no man can be justified. This white wall showed the Israelites the plan of redemption before they had the right to enter in. Man cannot enter into the presence of God because they have no righteousness in themselves.*
- The fence was 150 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 7 ½ feet tall so no one could climb or see over it.
- *The carnal or natural mind cannot understand spiritual things (Rom 1). This wall could not be attained in the natural. It is a type of the Law that judged them on the outside.*
- There were 20 pillars on each length of the wall and 10 at the ends. These 56 pillars held up the white linen fence.
- *Some are called to be pillars. These saints stand alone and steadfast in the faith and also act on faith.*
- These pillars were the main objects which held up the silver cord which ran all around the top of the fence.
- *We are to be pillars to uphold Christ's righteousness to those without (the world).*

- The pillars stood separately from one another about 7 ½ feet apart.
- *They are closest to the world holding up the white linen cloth of the righteousness of the Law. When we are at our daily work, we stand separately from one another; but when at worship, we stand together as one in the tabernacle.*
- The pillars were made out of shittim wood which came from the lower parts of Mt Sinai. This wood is hard and does not decay, however, it is of poor quality having many knots, gnarls, and twists in it. It took a lot of hard work to make it suitable for what it was intended.
- *Wood is a type of humanity and the brass in which it was covered speaks of self-judgment. self-judgment. It also speaks to our lives as we were also like the shittim pillars. We took started in the hands of God having many knots, gnarls, and twists. But through the hands of the Master Craftsman, Jesus, he is making us into something usable in the kingdom.*
- A silver cord ran around the top of the fence to hold up the white curtain.
- *Silver speaks of redemption. The cord is the tie which holds all Christians together. Everything we have is because of the redemption of Christ. This redemption is the tie which binds all Christians together; making us one.*
- Each of the pillars was finished off at the top with a cap called in the scriptures as a chapter.
- *This is a type of the helmet of salvation because it too is overlaid with silver: God wants to be the adorning of our minds covered in redemption. Israel could not reach it as it was too high. Only later through the grace of Christ Jesus could this redemption be reached by man.*
- The hooks at the top of each pillar were also of silver. These hooks received the silver cord, which held up the curtain.
- *We are held to Christ by salvation and we have salvation because of this righteousness*
- A socket of brass was under each pillar. We are rooted and grounded in the righteous judgment of God as we stand-up for Christ in the world
- The Gate: There was only one entrance to the tabernacle. This was through a 30 ft gate in the east wall.
- *Jesus is the only way to God and salvation. John 14:6 “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father; but by me.”*

- The gate was placed the farthest from the ark or Glory of God.
- *Salvation is just the beginning of our walk with God. There are no short cuts to the glory of God.*
- The gate was beautified with four colors: Blue – Heaven, Purple- Royalty, Scarlet – Blood, and White – righteousness.
- *Altogether this is a perfect type of Christ. The only way is through Christ.*
- The gate was wide.
- *Re 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is a thirst come. And **whosoever will**, let him take the water of life freely.*
- The gate has four pillars.
- *This is a type of the four gospels showing the ministry of Jesus here on earth:*
Matthew – Portrays Christ as King
Mark – Portrays Him as a servant
Luke – As Christ the Man
John Christ as the Son of God
- Ex 38:18 – States that the hangings of the gate were beautiful, intricate, needlework of the four colors.
- *This needlework is also necessary in our lives. It beautifies the garments of our walk with the Lord.*
- *This needlework pricks as its being done, but produces a finished garment of Christ's beauty.*
- The Brazen Altar – This is the first piece of furniture one encounters just inside the gate in the outer court. This was the place of the shedding of the blood. (There was blood everywhere).
- *This speaks of justification by faith. This is the place where one repents. We believe at the door then we repent.*
- The Brazen Altar was so big that all the other pieces of furniture could be placed in it.
- *All we have is wrapped up in the message of justification by faith.*
- *What is Justification?*

