

# The Tabernacle Of God In The Wilderness Of Sinai<sup>1</sup>

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Welcome to this wonderful study of the Tabernacle and its meaning. We like to thank Dick Chambers and all his wonderful contributions to [www.bibleonly.com](http://www.bibleonly.com). This study will help anyone who is interested in understanding the New Testament. To understand the New Testament the student must step into the mind of a first century person. More specifically, the student must step into the mind of a first century Jewish mind. By doing this the student is unlocking a powerful door of understanding for his New Testament studies. This study will develop the ability to step into that first century Jewish mind.

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## THE TABERNACLE OF GOD IN THE WILDERNESS OF SINAI

### The Tent Of Meeting

The Tabernacle in the wilderness of Sinai is the very first habitation of God that He ever caused to be built for Himself.

- **EXO 24:18** And Moses entered the midst of the cloud as he went up to the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.
- **EXO 25:8-9** "And let them construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them. [9] "According to all that I am going to show you, [as] the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furniture, just so you shall construct [it.]

God attested His pleasure with the Tabernacle by His very presence in it.

- **EXO 40:33-35** And he erected the court all around the tabernacle and the altar, and hung up the veil for the gateway of the court. Thus Moses finished the work. [34] Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. [35] And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Service was held in it for about 500 years and this is the place where God communed with His people.

- **EXO 25:22** "And there I will meet with you; and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony, I will speak to you about all that I will give you in commandment for the sons of Israel."

The phrase "tent of meeting" is mentioned in scripture 144 time and now we are that very tent.

- **2CO 5:1-6** For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. [2] For indeed in this [house] we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven; [3] inasmuch as we, having put it on, shall not be found naked. [4] For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed, but to be clothed, in order that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. [5] Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge. [6] Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord--"

### The Spiritual Meaning Of The Dwelling Place Of God

- **ROM 15:4** For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.
- **JOH 5:39** "You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is these that bear witness of Me;
- **JOH 5:46** "For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote of Me.
- **LUK 24:27** And beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.
- **LUK 24:44** Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the PSAs must be fulfilled."

The book of HEB speaks of "shadow of the heavenly things."

- **HEB 8:5** who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses was warned [by God] when he was about to erect the tabernacle; for, "See," He says, "that you make all things according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain."
- **HEB 9:23-24** Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be cleansed with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. [24] For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a [mere] copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;

The Ephesian letter also speaks to this "mystery."

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<sup>1</sup> C:\My Documents\SCHOOLofLocalChurch\Lessons\21OldTestamentTypologies\Articles\Tabernacle1.doc

- **EPH 3:3-4** that by REV there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. [4] And by referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,

### Divine Instruction For Building The Tabernacle

One brief sentence is used by the Holy Spirit to describe creation and yet fifty (50) chapters of the Pentateuch and Hebrews is needed to detail the Tabernacle.

- **GEN 1:1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

### The Tabernacle In The Wilderness Of Sinai

The Tabernacle consisted of 60 pillars, 20 each on the North, South, 10 each on the East and West sides. White byssus (Fine white Egyptian linen. 152 threads per inch in the warp and 71 threads per inch in the woof) hanging hung around these in a total length of 280 cubits or 420 feet. There was a single entrance on the East side which was composed of 4 colors. There was in the middle court a brazen altar, slaughtering benches, and the brazen laver. Badger skin cover the outer most part of the Tabernacle.

### The Heave Offering For God

Such gifts were lifted up to God. These were from the spoils of Egypt.

- **EXO 3:22** "But every woman shall ask of her neighbor and the woman who lives in her house, articles of silver and articles of gold, and clothing; and you will put them on your sons and daughters. Thus you will plunder the Egyptians."
- **EXO 11:2** "Speak now in the hearing of the people that each man ask from his neighbor and each woman from her neighbor for articles of silver and articles of gold."
- **EXO 12:35-36** Now the sons of Israel had done according to the word of Moses, for they had requested from the Egyptians articles of silver and articles of gold, and clothing; [36] and the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have their request. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

This was promised 430 years prior to this event.

- **GEN 15:12-14** Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, terror [and] great darkness fell upon him. [13] And [God] said to Abram, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed four hundred years. [14] "But I will also judge the nation whom they will serve; and afterward they will come out with many possessions.

After God's people squandered the very gold God had intended for the building of the tabernacle, brought great judgment upon them.

- **EXO 33:5-6** For the LORD had said to Moses, "Say to the sons of Israel, 'You are an obstinate people; should I go up in your midst for one moment, I would destroy you. Now therefore, put off your ornaments from you, that I may know what I will do with you.'" [6] So the sons of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments from Mount Horeb [onward.] (*See EXO 35:20-39 also. See in addition 2 Cor. 8:1-15 for NT ideals.*)

The people brought so much that Moses had to restrain them.

- **EXO 36:5-6** and they said to Moses, "The people are bringing much more than enough for the construction work which the LORD commanded [us] to perform." [6] So Moses issued a command, and a proclamation was circulated throughout the camp, saying, "Let neither man nor woman any longer perform work for the contributions of the sanctuary." Thus the people were restrained from bringing [any more.]

If the OT people of God gave so much for a replica of the church, the body of Christ, how should we then give?

- **MAL 3:8-10** "Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, 'How have we robbed Thee?' In tithes and offerings. 9 "You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation[ of you]! [10] "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows.

Notice King David's great joy over the giving of Israel. (**1 Chron. 29:10-19**) The Spirit of the living God filled 2 particular men with wisdom (**JAM 1:18**) to fashion the tabernacle. Their names were Bezaleel and Aholiab. (*See EXO 35:21-30, 34-36:1. Note the parallel to Eph. 2:20; 1 Cor. 16:15-16.*) Thus God had a wonderful fellowship with His people in a new way yet unseen by anyone. **Ex. 40:34-38.**

### The Fourteen Components Of The Heave Offering

Some fACT about the Offering.

1. **Gold.** It is mentioned in relation to the heave offering some 80 times, but it is spoken of only 21 times as pure, refined, genuine gold. There is 1.65 tons of it used here. EXO 38:24 All the gold that was used for the work, in all the work of the sanctuary, even the gold of the wave offering, was 29 talents and
2. **Silver.** There is 4.85 tons of silver used in the tabernacle. This silver was derived from the mustered military personnel of Israel. Ex. 30:11-16;; 38:25-28. See also 1PE 1:18-19.
3. **Brass (bronze).** It all came from Isle of Cyprus, 3.3 tons. It has exceptional strength and is very fire resistant with a melting point of 1949o F.
4. **Blue.** Deep, bright violet. As seen in the Eastern heavens.
5. **Purple.** Dark red yarn for artistic weaving and embroidering. It is taken from the gland of the purple snail.
6. **Scarlet.** Scarlet or crimson is the color of arterial blood. This dye came from the dried and pulverized maggots of the "coccus ilicis" worm. It was a scarlet powder used to dye the yarn red. See PSAs 22:6.
7. **Byssus.** The finest of white cotton weaves. Egyptian origin.
8. **Goat's hair.** Long haired goats of the orient.
9. **Ram's skin.** The skins of rams were dyed red.
10. **Badger's skin.** Sealskin or porpoise-skin.

11. **Acacia wood.** A species of mimosa tree and is darker and harder than oak and more durable.
12. **Oil.** Pure olive oil crushed in a mortar and used in the 7 lamps of the candelabra.
13. **Spices.** The 4 best spices for the anointing oil (Ex. 30:22-25). The 4 sweet-smelling spices for the incense (Ex. 30:34-38). Myrrh-Cinnamon-Sweet calamus-Cassia-Stacte-Onycha-Galbanum-Frankincense
14. **The Precious Stones.** 4 rows of threes in the priests breastplate. Sardis, brownish red; Topaz, yellow or yellowish red; Carbuncle, red garnet; Sapphire, deep blue; Diamond, sparkling white; Amber, yellow; Agate, delicate blue; Amethyst, violet; Beryl, green-yellow; Onyx; Jasper, pure and clear.