- *When a person becomes “born again” by accepting Christ as Savior, he becomes a “new person.” He is regenerated and the old nature of sin no longer drives him, but now he has a new master.*
- *Following this he receives “justification” which means to account the guilty just (or right) before God. It is an act of God whereby He declares the one who believes in him to be righteous.*
- *Righteousness:*
 - *Removes the penalty of sin (Physical and spiritual death) (Gen 2:17; Rom 5:12-14)*
 - *Restores us to a place of favor with God. We become an heir of God and a co-heir with Christ (Rom 8:16; Gal 3:26; Heb. 2:11).*
 - *He is given unearned righteousness. No being can enter into the presence of God with sin. God imparts the righteousness of Christ onto us.*
- *How do we receive justification?*
 - *Not by works (Eph 2:8-9)*
 - *It is the grace of God (Titus 3:7)*
 - *By the shed blood of Christ (Heb. 9:22)*
 - *By Faith (Rom 5:1)*
- *“It is not to obtain faith that we are justified, but by faith we are justified”*
- *“After the judge had carefully heard all the evidence and patiently hears all the pleas, he finds no other choice but to invoke the supreme penalty, lest true justice be denied. But before the terrible sentence can be carried out, the same judge quietly closes the case book, lays down his heavenly gavel, rises to his feet, takes off his judicial robe, and goes out to die for the convicted defendants.”*
- ***“This and this alone is justification”***
- *When we think of an altar we immediately think of worship: a place for submission and humiliation. This was a place of sacrifice. The Hebrew word here for altar is Mizbeach, meaning “slaughter place.” We only need to remind ourselves that “without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness” Heb. 9:22. Without the shedding of Christ’s blood on the cross there would be no forgiveness for us.*

- The altar was 4 ½ feet high and 7 ½ feet on all four sides. It was “foursquare” even as John saw the New Jerusalem coming down from heaven.
- *Even though many scholars believe that there was a grate half-way down inside the middle of the altar; the Bible says that it was “hollow with boards.” The boards spoken of here were of shittim wood, which is a beautiful picture of Christ’s humanity:*
- This wood will withstand heat, being an indestructible type of ebony wood.
- *Jesus’ body suffered and bore the judgment that was ours.*
- Shittim wood, being a desert plant, possessed a long tap root which reaches down a long way for water.
- *Isaiah wrote of this concerning our Lord’s humanity: “... as a root out of a dry ground: He hath no form or comeliness...” Is. 53:2.*
- As previously stated, the altar was “hollow” without top or bottom.
- *We cannot measure the height or depth of what Jesus has done for us at Calvary.*
- At each corner of the altar was a horn which was made of shittim and overlaid with brass.
- *This points to the four corners of the earth. Meaning the message is for all. “Whosoever will may come.”*
- Around the altar on all sides, from the middle down, was a network of brass grates. When the animals were brought in and waiting their turn to be offered, they were tied to the horns of the altar. The smell of the other animal’s flesh burning on the altar would cause them to kick and try to get away. A strong grating was required on the outside of the altar to protect it from kicking.
- *Jesus told Paul that it was hard to kick against the pricks. People often kick and rebel against God’s will for them. The problem is that they may have to make a sacrifice of self on the altar.*
- The altar was filled halfway up with stones and earth and then the wood was placed on top of this.
- *The sacrifice was lifted up. When Jesus died he was suspended between earth and heaven as a mediator between God and man. He said, “...if I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me.”*

- **Man's Need of a Mediator:**

- Man needs eternal life which is God's nature.
- Man could not receive God's nature except on the grounds of righteousness.
- Man needed a mediator. Someone who could approach God on his behalf. (After the fall, man had no right to approach God!).
- Man feels the pull to know God, but can't come to deity by himself. So he builds alters, have priests, idols, etc.
- Man stands before God as a subject of Satan (Col. 1:13a).
- Man is darkened by the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4).
- Rom 3:9-18 gives fourteen charges against the human race in the condition of his spiritual death

- **Four Requirements of a Mediator:**

- He must be a man to represent humanity. He must be able to become man's high priest.
- He must be able to understand and sympathize with man's temptation (Heb. 4:15).
- He must possess a standing of righteousness with deity. (Lk. 3:22)
- He must not be a subject of Satan, but must be free from Satan's authority.

That One Mediator Is Christ (Heb.9:15; 12:24)

(God Sent His Son in the fullness of time)

- The altar had one purpose, this is, sacrifices were to be made to satisfy the demands of God. That demand was the shedding of blood for the forgiveness of sins.
- Why was it necessary for man's sin to be paid for?

God cannot overlook the transgression of man. The penalty of his sin must be paid for.

God must act towards Satan on grounds of absolute justice. Man must be redeemed from Satan's authority on legal grounds (Rom. 3:26).

God must act accordingly to his own righteousness. There must be legal grounds to judge man if he rejects his sin substitute.

The penalty of man's sin was hell! Although hell was not originally made for man (Mt. 25:41)

Man could not pay the penalty of sin. So Jesus became sin and went to hell for us (II Cor. 5:21).

God, even though having omnipotence (all power), must have stripped Satan of his authority in a way that was just and on legal grounds. This could only have happened through his Son Jesus Christ.

- **Redemption Must Include:**

Adam's transgression being paid, so man can be delivered from satanic dominion (Rom. 5:15-17).

Man must be given authority by which he can meet Satan and conquer him in honorable combat (Rom. 8:37).

It must include a new creation which imparts God's life or nature. A relationship with God must be made possible. (2 Cor. 5:17, 21)

Blood must be shed. (Heb. 9:22, 28) The sacrifices of the Old Testament only covered man's sins then did not remove them.

God must be able to give man a son's place in his heart.

In order to:

Give man righteousness (2 Cor. 5:21)

Give son ship privileges (Jn. 1:12-13)

Give fullest fellowship with eternal rights (I Jn 1:3; 1 Cor. 1:9; Phil. 23:1)

- **Requirements of The Redeemer:**

- He must be a man. (Jn. 1:14; Gal. 4:4; I Tim.2:5)
- He must not be born of natural generation. (Is. 9:6; Lk 1:31; 34-35,37)
- He must not possess in his spirit nature, spiritual death. (1 Cor. 15:45)
- He must stand before God as the first Adam. (1 Cor. 15:45)
 - In righteousness (Is. 53:9; 1 Pet. 2:22)
 - Having authority and dominion (Mt 28:18)
- He must walk on earth blameless and pleasing to the father (Rom. 8:3; 1 Pet 2:22).
- He must meet Satan in temptation and not yield. (Heb. 4:15) (Adam and Eve failed, Second Adam prevailed).
- Man's sin must be able to be put on Him. (1 Cor. 15:3; Heb. 9:28)

Only Jesus God's son could meet all these demands

- As we enter into the courtyard through Jesus Christ the Door, and as we see Him as our finished work of sacrifice for our sin, we find ourselves encompassed, shut in, and protected by this hanging of fine twined linen. Though in the wilderness, now stand in the court of the Lord's house, overshadowed by the cloud of glory.
- Comments on the utensils of the Brazen Altar:

- The pots or pans were used for the ashes.
- The shovels were used for picking up the ashes and for tending and feeding of the fire.
- The basins held the blood of the sacrifice which was sometimes carried inside the tabernacle and poured out at the foot of the altar.
- The flesh hooks were used to arrange the sacrifice in order upon the wood and to lift off certain parts which were to be eaten.
- The fire pans or Censers were used for carrying the fire of the altar.
- The original fire of the altar came from heaven and was sent by God. It was from this fire that the priests carried coals to light every other fire in the Tabernacle.
- *It is the flame lit at Calvary that lights every new truth and shineth more and more unto a perfect day.*
- *It was these firepans which were used when Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire before the Lord and died (Lev. 10:1, 2).*
- *When the plague broke out because of the rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, Moses said to Aaron, take a censure (fire pan) and put fire therein from off the altar; and put on incense, and go quickly unto the congregation, and make an atonement for them; for there is wrath gone out from the Lord; the plague is begun. (Num. 16:46) We learn from this account that there were 250 men that offered the strange fire in these fire pans. God caused the earth to swallow up these men and all that pertained to them; and the fire pans that they used were made into beaten plates for a covering of the altar for a "sign" unto the children of Israel.*
- The pots or pans were used for the handling of the ashes which were sacred. The ashes were taken outside the tabernacle grounds and were buried in a clean place. (Lev. 6:10, 11)
- *These ashes speak to us of the finished work of Calvary. All of our sins were put away by Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. His body was placed in a new (clean) tomb because He was sacred.*
- According to the law of the burnt offering, the priest was to put on his linen garments and take the ashes and put them on the east side of the altar (Lev. 1:16). Following this his was to change his garment and put on other ones in order to take the ashes outside the camp to a clean place. The ashes were the last to be seen of the sacrifice. They were proof that the sacrifice was made. Later they were to be used in the cleansing of the unclean.