### The Outer Court Of The Tabernacle

- **PSA 65:4** How blessed is the one whom Thou dost choose, and bring near [to Thee], To dwell in Thy courts. We will be satisfied with the goodness of Thy house, Thy holy temple.
- **PSA 84:2** My soul longed and even yearned for the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.
- **PSA 84:10** For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand [outside.] I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God, Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.
- **PSA 92:12** The righteous man will flourish like the palm tree, He will grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
- **PSA 96:8** Ascribe to the LORD the glory of His name; Bring an offering, and come into His courts.

Porters were stationed at the Eastern Gate to inspect the would-be worshiper and their animal sacrifices (**1 Chron. 9:17-23**). The clean animals are listed in **LEV 11**.

- **LEV 11:2-8** "Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, "These are the creatures which you may eat from all the animals that are on the earth. [3] 'Whatever divides a hoof, thus making split hoofs, [and] chews the cud, among the animals, that you may eat. [4] 'Nevertheless, you are not to eat of these, among those which chew the cud, or among those which divide the hoof: the camel, for though it chews cud, it does not divide the hoof, it is unclean to you. [5] 'Likewise, the rock badger, for though it chews cud, it does not divide the hoof, it is unclean to you; [6] the rabbit also, for though it chews cud, it does not divide the hoof, it is unclean to you; [7] and the pig, for though it divides the hoof, thus making a split hoof, it does not chew cud, it is unclean to you. [8] 'You shall not eat of their flesh nor touch their carcasses; they are unclean to you."

Two things we learn here: One is that self-will-worship will not do and we have a right to inspect worshipers.

- **MAT 15:9** 'But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.' "
- **MAT 7:20** "So then, you will know them by their fruits.

No man can appear before the Lord empty.

- **EXO 34:20** "And you shall redeem with a lamb the first offspring from a donkey; and if you do not redeem [it,] then you shall break its neck. You shall redeem all the first-born of your sons. And none shall appear before Me empty-handed.
- **DEU 16:16** "Three times in a year all your males shall appear before the LORD your God in the place which He chooses, at the Feast of Unleavened Bread and at the Feast of Weeks and at the Feast of Booths, and they shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed.
- **JOH 14:6** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.

### The Exterior Of The Outer Court

The gate with the four-colored curtain. This gate attracted the passer-by in the bright morning sun and would catch his gaze immediately. Although seemingly wide it only permitted God's people in. This is truly a picture of Christ. The dimensions of the gate.

- Its width was 20 cubits or 30 feet. Its height was 5 cubits.
- **JOH 10:9** "I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture."
- **MAT 7:14-15** "For the gate is small, and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it. [15] "Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves."
- **MAT 23:13-14** "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from men; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. [14] ("Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you devour widows' houses, even while for a pretense you make long prayers; therefore you shall receive greater condemnation.)

### The Four Colors Of The Hanging.

- Its colors were blue, purple, scarlet and white. These four colors appeared in all three entrance hangings as well as in the cherubim covering over the tabernacle. They also appeared in robe and belt of the high priest and in the belts of the priest's sons.
- These four colors may reflect on the four Evangelists (gospel writers).
- John for example could be represented by "blue" since he focused on the incarnation of our Lord (**JOH 3:12-13, 31; 6:32-33, 58**). See also **1 Cor. 15: 47-49**.
- The "purple" reminds us of the King of Kings and the Messiah of Israel. MAT especially shows this (**Matt. 2:2; 21:5; 25:34, 40; 27:11, 29, 37, 42**).
- "Scarlet" or crimson is a reminder of arterial blood. **Mark 10:45** says, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

- Luke presented Jesus as the "ideal man" to the Greek or the "Son of man" which is really a Messianic title. This is where the white "Byssus" fabric come into play. Note of first importance that Joseph of Egypt first appears in this garb (**Gen. 41:42**). LUK looks at the sinless, holy life of Jesus (**LUK 1:35** ..... "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy offspring shall be called the Son of God. Pilate twice saw this holiness issue (**LUK 23:4, 14** ..... "I find no guilt in this man." ).  
(See also **1 Tim. 6:16; 1 Pet. 2:22; 1 JOH 3:5; 2 Cor. 5:21.**)

### **The Hangings Of The Outer Court**

One is totally surrounded by "byssus" as he stands inside the outer court. There is shining white everywhere. this is totally different than anything he has know as it is in contrast with the unclean desert. The visiter now sees the blessed change that God provides.

### **The Pillars With The Copper Bases And The Silver Capitals**

All sixty of the pillars were made of the same materials. Their bases were of brass, their capitals were of overlaid silver and their posts were of acacia wood. The acacia wood must bring our minds to humanity of Jesus. We see this in Him pictured as the Branch.

- **ISA 11:1** Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, And a branch from his roots will bear fruit.
- **ISA 53:2** For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, And like a root out of parched ground; He has no [stately] form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him.
- **LUK 23:31** "For if they do these things in the green tree (incurruptable wood), what will happen in the dry?"
- **MAT 2:23** and came and resided in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

The bases of brass remind us of the strength and humanity of Jesus. He aquainte Himself with the world through suffering.

- **ISA 53:3** He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face, He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

The silver overlaid capitals reminds us of the "ransom" price.

- **1TI 2:5-6** For there is one God, [and] one mediator also between God and men, [the] man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony [borne] at the proper time.
- **1TI 3:15** but in case I am delayed, [I write] so that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.
- **GAL 2:9** and recognizing the grace that had been given to me, JAM and Cephas and JOH, who were reputed to be pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we [might go] to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised.

The apostles and the church have the life of Christ as seen in the acacia wood.

- **1 JOH 3:1** See how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and [such] we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

The New Testament is where the world meets God.

- **JOH 15:19** "If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.
- **JOH 17:14** "I have given them Thy word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.
- **GAL 6:14** But may it never be that I should boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
- **1PE 4:12-16.** Shows that we will not always be welcomed by the world.

The Silver capitals remind us of Eph. 6:17

- **EPH 6:17** And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The spacing of the pillars is equal and unified symbolizing our unity obligation to face the world.

- **JOH 17.** "That they may all be one."

### **WITHIN THE OUTER COURT**

#### **The Offerings - The Morning And Evening Burnt Offering.**

The fire for the sacrifice was lighted from heaven and was never allowed to be extinguished.

- **LEV 6:5-6** or anything about which he swore falsely; he shall make restitution for it in full, and add to it one-fifth more. He shall give it to the one to whom it belongs on the day [he presents] his guilt offering. [6] "Then he shall bring to the priest his guilt offering to the LORD, a ram without defect from the flock, according to your valuation, for a guilt offering,
- **LEV 9:22-24** Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he stepped down after making the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings. [23] And Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting. When they came out and blessed the people, the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people. [24] Then fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the portions of fat on the altar; and when all the people saw [it], they shouted and fell on their faces.

Early every morning and at twilight every day, a blazing fire wholly consumed these lambs (**EXO 29:38-46**). The people were sanctified by His glory. Christ becomes this "Burnt Offering" before God Himself.

- **HEB 9:14** how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

This offering was called food or the bread to our God.

- **LEV 3:11** Then the priest shall offer [it] up in smoke on the altar, [as] food, an offering by fire to the LORD.
- **LEV 21:21** 'No man among the descendants of Aaron the priest, who has a defect, is to come near to offer the LORD's offerings by fire; [since] he has a defect, he shall not come near to offer the bread of his God.

The morning offering lay on the altar all day burning and the evening offering burned on the red hot coal all night long.

- **LEV 6:8-9** Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, [9] "Command Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the law for the burnt offering: the burnt offering itself [shall remain] on the hearth on the altar all night until the morning, and the fire on the altar is to be kept burning on it.