- *When Jesus was sacrificed for us, He said, “It is finished”, his body was placed in a clean of new tomb to be appropriated for the purging of our conscience from dead works to serve a living God.*
- The ashes were to be kept for the cleansing of the children of Israel. They were to take the ashes and mix it with water. A clean person was to take a hyssop and sprinkle the mixture on the third and seventh day for cleansing the unclean. (Num. 19:17-19)
- *God said he would give us beauty for ashes and this is what is depicted in the previous statements. The ashes here speak of the purification of the flesh to purge our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.*
- *The finished work of Calvary, typified by the ashes of the brazen altar; together with the running water of the brazen laver, bring us into a deeper walk with Christ – a new experience. As the brazen alter speaks to us of justification, so now the laver speaks to us of sanctification.*
- **Justification**
 - To declare a person totally just before God. One’s moral character is in conformity with the Law as a condition of life and fully satisfies every term of the Law.
- **Two things which justify man**
 - The blood of Christ (Rom 5:9)
 - Reaching our in faith (Rom 3:28)
- **The Atonement**
 - The term “sacrifice” is used many times in the Old Testament. Sacrifice demonstrates the necessity of the blood. The blood that was shed according to the Law was a fore shadow of the One who came to shed His blood for mankind.

- The atonement was the payment for man's sin.
 - The atonement was not dreamed up in the mind of God after Adam and Eve sinned. The fall was not a surprise to God, in fact, God made a way of escape for mankind long before they failed in the garden. Rev 13:8 describes Jesus as being the Lamb slain from the foundations of the world (1 Pet. 1:18, 20; Titus 1:2)
 - It was going to be a number of years before Christ would come and die, so God set up a system to be as a foreshadow of the events to come. As early as Genesis 3, God covered the sinful pair with animal's skins which were sacrificed for their transgressions. Blood had to be shed.
 - These sacrifices foreshadowed the coming and death of the Perfect Sacrifice, Christ. He was the One Sacrifice (Heb. 9:14; Eph 5:2; 2 Cor. 5:21).
 - The Old covenant was good, but according to Hebrews the new covenant was better. (Heb. 9:22) The shedding of blood was required of both covenants.
- **Old Covenant Verse the New Covenant**

<u>Jesus' Sacrifice</u>	Vs	<u>Old Testament sacrifices</u>
Gave himself willingly		Animal knew nothing
His blood forgives sin		Animal's can't
His blood was for all sin		Many sacrifices were necessary
His death had an inward work		No spiritual work at all
He is the perfect sacrifice		They were not perfect
His washed away sin		Animal's only covered it
He lives		They're dead

- **The necessity of the Atonement**

- Because of God's holiness and man's sinfulness the atonement was a must in order for man to continue in fellowship with God. Man cannot meet God's demand for righteousness. So God established the atonement before the foundation of the world (Eph 2:10) This made the way for man to come to God (Eph 2:13)
- Because the Law of God was violated by sin and demanded that the penalty of death be inflicted.

The law can be broken into two parts:

- The moral law – Inward
- The ceremonial law – Outward.

Through Christ the moral Law is fulfilled, but the ceremonial law has been put aside.

- Because the guilty conscience cannot be put to rest due to the condemned heart. The spotless lamb must through the atonement pay the just penalty and release man's heart from its obligation.
- Because of the lost sinner
- **Why must a man be born again?**
 - God is holy (Job 34:10)
 - Man is sinful (Prov 15:9; Hab. 1:13)
 - Inherited (Eph 2:3)
 - Willful (Jer. 7:23-24)
 - No fellowship exists between God and man (Is. 59:2)

- **What makes the New Birth Possible?**

- Jesus took our sin upon Him and died on the cross.
- Jesus arose to proclaim His victory over sin (1 Cor. 15:1-4; 1 Pet 2:4)
- The resurrected Christ now resides in man's heart (Gal. 2:20)

- **The instruments of the New Birth**
 - The Word of God – Needed to open man’s eyes
 - Faith – Man must believe the Word by faith (Rom 10:17)

- **Who participates when a man is born again?**
 - The Father – He gives the free gift (Eph 2:8-10)
 - The Son – Our sacrifice (1 Pet 2:24)
 - The Holy Spirit – He convicts of sin and takes up residence in man’s heart (Jn. 16:7-8)

- **What happens at the New Birth?**
 - Man turns from sin to Christ in a move of faith.
 - God endows to man a new nature making him a new creation

- **Results of being born again:**
 - Man receives sonship and a place in God’s family (Rom 8:17)
 - He receives eternal life in union with Jesus Christ (Rom 6:23)
 - Man experiences love (I Jn 3:16-23, joy (Jn. 15:11), and peace (Rom 5:1)