Note the eternal significance of Christ's offering.

- **HEB 9:12-15** and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. [13] For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled, sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, [14] how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? [15] And for this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, in order that since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were [committed] under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

As the ashes of the offering fell through the brazen grate, every Priest's hand held a silver trumpet and every Priest's mouth blew a blessed message that "it is finished."

- **NUM 10:10** "Also in the day of your gladness and in your appointed feasts, and on the first [days] of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; and they shall be as a reminder of you before your God. I am the LORD your God."
- **JOH 19:30** When Jesus therefore had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head, and gave up His spirit.

### **The Slaughtering Of The Sacrificial Animals**

When the sacrificial animal was brought to be offered, the offerer must lay his hands on the head of the animal and confess his sins simultaneously. This makes him one with the offering as it becomes his substitute.

- **LEV 5:5** 'So it shall be when he becomes guilty in one of these, that he shall confess that in which he has sinned. Forgiveness of sins is mentioned nine times in **Lev. 4:20-6:7**. The blood of Christ has an eightfold blessing from God.

1. **Forgiveness**, for it frees the guilty from the burden of sin.
  - **EPH 1:7** In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace,
2. **Cleansing**, for it cleanses the defiled from the shame of their sins..
  - **REV 1:5** and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood,
3. **Justification**, for protects the accursed from the penalty of judgment.
  - **ROM 5:9** Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath [of God] through Him.
4. **Peace with God**, for it delivers the former enemies of god from the coming wrath.
  - **COL 1:20** and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, [I say], whether things on earth or things in heaven.
5. **Salvation**, for it frees the prisoners from the power of sin.
  - **1PE 1:18** knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers,
6. **Sanctification**, for it does away with the need for those who were lost to make any attempt to attain redemption through good works.
  - **HEB 13:12** Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate.
7. **Redemption**, for it rescues the slaves of Satan from his rule.
  - **REV 5:8-9** And when He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, having each one a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy art Thou to take the book, and to break its seals; for Thou wast slain, and didst purchase for God with Thy blood [men] from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.
8. **Access to God**, for it calls the homeless from the misery of being far apart from God.
  - **EPH 2:13** But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

### **The Brazen Altar With Its Grating**

This altar was made of bronze. Others were allowed to be made of stone and earth.

- **EXO 20:24** 'You shall make an altar of earth for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen; in every place where I cause My name to be remembered, I will come to you and bless you.

Our Lord said that the altar was more important than the offering.

• **MAT 23:19** "You blind men, which is more important, the offering or the altar that sanctifies the offering? Moses already declared that the altar was holy.

- **EXO 29:37** "For seven days you shall make atonement for the altar and consecrate it; then the altar shall be most holy, [and] whatever touches the altar shall be holy.

### **The Material For The Brazen Altar**

Four boards of acacia wood comprised the edging or outer frame. This wood was overlaid inside and out with brass for flame retardance. It withstood the blazing flame and all consuming wrath of God. Jesus did the exact same.

- **ISA 53:10** But the LORD was pleased To crush Him, putting [Him] to grief; If He would render Himself [as] a guilt offering, He will see [His] offspring, He will prolong [His] days, And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand.

The solid bronze grating held the wood and also the very hottest fire of the sacrifice. Only God could see and totally understand this fierce wrath. Only the eye and heart of God could rightly evaluate this. No wonder God allowed darkness to engulf the cross for these hours of suffering. One and One half cubits from the ground was the grate and "Table of Shewbread" and "Ark of the Covenant ." On the altar we see the suffering Christ, on the table we remember His suffering and the Ark bears testimony.

### **The Framing Of The Altar**

The height of the sides was three cubits and the width was five cubits. Five is the number on man depending on God for redemption. The four sides, four corners and four horns point to the four winds or four corners of the earth to which god is so interested.

- **Mark 16:15-16** And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

Originally the outer walls of the altar were smooth and polished. This remained so until the rebellion of Korah, a descendant of Levi, who was a Kohathite. They were selected, by God, to carry the most holy vessels of pure gold (NUM 4:4-20). But he was not satisfied with this high privilege, he wanted more and more. See NUM 16. The New Testament priests are evident in the OT and NT scriptures.

- **ISA 61:6** But you will be called the priests of the LORD; You will be spoken of [as] ministers of our God. You will eat the wealth of nations, And in their riches you will boast.
- **REV 1:5-6** and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood, [6] and He has made us [to be] a kingdom, priests to His God and Father; to Him [be] the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.
- **1PE 2:5** you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- **1PE 2:9** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for [God's] own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

The horns of the altar are a symbol of strength and stability. Zacharias said in LUK 1:69 and David said in PSA 18:2:

- **LUK 1:69** And has raised up a horn of salvation for us In the house of David His servant--

Also see the universal nature of the horns about which the blood was smeared.

- **ISA 49:6** He says, "It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make You a light of the nations So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

The two carrying staves or poles were of acacia wood covered with brass. There are two wonderful characteristics seen here, one is the Savior and the other is our Lord.

- **2PE 1:11** for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.
- **2PE 2:20** For if after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.
- **2PE 3:2** that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior [spoken] by your apostles.
- **2PE 3:18** but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him [be] the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

### **The Brazen Laver With Its Stand**

Between the brazen altar and the tabernacle stood a unique vessel -- the brazen laver. Every priest on attendance on the altar was to wash his hands and feet before entering official duty (Ex. 30:19ff). It was made of hand mirrors used by the women who served at the doorway of the tent of meeting (Ex. 38:8).

This laver or loutron in the NT occurs twice in the NT scriptures.

- **EPH 5:26** that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing (loutron) of water with the word, (See also JOH 15:3)
- **JOH 15:3** "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.
- **Titus 3:5** He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing (loutron) of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

## THE TABERNACLE STRUCTURE

### The Exterior The Tabernacle

The redeemed of the Lord are presented here as a holy temple unto the Lord.

- **EPH 2:20-22** having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner [stone], 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.
- **HEB 3:6** but Christ [was faithful] as a Son over His house whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end.
- **1CO 3:16** Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and [that] the Spirit of God dwells in you?

Being built like a tent, the tent of meeting had for its ceiling two skins and two woven carpets.

### The Covering Of Badgers' Skin

It was inconspicuous and dull in color. No one would be attracted to it as they passed by. It housed something precious ,but it in and of itself didn't attract attention.

- **ISA 53:2** For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, And like a root out of parched ground; He has no [stately] form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him.

JOH the apostle records three times that the world knew Him not (JOH 1:10,26,31). The Badger itself is not a herd animal, but a loner and a solitary creature.

- **PSA 25:16** Turn to me and be gracious to me, For I am lonely and afflicted.
- **JOH 16:32** "Behold, an hour is coming, and has [already] come, for you to be scattered, each to his own [home,] and to leave Me alone; and [yet] I am not alone, because the Father is with Me.
- **JOH 8:16** "But even if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone [in it,] but I and He who sent Me.
- **JOH 8:29** "And He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him."
- **JOH 16:32** "Behold, an hour is coming, and has [already] come, for you to be scattered, each to his own [home,] and to leave Me alone; and [yet] I am not alone, because the Father is with Me.
- **HEB 7:26** For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens;

This badger is extremely vigilant and protective. It will give a tremendous fight when necessary.

- **JOH 2:17** His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Thy house will consume me."

We as the house of god Himself are to be inconspicuous in the world in so far as drawing attention to our selves, but we are to remain vigilant.

- **2CO 11:2** For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, that to Christ I might present you [as] a pure virgin.
- **1CO 16:13** Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.
- **LUK 12:37** "Blessed are those slaves whom the master shall find on the alert when he comes; truly I say to you, that he will gird himself [to serve,] and have them recline [at the table,] and will come up and wait on them.
- **1CO 15:58** Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not [in] vain in the Lord.

### The Covering Of Ram's Skin

The ram was the sacrifice for the consecration of the priests.

- **EXO 29:1** "Now this is what you shall do to them to consecrate them to minister as priests to Me: take one young bull and two rams without blemish,

It was the ram that Abraham was told to offer in the place of Isaac.

- **GEN 22:13** Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked, and behold, behind [him] a ram caught in the thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son.

The life of Jesus was characterized by a perfect and completely dedicated consecration to God.

- **PSA 40:8** I delight to do Thy will, O my God; Thy Law is within my heart. "
- **PSA 73:25** Whom have I in heaven [but Thee]? And besides Thee, I desire nothing on earth.
- **PSA 119:35** Make me walk in the path of Thy commandments, For I delight in it.
- **MAT 3:17** and behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."
- **JOH 1:29** The next day he saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

The red dye in the skin cannot help but mean - the blood sacrifice of Christ's life.

- **PHI 2:8** And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
- **ISA 50:7** For the Lord GOD helps Me, Therefore, I am not disgraced; Therefore, I have set My face like flint, And I know that I shall not be ashamed.
- **LUK 9:51** And it came about, when the days were approaching for His ascension, that He resolutely set His face to go to Jerusalem;

How should all of this impress us?

- **ROM 12:1** I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, [which is] your spiritual service of worship.

### The Covering Of Goats' Skin

Moses sited one of fifteen times that Jesus was referred to as a prophet.

- **ACT 3:22** "Moses said, 'The Lord God shall raise up for you a prophet like me from your brethren; to Him you shall give heed in everything He says to you.'

The material for the covering. It was the garb of the prophet.

- **2 Kings 1:8** And they answered him, "[He was] a hairy man with a leather girdle bound about his loins." And he said, "It is Elijah the Tishbite."
- **ZEC 13:4** "Also it will come about in that day that the prophets will each be ashamed of his vision when he prophesies, and they will not put on a hairy robe in order to deceive;

JOH was asked if he were that prophet by the way in which he dressed.

- **JOH 1:21** And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No."
- **JOH 1:25** And they asked him, and said to him, "Why then are you baptizing, if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"

God-fearing women of the OT worked very hard for the glory of God almighty in fabrication of the tent.

- **EXO 35:26** And all the women whose heart stirred with a skill spun the goats' [hair.]
- **JOH 1:14** And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The dimensions of the covering. Every band of the covering measured three times ten cubits in length. Incidentally, twenty-eight times in scripture the he-goat is mentioned as sin offering. The goats' hair tent covering was made in two panels - one composed of five, and one of six bands - sewn together along the long sides, were fastened by fifty clasps of brass, so that the instructions of God would be carried out: "that they may be one." (Ex. 26:11).

Upon more careful examination of this tent, we see clearly the NT church. Unity is the theme here as we note that the number fifty in the bible is used for unity. The fiftieth year, the year of jubilee, reunites that which was torn apart

- **LEV 25:10** 'You shall thus consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim a release through the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, and each of you shall return to his own property, and each of you shall return to his family.'

On the day of Pentecost (fifty day after the resurrection) many scriptures came true JOH 11:52; 10:16; Eph. 2:13-18 The eleven total panels are difficult to interpret. Only eleven of the original twelve made it. The fifty strong brass hooks reminds us all that that prophetic word cannot be broken ( JOH 10:35; ACT 20:30).

### The Four-Colored Cherubim Covering

The innermost covering of the "Golden House" was the cherubim covering. It was striking and highly impressive.

- **EXO 26:1-6** "Moreover you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twisted linen and blue and purple and scarlet [material;] you shall make them with cherubim, the work of a skillful workman. [2] "The length of each curtain shall be twenty-eight cubits, and the width of each curtain four cubits; all the curtains shall have the same measurements. [3] "Five curtains shall be joined to one another; and [the other] five curtains [shall be] joined to one another. [4] "And you shall make loops of blue on the edge of the outermost curtain in the [first] set, and likewise you shall make [them] on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in the second set. [5] "You shall make fifty loops in the one curtain, and you shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is in the second set; the loops shall be opposite each other. [6] "And you shall make fifty clasps of gold, and join the curtains to one another with the clasps, that the tabernacle may be a unit."

The ten part cherubim curtain was named "the dwelling place." The embroidery was done in four familiar colors that are so often mentioned: white byssus, blue, purple and scarlet. Fifty gold clasps, suspended in blue eyelets fastened the two halves of the curtain together. Each band bore the image of two cherubim. White represents the spotless humanity of the Savior; blue presents to us the Heavenly One; the purple shows us that He is King of Kings; the scarlet speaks of the offering of His precious blood which removes our sins.

Look how this applies to us today:

1. We are holy and blameless before Him (**Eph. 1:1,4**).
2. We are named the heavenly ones (**1 Cor. 15:48; Eph. 1:3; 2:6**).
3. We have become a kingdom and royal priests (**Rev. 1:6; 5:10**)
4. We have the fellowship of His suffering (**Phil. 1:20,29**).

When Aaron and his sons went into the tabernacle and looked up they saw this magnificent scene as they viewed these pictures of heavenly beauty (IPE 1:12).

Angels surely are ministering servants of God to the church. Some things about them are as follows:

- **EPH 3:10-11** in order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly [places.] [11] [This was] in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,
- **REV 1:20** "As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."

- **MAT 18:10** "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you, that their angels in heaven continually behold the face of My Father who is in heaven.
- **HEB 1:14** Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

The church, in all her glory, is to be "perfectly joined together" as a working unit.

- **1CO 1:10** Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree, and there be no divisions among you, but you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.
- **EPH 4:16** from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.
- **COL 2:19** and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

The gold clasps indicate a knitting together in love.

- **COL 2:2** that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and [attaining] to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, [resulting] in a true knowledge of God's mystery, [that is,] Christ [Himself],
- **1CO 12:12-13** For even as the body is one and [yet] has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

### **The Entrance To The Tabernacle**

Like the entrance to the courtyard, the entrance to the tabernacle was also on the east side. Five pillars supported the curtain of the entrance through which the priests had access to the front part of the tabernacle. Here the priestly race was allowed to approach God day and night for ministry. In this place they stood before the face of the Most High to carry out in His holy presence the functions that were ordained. Now we are the church of the living God.

- **1TI 3:15** but in case I am delayed, [I write] so that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.

We now have bold access into the presence of God Himself.

- **EPH 3:12** in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.
- **ROM 5:1-2** Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

One entrance into the Holy Place speaks of Jesus.

- **HEB 3:6** but Christ [was faithful] as a Son over His house whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end.

### **The Entrance Curtain**

The four familiar colors appear again in the curtain of the entrance to the tabernacle. They emphasize to us the glory of the Risen One, the "Son of His love" (Col. 1:13). The purple depicts the Crowned One, on whose "head are many diadems" (Rev. 19:12), while the scarlet recalls the meaningful words "a Lamb as it had been slain" (Rev. 5:6). Lastly, the white byssus gives us to understand that the "Son of man" will come again to judge the world (2 Tim. 4:1).

### **The Five Pillars Of The Entrance To The Tabernacle**

This may be a reference to Peter, JOH, JAM, and the like (**Gal. 2:9; Rev. 3:12**).

- **GAL 2:9** and recognizing the grace that had been given to me, JAM and Cephas and JOH, who were reputed to be pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we [might go] to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcised.
- **REV 3:12** He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

### **The Materials Of The Pillars**

The acacia wood represents hard, fast followers of Christ Jesus.

- **GAL 2:20** "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the [life] which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.
- **2CO 13:5** Test yourselves [to see] if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you-- unless indeed you fail the test?

The pillars were covered with a very costly material, gold. it was not used in the outer court as we now see.

- **GAL 3:27** For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.
- **ROM 10:4** For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.
- **PHI 3:8-9** More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from [the] Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which [comes] from God on the basis of faith,

The bases were of brass which almost always stands for testing and suffering.