- **Evidences of the New Birth:**
 - Desire for God’s Word (1 Pet 2:2)
 - Witnessing for Christ (Mk 16:15)
 - Yielding to the Spirit (Gal 5:16)
 - Surrendering to His will (1 Pet 5:2)
 -
- **Love for God and His children** (Jn. 13:34-35; I Jn. 4:19, 5

- *All the utensils were made of brass which speaks of judgment. All sin must be judged, but the believer's sin was judged at Calvary*
- Lev. 6:13 tells us that the fire never went out.
- *God is always willing to receive an offering.*
- An innocent lamb took the place of the Guilty
- *Jesus took our place and has become the Lamb that was slain and Who lives again – Glory to God forever more.*
- Israel always had this altar.
- *As we move on with our relationship with Christ, we must remember to keep the altar with us.*
- THE BRAZEN LAVER - Exodus 30:17-21; 38:8
- The laver was one of the two sacred vessels which stood in the court of the Tabernacle, midway between the brazen altar and the door leading to the Holy place. The laver was made of brass on a stand of brass called the foot. The priests were commanded on the penalty of death to perform no acts of worship, wither in the Tabernacle or on the Brazen Altar, until their hands and feet were washed. The blood was needed to justify, the water (Word) was needed to sanctify.
- THE MATERIAL OF WHICH THE LAVER WAS MADE
- It was made of the looking glasses of the women; - Exodus 38:8 - These looking glasses were mirrors of polished metal. They were usually round; inserted into a handle of wood or metal, and made of brass, silver, or bronze. It was customary for the Egyptian women to carry mirrors to the temples; no doubt, devoted Hebrew women followed the same practice.
- *It is interesting that these women gave up their looking-glasses which were an important part of their personal life. The parting with the mirrors was an act of placing themselves subordinate to their worship.*

- *It was made of brass. - Exodus 30:18 - In the laver brass signifies self-judgment, which the believer is expected to do. I Corinthians 11:26-32*
- THE PURPOSE FOR THE INSTITUTION OF THE LAYER:
- "To wash withal" - Ex. 30:18.
- *The Laver was filled with water, and here the priests were to wash their hands and feet. It was a type of the Word of God by which we are cleansed. - Eph. 5:26. The Laver served as a looking glass, revealing defilement and uncleanness. It also provided for the cleansing needed.*
- The Word reveals sin and evil, but is also a means of cleansing. "Without holiness no man shall see the Lord." - Heb. 12:14.
- The water in the Laver was secured from the smitten rock. -Ex. 17:6.
- *The Holy Spirit informs us that that rock was Christ. - I Cor. 10:4. From the side of Christ there flowed blood and water when He was smitten on the cross.*
- No measurements were given for the Laver:
- *There are no measurements given such as we find for the other articles of furniture because the Laver is a type of the Word of God and there are no limitations to the Word of God.*
- The looking glasses were first melted, and then cast into the Laver which was possibly four or five feet high, with faucets opening below the basin into a receptacle.
- The Laver was never covered.
- *The laver was always open whether in the march or in the camp. The Word of God is revelation and not a concealed mystery to those who follow after Him. The Word reveals God and His glorious purposes in Christ.*

- THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LAVER
- *The Laver is a type of Christ cleansing His own from daily defilement.* - Eph 5: 26, 27.
- The priests had to be bathed all over before they could minister in the priesthood. Ex. 29:4.
- *This act of washing typifies regeneration.* - Titus 3:5 *The new birth is the creative act of the Holy Spirit whereby the believing sinner becomes a new creation in Christ Jesus.* II Cor. 5:17; John 3:6; Eph. 2:10 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 John 1:4.
- The priests had to wash their hands and their feet at the Laver before they could enter the Holy Place. Ex. 30:18 - 21.
- *This washing represents the daily the daily cleansing from defilement thru contact with the world. This washing was to be a daily affair. This washing was to make them fit for service.*
- *The inspired Word of God from Genesis to Revelation is our Laver to which we should come daily, to look into the mirror and receive cleansing from defilement.*
- *The Laver is also a type of practical sanctification. The work of sanctification and cleansing is a continuous work. However, the Word of God can only accomplish its purpose in our lives when it is obeyed.* 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 John 1:4.
- To have fellowship with God, you must be clean.
- The priests had to be clean to minister before the Lord. Every time he entered into the Holy Place, he had to wash.
- *God desires that His people should be separated from every aspect of evil and cleansed from all inward and outward filthiness.* II Cor. 6:14 - 7:1.
- God provided a means of cleansing, but the priest had to do his own washing. Only as the priest washed at the Laver was he clean.