- **2TH 1:5** [This is] a plain indication of God's righteous judgment so that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which indeed you are suffering.

- **ROM 8:17** and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with [Him] in order that we may also be glorified with [Him.]
- **PHI 1:29** For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,
- **1PE 2:20** For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer [for it] you patiently endure it, this [finds] favor with God.

The gold capitals remind us of the rewards of the Saints.

- **2TI 4:8** in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.
- **JAM 1:12** Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life, which [the Lord] has promised to those who love Him.

Note that it was not the pillars but the entrance curtain that is to have the preeminence.

- **COL 1:18** He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place (preeminence) in everything.
- **ISA 42:8** "I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images.
- **2CO 4:5** For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake.
- **1CO 9:27** but I buffet my body and make it my slave, lest possibly, after I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified.

### The Golden Walls Of The Tabernacle

- **2CO 6:16** Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I will dwell in them and walk among them; And I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

A total of 20 boards were used for the length. They were 1½ cubits wide each. There were eight board on the West wall. Each board was 1 cubit thick. Therefore the inside dimensions of the tabernacle was 20 cubits by 10 cubits. The rear 1/3 was 10 by 10 by 10 cubits or cube-shaped. This was the Holy of Holies.

### The Boards Of The Dwelling Place

They boards of acacia wood were covered with gold and every board stood in heavy sockets of silver, each weighing one talent (264 lbs.). The boards on each wall were held together on each wall by four bars or poles, which ran through golden rings. These poles were of acacia wood and also covered with gold. There was a fifth pole which was concealed as it ran through a bored hole in the center the boards. The Acacia boards remind us of the humanity of Christ and he was in God and God in Him. It also reminds us of ourselves being in Christ.

- **JOH 17:20-23** "I do not ask in behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; [21] that they may all be one; even as Thou, Father, [art] in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that Thou didst send Me. [22] "And the glory which Thou hast given Me I have given to them; that they may be one, just as We are one; [23] I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, that the world may know that Thou didst send Me, and didst love them, even as Thou didst love Me.
- **GAL 2:20** "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the [life] which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.
- **2CO 5:17** Therefore if any man is in Christ, [he is] a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.
- **ROM 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- **EPH 3:17** so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; [and] that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

The silver bases came from the ransom money of the numbered Israelities (Ex. 30:11-16). It was melted down in Ex.38:25-27. Job had it right when he said:

- **Job 33:24** Then let him be gracious to him, and say, 'Deliver him from going down to the pit, I have found a ransom';
- **1 JOH 4:10** In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son [to be] the propitiation for our sins.
- **MAT 20:28** just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."
- **1CO 6:20** For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

There were two bases for each board. This represents a twofold salvation that was obtained for us. One for the soul and one for the body.

- **HEB 10:39** But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.
- **ROM 8:11** But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.
- **ROM 8:23** And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for [our] adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.
- **2CO 5:4** For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed, but to be clothed, in order that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

Paul brings both of these aspects to view:

- **2TI 1:10** but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

We stand as these boards in God's house only by grace and faith.

- **ROM 5:2** through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.
- **2CO 1:24** Not that we lord it over your faith, but are workers with you for your joy; for in your faith you are standing firm.

As the bases of silver separated the sand from the wood, so God's ransom separates us. body and soul from the world. We are delivered.

- **GAL 1:4-5** who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us out of this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom [be] the glory forevermore. Amen.

### The Poles

The boards were solely for holding the boards together. They were fashioned from acacia wood and covered with gold as well. They rested in gold rings fastened to the boards. These four poles probably have reference to the care givers and unity builders Christ surrounds the church with.

- **EPH 4:11** And He gave some [as] apostles, and some [as] prophets, and some [as] evangelists, and some [as] pastors and teachers, (See also vs. 12ff).

While it is true that two of these ministries are no longer with the church as in the flesh, they still influence us much in our Christian lives. I refer to the Apostles and the Prophets. They belong to the church.

- **1CO 3:21-23** So then let no one boast in men. For all things belong to you, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas (what they have written) or the world or life or death or things present or things to come; all things belong to you, and you belong to Christ; and Christ belongs to God.

One pole ran through the very center of the boards. This is undoubtedly Christ.

- **COL 1:27** to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

The golden eyelets could refer to the perfect bond of unity which is love mentioned in Col. 1:27. their must by a physical, outward demonstration of unity.

- **JOH 17:21; 1 Cor. 1:10; 12:24-25; Eph. 2:21; 4:16; Col. 2:19.**

### THE HOLY PLACE

#### The Interior Of The Tabernacle

- **PSA 27:4** One thing I have asked from the LORD, that I shall seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to meditate in His temple.
- **PSA 63:2** Thus I have beheld Thee in the sanctuary, To see Thy power and Thy glory.

The priests were to wear no sandals in the "Holy Place."

- **EXO 3:5** Then He said, "Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."

The table of shewbread stood on the north side of the tabernacle, the candlestick on the south side opposite it, and on the west side directly before to veil was the altar of incense. If we draw an imaginary line through the brazen altar and the laver and to the altar of incense and then cross that line with another line from the candlestick to the shewbread we perceive a cross. Rather interesting, don't you think.

- **PSA 48:9-10** We have thought on Thy lovingkindness, O God, In the midst of Thy temple. [10] As is Thy name, O God, So is Thy praise to the ends of the earth; Thy right hand is full of righteousness.
- **PSA 29:9** The voice of the LORD makes the deer to calve, And strips the forests bare, And in His temple everything says, "Glory!"

We are the very habitation of God Himself; how much more should we be rejoicing?

- **EPH 2:22** in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

#### The Table Of Shewbread

**EXO 25:23-30; 31:18; 37:10-16; Lev. 24:5-9**

The table of shewbread was also called the "pure table." It is mentioned twenty-one times in the OT. Acacia wood was the material in it and it was covered with pure gold. The wood speak of the humanity of Jesus while the "pure gold" speaks to the deity itself. The table and the brazen altar were of the same height, one and one half cubits. Around the edge of the table ran two horizontal boards of pure gold. They were arranged one on top of the other. The lower board kept the bread from falling off of the table. If the twelve loafs represent the twelve tribes, certainly kept them from falling, permanently. Jesus kept the apostles from falling as well as us.

- **ROM 11:11** I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never be! But by their transgression salvation [has come] to the Gentiles, to make them jealous.
- **JOH 17:12** "While I was with them, I was keeping them in Thy name which Thou hast given Me; and I guarded them, and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.
- **JOH 10:28** and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand.

The upper board, as it is shaped like wreath or a crown, reminds us of the crowned king Jesus.

- **HEB 2:9** But we do see Him who has been made for a little while lower than the angels, [namely,] Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

Attached to the table of shewbread were two carrying poles (staves) which rested in gold rings. the poles were acacia wood and rapped in pure gold. We see Jesus in these.

- **1PE 2:25** For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.
- **JOH 10:11** "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.
- **HEB 13:20-21** Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, [even] Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom [be] the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### The Shewbread

The shewbread was "the bread of the face" or "the bread of the Presence." It was made of fine flour. Two-tenths of an ephah was required for every loaf, which amounted to about 4.5 liters. The fine flour is above all, a beautiful, appropriate picture for the pure and spotless humanity of our Lord Jesus. Fine flour has no coarse elements. It made the bread color constant throughout. The flour passed through 11 sieves. Jesus was certainly sifted through the mill of suffering. The loafs were anointed with oil in the sign of the cross.

The kernel of wheat that falls into the earth (JOH 12:24) and produces much fruit. The harvested sheaves must be threshed by hard blows (flailed), and the kernels must be ground between hard mill stones to make the flour. The fine flour heated in the oven must endure the heat of the baking to become eatable bread. This all testifies to the unconditional devotion of the one who died and went to glory for us all. The incense on top of the loafs reminds us of;

- **2CO 2:15** For we are a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing;

The priests ate this bread at the end of their duty in a holy place in the court yard by the brazen altar (Lev. 10:12,13). Jesus is "the bread of life." We, as priests of the most high God, eat the loaf once per week in memory of the High Priest, Jesus.

- **JOH 6:35** Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall not hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.
- **1CO 10:16-18** Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ? Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread. Look at the nation Israel; are not those who eat the sacrifices sharers in the altar?

### The Shewbread

**EX. 25:31-40; LEV. 24:1-4**

- **1 Kings 8:12** Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that He would dwell in the thick cloud.

There is no need for natural light for god to dwell in since He is light.

- **1 JOH 1:5-7** And this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and [yet] walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.
- **JOH 8:12** Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life."
- **JOH 1:4-5** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.
- **JOH 12:35-36** Jesus therefore said to them, "For a little while longer the light is among you. Walk while you have the light, that darkness may not overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes. "While you have the light, believe in the light, in order that you may become sons of light." These things Jesus spoke, and He departed and hid Himself from them.
- **MAT 5:14-15** "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. "Nor do [men] light a lamp, and put it under the peck-measure, but on the lampstand; and it gives light to all who are in the house.
- **JOH 3:19-21** "And this is the judgment, that the light is come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light; for their deeds were evil. "For everyone who does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. "But he who practices the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God."
- **EPH 5:7-8** Therefore do not be partakers with them; for you were formerly darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light
- **REV 21:23** And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp [is] the Lamb.

The material for the preparation of the candlestick was one talent of pure gold or 132#. This is why it is called the "Pure Candlestick." See Lev.24:1-4. It was a "beaten work" and not a molten one.

- **ACT 26:23** that the Christ was to suffer, [and] that by reason of [His] resurrection from the dead He should be the first to proclaim light both to the[ Jewish] people and to the Gentiles. "
- **2CO 4:6** For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

The seven lamps filled with oil, which were attached to the upper end of the candlestick and its six branches, are witness to perfect light.

- **ISA 11:2** And the Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

The branch (Jesus the Nazarene) had a 'knob and flower' on its end. Twenty-one in all. These were almond blossoms with five petals each.

- **JER 1:11-12** And the word of the LORD came to me saying, "What do you see, JER?" And I said, "I see a rod of an almond tree." Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it."
- **2TI 1:10** but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

The rod of Aaron was also an almond rod.

- **NUM 17:8** Now it came about on the next day that Moses went into the tent of the testimony; and behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi had sprouted and put forth buds and produced blossoms, and it bore ripe almonds.

The six branches of the candlestick were "OUT OF IT." There was one in the center and six "out of it." This points to a God-given, indissoluble unity.

- **ROM 6:5** For if we have become united with [Him] in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall be also [in the likeness] of His resurrection,
- **EPH 1:23** which is His body, the fulness of Him who fills all in all.

We, the church, have always been known as the branches that are expected to produce fruit. But notice that the shaft carried more blossoms than the branches did.

- **Hosea 13:15** He will be "fruitful among His brethren."
- **JOH 15:2** "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every[ branch] that bears fruit, He prunes it, that it may bear more fruit.
- **ROM 7:4** Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, that we might bear fruit for God.

The shaft of the candlestick is found exactly in the center of the six branches. Christ Jesus always occupies the center, whether on the cross or the throne.

- **COL 1:18** He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything.

### The Vessels Of The Tabernacle

The snuffers and the tongs were used in the care of the lamps are were also of pure gold.

- **EXO 25:38** "And its snuffers and their trays [shall be] of pure gold.

Cleaning and lighting of the lamps was to be done every evening and morning.

- **EXO 27:20-21** "And you shall charge the sons of Israel, that they bring you clear oil of beaten olives for the light, to make a lamp burn continually. "In the tent of meeting, outside the veil which is before the testimony, Aaron and his sons shall keep it in order from evening to morning before the LORD; [it shall be] a perpetual statute throughout their generations for the sons of Israel.

Every morning and evening the High Priest (Aaron) would take the flickering and smoking and carbonized lamp wick and snuff them one at a time. Then he would trim to shorten it and relight it in order to burn brightly.

- **LEV 24:1-4** Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Command the sons of Israel that they bring to you clear oil from beaten olives for the light, to make a lamp burn continually. "Outside the veil of testimony in the tent of meeting, Aaron shall keep it in order from evening to morning before the LORD continually; [it shall be] a perpetual statute throughout your generations. "He shall keep the lamps in order on the pure [gold] lampstand before the LORD continually.

Each wick of the lamp was important to the job of the whole. Six flickering lights could make due for a tiny season, but it took the entire seven to shine brightly so as to show the beauty of the lampstand and also to illuminate the tabernacle. Cleaning the soot and carbon from our lives with the snuffer and trimmer is most times painful, but then we can be the light of the world again.

- **MAT 12:20** "A battered reed He will not break off, And a smoldering wick He will not put out, Until He leads justice to victory.
- **EPH 5:8** for you were formerly darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light

The preparations for the priestly offices called for the oil pitcher, the mortar and pestle, and the mixing bowls for the holy oil.

- **EXO 37:16** And he made the utensils which were on the table, its dishes and its pans and its bowls and its jars, with which to pour out libations, of pure gold.
- **2TI 2:20-21** Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor. Therefore, if a man cleanses himself from these [things], he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

The drink offering pitcher contained wine which was not drunk but offered.

- **EXO 29:38-40** "Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two one year old lambs each day, continuously. 39 "The one lamb you shall offer in the morning, and the other lamb you shall offer at twilight; 40 and there [shall

be] one-tenth [of an ephah] of fine flour mixed with one-fourth of a hin of beaten oil, and one-fourth of a hin of wine for a libation with one lamb.

Is this intoxicating wine?

- **PSA 104:15** And wine which makes man's heart glad, So that he may make [his] face glisten with oil, And food which sustains man's heart.

Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire and some accuse them of being drunk with this very wine.

- **LEV 10:1-3** Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered strange fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. 2 And fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD. 3 Then Moses said to Aaron, "It is what the LORD spoke, saying, 'By those who come near Me I will be treated as holy, And before all the people I will be honored.'" So Aaron, therefore, kept silent.
- **LEV 10:8-11** The LORD then spoke to Aaron, saying, 9 "Do not drink wine or strong drink, neither you nor your sons with you, when you come into the tent of meeting, so that you may not die-- it is a perpetual statute throughout your generations-- 10 and so as to make a distinction between the holy and the profane, and between the unclean and the clean, 11 and so as to teach the sons of Israel all the statutes which the LORD has spoken to them through Moses. "

There were idol worshipers who offered a drink offering to their gods.

- **JER 44:17** "But rather we will certainly carry out every word that has proceeded from our mouths, by burning sacrifices to the queen of heaven and pouring out libations to her, just as we ourselves, our forefathers, our kings and our princes did in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem; for [then] we had plenty of food, and were well off, and saw no misfortune.

The heathen priests prophesied falsely when drinking.

- **ISA 28:7** And these also reel with wine and stagger from strong drink: The priest and the prophet reel with strong drink, They are confused by wine, they stagger from strong drink; They reel while having visions, They totter [when rendering] judgment.

But our Lord was different from all the rest.

- **ISA 53:12** Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself to death, And was numbered with the transgressors; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many, And interceded for the transgressors.

The apostle Paul was also different.

- **PHI 2:17-18** But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all. 18 And you too, [I urge you,] rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me.
- See **ROM 12:1, 15-16** also.

### **The Golden Altar Of Incense**

The location of the 'Brazen Altar' and the 'Altar of Incense' is quite significant. One was outside in the courtyard while the other (the golden altar of incense) was inside the tabernacle. The sons of Korah expressed themselves this way.