- *God has given us His plan and no other will do. The same is true of God's people today. We must apply the Word, and practice it.*
- To wash was a matter of necessity for the priest, and not a matter of option. The priest may have said, "I washed this morning, I don't see anything unclean about myself." Yet, the priest had to wash, or die.
- *The Lord's people are not left to their own opinions as to how they are to act, but we must obey the Word of God. If we fail to judge ourselves, we will be judged by the Lord. The Christian who is not walking according to the Word of God, and is unwilling to apply the truth of God to his own heart and life, will sooner or later find he has lost consciousness of the Spirit. 1 Cor. 11:29-32.*
- THE DOOR OF THE TABERNACLE PROPER - Ex. 26:36-37
- We have passed through the gate, entered into the court, passed the brazen altar, the Laver, and are now ready to enter into the Tabernacle Proper.. This entrance leads into the Holy Place and is called the Door. The door consisted of a hanging of fine linen embroidered in blue, purple, scarlet, and suspended from five pillars of acacia wood. These pillars were covered with gold, and rested upon sockets of brass.
- *The brass shows us that our only entrance into the presence of God rests on the judgment which Christ bore when He bore the sins of the whole world.*
- The colors were not painted on the fabric, but were worked in, wrought by fine needlework.
- *The Lord does not want an outward show from us, but is desirous of an inward work. 1 John 4:17; 2 Peter 1:4.*

- The gate into the court was thirty feet wide and 7 1/2 feet high. This speaks to us of the broad scope of His love, taking in everyone. The door to the Holy Place was much smaller.
- *Only the priests entered. Those who wanted to go deeper and higher with the Lord. Matt. 7:14; Luke 13:24.*
- THE TABLE OF SHEWBREAD - Ex. 25:23-30 - Lev. 24:5-9
- The table of Shewbread was 3 feet long, 1 1/2 feet wide, and 2 1/2 feet high. It was covered with gold and a boarder of a handbreadth* (palm width; about four inches) of gold. It also had a crown of gold on the top. It had four rings on the legs and staves to carry it.
- *It was made of acacia wood overlaid with gold, which speaks of Christ as the glorified Son of man.*
- Twelve loaves of bread made of fine flour were sat in two rows on the table, and frankincense was put upon each row. Once a week, on the Sabbath, the priest ate of it. Fresh bread was replaced each Sabbath.
- THE NAME 'SHEWBREAD'
- The table gets its name from the bread. "Shewbread" in the Hebrew means "Bread of faces". The bread was always before the face of God. There were twelve loaves corresponding with the twelve tribes of Israel. Each tribe, whether large or small, was represented by an individual loaf.
- *The Table of Shewbread speaks of fellowship with God. We can have fellowship today with God thru His Word, the written 'Bread of Life', and through Christ, the living 'Bread of Life'.*
- It is not enough to look at the table. The bread had to be eaten. *So must we feast on the Bread of Life-Christ and the Word.*

OF WHAT THE BREAD IS A TYPE

- It pictures the twelve tribes. Bread was always before the Lord as a memorial. In Solomon's temple there were tables too. In the millennial temple in Ez. 40-48 no table is found.
- *The loaves are a type of true believers. They are before God continually in Christ their High Priest. He keeps them and will present them faultless before God. Eph. 5:25-27.*
- *It also is a type of Christ as the Bread of Life.*
- *In John 6:33-58 we have Christ as the Bread of Life the giving life. Here we have a type of Him as bread, sustaining spiritual life. By meditating upon Him as revealed in the Word, our spiritual life is sustained. - Heb. 12:1-3*

The Candlestick (Exodus 25:31-40; Lev. 24:1-4)

- The candlestick stood on the south side of the Holy Place and was made of pure gold. It consisted of a shaft in the form of an upright center branch with six other branches proceeding out of the shaft, three on each side. On the top and the end of each branch was a lamp with seven in all.
- The candlestick provided the light in the Holy Place so the lamps were to be kept burning while the priests worshipped and served God.
- The candlestick speaks of:
 - Christ as the light of the world
 - The Church as the reflector of the light. John 1:4
 - The individual believer as the dispenser of that light. (Mt. 5:14-16)
- *The candlestick represents the seven feasts of Israel and the seven truths they represent.*
- It was made of a single piece of beaten gold.
- *Gold signifies deity.*
- *The shaft including the base is typical of Christ in His eternal and divine person from whom all truth appears.*
- The candlestick was shaped by hammering until it conformed to the divine pattern with its ornamentation of flowers, fruit and blossoms.
- *This speaks of perfection derived through suffering (Heb. 2:10)*

- The lamps were filled with pure olive oil.
- *The signifies that the Holy Spirit is the source of the believer's light. The Holy Spirit is the light we are only the wicks.*
- The lamps were to be filled daily.
- *As the oil is consumed it needs the replenishing of the Holy Spirit.*
- The lamps were burning continually. *As believers we must shine forth the light of Christ continually to a dying world.*

The Altar of Incense

- The altar of incense stood directly before the veil. It was the closest to the Holy of Holies of all, and at times, by means of golden censer, went beyond the veil into the Holiest of all. (Heb. 9:3,4)
- It was a small piece of furniture standing about 3 feet high and 1 ½ feet by 1 ½ feet square. It was just large enough to serve its purpose. The materials were wood and gold.
- It was rounded on the top with a crown of gold.
- *We too must put on Jesus Christ.*
- In the corners there were golden rings which accepted the staves on which it was carried. It was for carrying the message of prayer and praise to the world.
- There were four horns also overlaid with gold.
- *As the brass horns of the Brazen Altar spoke of the judgment for sin and the message of salvation to be spread to the four corners of the earth; The golden horns of the Incense altar speak of the overcoming power of the message of praise and prayer. Coupled with the blood applied to the horns, as the very means of the whole world coming into a victorious life in the presence of the Lord. Christ first becomes our Savior, then he becomes our Baptizer, and finally of our Lord and King.*
- Only the inner veil separated this altar from the Holy of Holies. This veil was torn at the death of Christ.
- *The veil of our flesh must also be torn.*
- Incense was burned on the altar every morning when the lamps were dressed and every evening when the lamps were lit.
- *As Christians we should rise every morning with His praise on our lips thus assuring a happy and victorious day.*
- *The previous days offering needed to be removed and new incense was offered.*
- The incense was burned continually.
- *We too as believers need to pray without ceasing.*
- There seems to be a special relationship between the three pieces of furniture in the Holy Place. God has provide for our every need.
- We receive nourishment when we partake of the bread of the Word of the Lord (Table of Shewbread).
- *Through body ministry and the table of the Lord (Communion) we minister unto God and the saints. This allows God to burn away “self” as we praise and worship (Altar*

of Incense).; And we shine best before men (Candlestick) when our hearts burn most before God (Altar) and are full of the Word of God (Table).

- *We must have all three in balance if we expect to enter into the fulness of God for our lives.*
- *The comparison of the two altars.*
- *The brazen altar was outside - the golden inside.*
- *The brazen altar was wood covered with brass (judgment), the golden altar was beautified with gold (deity).*
- *The first altar had no crown (Christ in his humiliation) - The golden had a crown (Christ in His glory)*
- *The brazen altar was a place of suffering (Christ the Passover lamb). The Golden was the place of triumph (Christ our Lord and Mediator)*
- *To the first came the sinner, to the second the saint.*
- *The incense -- The value of the altar is in the incense. It was a compound mysteriously made with equal proportions of stacte, onycha, galbanum and pure frankincense. It was a perfume after the art of apothecary, tempered together.*
- *This was made holy unto the Lord. There was not to be anything like it made for their own use; in fact, if they made anything that smelled like it, they were to be cut off from their own people. (Ex. 30:34-38)*
- *God's people must not touch the praise, honor and glory which belongs to God alone.*
- *Stacte comes from the sap of a tree. This gum is a medicine that deadens pain.*
- *Praise is the best pain killer and medicine. (Mk. 16:18)*
- *Onycha is not mentioned anywhere in the Bible. It is a shell fish from the Red Sea. (Ex. 30:36 - "beat some of it very small") When this shell fish is burnt it becomes a sweet perfume.*
- *Galbanum comes from a plant which has an unpleasant odor.*
- *Conviction is not sweet to us either but is sweet to God as it causes us to produce fruits of righteousness)*
- *The odor repels snakes and reptiles.*
- *Prayer will always repel and defeat satanic forces. When we worship God nothing stands before us.*
- *Frankincense is mentioned many places in the Scripture. It comes from the sap of a tree. It is white in color and burns with a hot white flame. White is a type of righteousness. It is also an antidote for poison.*

The Ark of the Covenant: Exodus 25:10-22; 37:1-8

With reverence and awe we step beyond the veil into the holiest of all and gaze upon the ark of the covenant. This was something the Old Testament saints were never to do.