- **PSA 43:3-4** O send out Thy light and Thy truth, let them lead me; Let them bring me to Thy holy hill, And to Thy dwelling places. 4 Then I will go to the altar of God, To God my exceeding joy; And upon the lyre I shall praise Thee, O God, my God.
- **PSA 84:2-4** My soul longed and even yearned for the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God ... Thine altars, O LORD of hosts, My King and my God. How blessed are those who dwell in Thy house! They are ever praising Thee.

Both the Altar of Incense and The Altar of Burnt Offering were holy unto the Lord.

- **EXO 29:37** "For seven days you shall make atonement for the altar and consecrate it; then the altar shall be most holy, [and] whatever touches the altar shall be holy.

On the Day of Atonement, once per year, the four horns of each altar were smeared with the blood of the sin offering of reconciliation. This act joins together the two altars in our minds. This altar is a type of the one Jesus serves in heaven. He serves in the presence of God forever and ever.

- **HEB 9:24** For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a [mere] copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;

Let us examine the use of the altar itself.

- **LEV 16:12** "And he shall take a firepan full of coals of fire from upon the altar before the LORD, and two handfuls of finely ground sweet incense, and bring [it] inside the veil.

The incense was crushed in the mortar and pestle.

- **ISA 53:10** But the LORD was pleased To crush Him, putting [Him] to grief; If He would render Himself [as] a guilt offering, He will see [His] offspring, He will prolong [His] days, And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand.

Here is the type:

- **EPH 5:2** and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

Here is the extension of the type.

- **REV 5:8** And when He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, having each one a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.
- **PSA 141:2** May my prayer be counted as incense before Thee; The lifting up of my hands as the evening offering.

See the location of the altar of incense in the OT and in the NT.

- **EXO 30:1-6** "Moreover, you shall make an altar as a place for burning incense; you shall make it of acacia wood. 2 "Its length [shall be] a cubit, and its width a cubit, it shall be square, and its height [shall be] two cubits; its horns [shall be] of one piece with it. 3 "And you shall overlay it with pure gold, its top and its sides all around, and its horns; and you shall make a gold molding all around for it. 4 "And you shall make two gold rings for it under its molding; you shall make [them] on its two side walls-- on opposite sides-- and they shall be holders for poles with which to carry it. 5 "And you shall make the poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. 6 "And you shall put this altar in front of the veil that is near the ark of the testimony, in front of the mercy seat that is over [the ark of] the testimony, where I will meet with you.
- **HEB 9:2-4** For there was a tabernacle prepared, the outer one, in which [were] the lampstand and the table and the sacred bread; this is called the holy place. 3 And behind the second veil, there was a tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies, 4 having a golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which [was] a golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron's rod which budded, and the tables of the covenant.

Aaron may have taken the altar into the Holy of Holies on the day of Atonement.

- **LEV 16:11-14** "Then Aaron shall offer the bull of the sin offering which is for himself, and make atonement for himself and for his household, and he shall slaughter the bull of the sin offering which is for himself. 12 "And he shall take a firepan full of coals of fire from upon the altar before the LORD, and two handfuls of finely ground sweet incense, and bring [it] inside the veil. 13 "And he shall put the incense on the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of incense may cover the mercy seat that is on [the ark of] the testimony, lest he die. 14 "Moreover, he shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle [it] with his finger on the mercy seat on the east [side]; also in front of the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times.

But the real lesson here is that Jesus is stand in the gap for us perpetually before God Himself.

- **HEB 7:25** Hence, also, He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.
- **HEB 9:24-25** For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a [mere] copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; 25 nor was it that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the holy place year by year with blood not his own.
- **ROM 8:34** who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.
- **1TI 2:5** For there is one God, [and] one mediator also between God and men, [the] man Christ Jesus,

Jesus promised this much as He ministers for the church in the heavens.

- **HEB 2:12** "I will proclaim Thy name to My brethren, In the midst of the congregation I will sing Thy praise."

## **THE HOLY OF HOLIES**

### **The Veil**

The High Priest, himself, entered the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place. A veil separated by four pillars separated the two rooms of the dwelling place of God. The Holy Place was twenty cubits by ten cubits while the Holy of Holies was 10 square cubits. The "tabernacle of God among men" is cubic in construction.

- **REV 21:16** And the city is laid out as a square, and its length is as great as the width; and he measured the city with the rod, fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height are equal.

This is in accordance with the following:

- **HEB 9:23** Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be cleansed with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

Aaron, Himself, was permitted to enter the Holy of Holies only once per year. On the Day of Atonement, he passed into the very presence God, completely clothed in pure white. Death was he result of anyone else entering the Holy of Holies at anytime. Further, Aaron was allowed entrance only with the blood of the atonement in the offering bowl and surrounded by a cloud of incense that arose from the golden censer. The heavy veil concealed the ark of the covenant the entire year from the servants of Israel. We are reminded by the Holy Spirit what this veil really is.

- **HEB 10:20** by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh,
- **1TI 3:16** And by common confession great is the mystery of godliness: He who was revealed in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, Beheld by angels, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.

Let us pick out the meaning of the 4 colors of blue, scarlet, white, and purple in the next verse.

- **PHI 2:5-11** Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, [and] being made in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should

bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The angels on the curtain symbolize the guarding effect of the those heavenly creatures.

- **GEN 3:24** So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim, and the flaming sword which turned every direction, to guard the way to the tree of life.

Perhaps one of the most significant events ever accomplished in the whole of the tabernacle/ temple was on the occasion of our Lord's death.

- **MAT 27:51** And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, and the earth shook; and the rocks were split,
- **LUK 23:45** the sun being obscured; and the veil of the temple was torn in two. It was the hour of evening sacrifice and the hour of incense and the ministering priest's had to see, first hand, this extraordinary and frightening event. They must have seen that heaven was opened and that access was available for each one.

The brutality of the Father against the Son in our behalf and in our place. Oh, Oh, the WRATH of God.

- **ISA 53:10** But the LORD was pleased To crush Him, putting [Him] to grief; If He would render Himself [as] a guilt offering, He will see [His] offspring, He will prolong [His] days, And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand.
- **ZEC 13:7** "Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, And against the man, My Associate," Declares the LORD of hosts. "Strike the Shepherd that the sheep may be scattered; And I will turn My hand against the little ones.

We do know that the renting of the curtain from top to bottom was to show that God's divine hand was in it, but why in half? The following verses might help:

- **PSA 102:3,11,23** For my days have been consumed in smoke, And my bones have been scorched like a hearth. 11 My days are like a lengthened shadow; And I wither away like grass. 23 He has weakened my strength in the way; He has shortened my days.  
His days were shortened by how many days? By just about half, they were reduced!
- **PSA 90:10** As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years (threescore years and ten), Or if due to strength, eighty years, Yet their pride is [but] labor and sorrow; For soon it is gone and we fly away.  
The angels (cherubim figures) have still more to say. See **LUK 1:26-38; 2:8-15**
- **MAT 4:11** Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and [began] to minister to Him.
- **LUK 22:43** Now an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him.
- **ACT 1:10** And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was departing, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them;
- **2TH 1:7-9** and [to give] relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, See Rev. 5:11-12

#### **The Four Pillars Of The Veil**

The veil was suspended by four golden hooks at the upper end of the pillars which stood at the upper end of the "oracle" or sanctuary.

- **PSA 28:2** Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to Thee for help, When I lift up my hands toward Thy holy sanctuary (oracle).

The four pillars hidden behind the veil are the four gospel writers standing behind the Lord of Glory speaking in behalf of His oracles.

- **ACT 7:38** "This is the one who was in the congregation in the wilderness together with the angel who was speaking to him on Mount Sinai, and [who was] with our fathers; and he received living oracles to pass on to you.
- **ROM 3:2** Great in every respect. First of all, that they were entrusted with the oracles of God.
- **HEB 5:12** For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.
- **2PE 1:21** for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

#### **The Significance Of The Pillars**

They are hidden for the servant always stands behind the Lord. These pillars have no crowns or capitals. Servants nearest God will not wear crowns.