Moses was allowed to enter into the holy of holies but only with blood and incense.

We too as believers must enter into the presence of God being washed in the blood of Christ and with fervent prayer.

What is an ark?

This was no ordinary piece of furniture. The dictionary states that it was a “chest, or coffer, for the keeping safe and secret anything.” Bearing this there are 3 arks mentioned in the scriptures.

Noah's Ark: Gen 6:13-14. This ark kept safe and preserved eight righteous persons from the judgment of God.

Moses' Ark: Ex. 2:3 “And when she could no longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.” This ark became Moses' salvation from physical death, from wrath of Pharaoh, so he had a revelation of what the ark would do for Israel.

God's Ark: Ex. 25:10 This chest kept the law of a holy God because man could not keep it. There are 185 direct sayings referring to the Ark. Jeremiah tells of the end of the original ark of the covenant when Israel was carried away into captivity and the temple was destroyed. Solomon used some of the original furniture in his temple, and this included the Ark of the Covenant. The temple was rebuilt in the days of Herod, but there was no ark in it. There was a veil which was torn at the death of Christ but there was no glory in the Holy of Holies. The glory walked around Jerusalem and was murdered.

The ark was the first piece of furniture commissioned by God for construction.

God's glory is the most important thing as it was to house the glory. We too must become a place for the glory of God to rest.

The ark was made of the same wood as the other pieces of furniture.

Wood does not represent heaven but humanity. God is always willing to dwell within His children.

The ark was overlaid with gold within and without.

This is a blending of two natures. The ark was with out covered with gold, and in side the gold was wood and within the wood was gold.

The outward life of Christ showed the gold of His Divinity in His work, His words, and His character.

His inward thoughts and motives were just as pure, just as holy.

Some people's works are are good , but wrong motive robs them of blessing and reward; some people mean well but act unwisely.

I has been said that the gold was beaten onto the wood so finely that the grain of the wood showed through the gold.

This cannot be proven through Scripture, but we know that regardless of the miraculous power He demonstrated, His human nature could always be seen.

The ark was surrounded with a crown of gold.

Man crowned the Son of Man with a crown of thorns while He was among us, but inside the Holy of Holies the Father has crowned Him with an eternal crown of glory and honor.

Proverbs 4:9 speaks of a crown of glory that they that are wise will obtain. Many have a lot of zeal and knowledge but lack wisdom. Wisdom is the principle thing required. James 1:5 tells us if we lack wisdom, let him ask for it.

Jesus is the crown of glory around the Ark of The Covenant. He is the fulfillment of this covenant between God and man.

The Ark had staves and rings: The people never saw the Ark. Aaron and his sons covered the Ark prior to lowering the veil. When it was transported all the people saw was the blue covering.

This shows us that God guards His glory and the glory moves on. The move of God travels from place to place. Revival has sprung in different places and at different times as He sees fit.

We as believers invite the glory of God upon our lives by waiting on Jesus, praising Him, etc. Although we as believers cannot command it. God presence is the same for he is Omnipresent. The difference is in the hearts of worshippers. Are we sensitive to this glory? If we come hungry and receptive, bringing a sacrifice of praise, God's glory will come. If we are full of self, the anointing will not be realized. The Tabernacle and all its furnishings were wonderful, but useless without the glory of God.

The Mercy seat or Ark cover:

It was a precious slab of solid gold 2 ½ cubits by 1 ½ cubit with two cherubim of beaten gold on the two ends. These cherubim stretched forth their wings covering the mercy seat as their faces looked toward one another. Once a year blood was sprinkled upon the mercy seat on the day of atonement. The mercy seat was to represent the reconciliation of man to God or to show mercy.

The word mercy speaks of the finished work. Only once do we read of a priest finishing His work and sitting down -- Our great High Priest, Jesus.

The mercy seat covered the law which was in the ark. Man could not keep it so God covered it with His mercy. We as believers fall far short but He covers it all with His mercy.