- **REV 4:8-11** And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, " Holy, holy, holy, [is] the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come ." And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders will fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, saying, "Worthy art Thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for Thou didst create all things, and because of Thy will they existed, and were created."

#### **The Materials Of The Pillars**

The materials for the pillars were acacia wood overlaid with pure gold. The bases were of solid silver as were the bases for the boards.

- **1CO 3:11** For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

### **The Ark Of The Covenant**

This wonder ark is mentioned in the word of God over 180 times which points to its significance.

- **JOS 3:11** "Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is crossing over ahead of you into the Jordan.
- **EXO 25:22** "And there I will meet with you; and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony, I will speak to you about all that I will give you in commandment for the sons of Israel.
- **2CH 35:3** He also said to the Levites who taught all Israel [and] who were holy to the LORD, "Put the holy ark in the house which Solomon the son of David king of Israel built; it will be a burden on [your] shoulders no longer. Now serve the LORD your God and His people Israel.
- **PSA 132:8** Arise, O LORD, to Thy resting place; Thou and the ark of Thy strength.

### **The Materials Of The Ark**

Once again, the acacia wood is used to show the humanity of our Lord and the pure gold is used to cover the ark inside and out to show the divinity of God.

### **The Dimensions Of The Ark**

The length of the ark or chest was two and a half cubits, the breadth was one and a half cubits, and the height was also one and a half cubits. The height of the ark is exactly the very height of the brazen grate of the brazen altar (which show equality) and also the table of shewbread. The anger of the Lord consumed the sacrifice and it is remembered in the table of the presence and then accepted as propitiation at the mercy seat.

### **The Golden Wreath Of The Ark Of The Covenant**

Probably the glory and crowning of the Lord Jesus Christ is seen in this wreath.

- **HEB 2:7** "Thou hast made him for a little while lower than the angels; Thou hast crowned him with glory and honor, And hast appointed him over the works of Thy hands;
- **REV 19:12** And His eyes [are] a flame of fire, and upon His head [are] many diadems; and He has a name written [upon Him] which no one knows except Himself.
- **2PE 1:16** For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty.
- **EXO 15:11** "Who is like Thee among the gods, O LORD? Who is like Thee, majestic in holiness, Awesome in praises, working wonders?"
- **JOH 17:24** ... that they may behold My glory, which Thou hast given Me.

### **The Rings Of Gold**

The two carrying staves rested in four rings of gold. The gold symbolizes God's redemptive love being carried throughout the countryside to the lost. Salvation is mobilized.

- **ROM 5:5** and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

### **The Two Carrying Staves**

These two carrying staves could symbolize that Jesus is both our Mediator and our Guarantee of salvation.

- **1TI 2:5** For there is one God, [and] one mediator also between God and men, [the] man Christ Jesus,
- **HEB 9:15** And for this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant
- **HEB 7:22** so much the more also Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant. See Heb. 8:6-13

Better yet these carrying poles are probably to show that we are justified as well as sanctified.

- **ACT 2:38** And Peter [said] to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- **1CO 6:11** And such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God.

### **The Mercy Seat With The Cherubim**

On top of the ark of the covenant lay a heavy, solid golden covering, called by the HEB kaporeth. This word means "to cover the sins." It also may mean "to make atonement or to reconcile." As an integral part of the covering were two angels opposite one another for the observation into this wonderful gift of God, atonement.

- **EXO 37:7** And he made two cherubim of gold; he made them of hammered work, at the two ends of the mercy seat;
- **1PE 1:12** It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven-- things into which angels long to look.
- **EXO 25:22** "And there I will meet with you; and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony, I will speak to you about all that I will give you in commandment for the sons of Israel.
- **HEB 9:5** And above it [were] the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat.

### **The Contents Of The Ark Of The Covenant**

Three articles were preserved in the ark. The pot of manna, the rod of Aaron, and the tables of the law. The symbolism is clear as we can see. Let us look at the manna first.

- **EXO 16:32** Then Moses said, "This is what the LORD has commanded, 'Let an omerful of it be kept throughout your generations, that they may see the bread that I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.'" (NASB)
- **JOH 6:32-35** Jesus therefore said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread out of heaven, but it is My Father who gives you the true bread out of heaven. 33 "For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world." 34 They said therefore to Him, "Lord, evermore give us this bread." 35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall not hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. (NASB)
- **REV 2:17** 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give [some] of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.' (NASB)

Aaron's budding rod is next to consider. This princely rod lay with eleven other rods of the princes of Israel. Only Aaron's rod blossomed with life out of death the morning following. The Almond is the first of all the trees in the East to show its beautiful white blossoms in the spring. See NUM 16 and 17. Of course, Jesus is the fulfillment of the priesthood of Aaron.

- **HEB 7:15-17, 25** And this is clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek, 16 who has become [such] not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life. 17 For it is witnessed [of Him], "Thou art a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek." 25 Hence, also, He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. (NASB)

The tables of the law are next to be considered.

- **PSA 40:8** I delight to do Thy will, O my God; Thy Law is within my heart. " (NASB)
- **PSA 119:11** Thy word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against Thee. (NASB)

Moses was instructed to set the tables in the ark.

- **EXO 40:20** Then he took the testimony and put [it] into the ark, and attached the poles to the ark, and put the mercy seat on top of the ark. (NASB)

The unbroken law lay in the ark of testimony to allow us to see the perfect life of Jesus.

- **MAT 5:17** "Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. (NASB)

### **The Ark Of The Covenant In The Holy Of Holies**

All that the ark represented and all that was in it is fulfilled in Christ Jesus and expanded to us who belong to us.

- **2CO 4:6** For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. (NASB)
- **PHI 3:8-10** More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ, 9 and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from [the] Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which [comes] from God on the basis of faith, 10 that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; (NASB)
- **2CO 3:18** But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. (NASB)

The "Most Holy place" was only such because "the Most Holy God " dwelt in it. The Great Day of Atonement was on the tenth day of the seventh month. The High Priest took for himself and his household a young bull as a sin offering and a ram as a burnt offering.

- **LEV 23:27-28** "On exactly the tenth day of this seventh month is the day of atonement; it shall be a holy convocation for you, and you shall humble your souls and present an offering by fire to the LORD. 28 "Neither shall you do any work on this same day, for it is a day of atonement, to make atonement on your behalf before the LORD your God. (NASB)

The sweet-smelling incense was the first thing that was presented to God. It concealed the High priest the entire time he was in the Most Holy Place.

- **LEV 16:12-13** "And he shall take a firepan full of coals of fire from upon the altar before the LORD, and two handfuls of finely ground sweet incense, and bring [it] inside the veil. 13 "And he shall put the incense on the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of incense may cover the mercy seat that is on [the ark of] the testimony, lest he die. (NASB)

Aaron was not allowed access at any given time before the Lord.

- **LEV 16:2** And the LORD said to Moses, "Tell your brother Aaron that he shall not enter at any time into the holy place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, lest he die; for I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat. (NASB)

Now Jesus fulfills this beautiful picture. What a splendid image.

- **ROM 3:24-25** being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; 25 whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. [This was] to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; (NASB) See Heb. 9:5

Let us remember that only Aaron and his house could enter into the immediate presence of God. Intimate nearness and close fellowship with God was not possible with the people of God. Now it is quite different.

- **HEB 10:19-22** Since therefore, brethren, we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and since [we have] a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled [clean] from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. (NASB)

A second sacrifice followed the first:

- **LEV 16:14-15** "Moreover, he shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle [it] with his finger on the mercy seat on the east [side]; also in front of the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times. "Then he shall slaughter the goat of the sin offering which is for the people, and bring its blood inside the veil, and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat. (NASB)

Why sprinkle the blood in front of the mercy seat? For the sins of the world and for the world itself.

- **JOH 1:29** The next day he saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! (NASB)
- **ROM 8:21** that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. (NASB) See ROM 8:18-25
- **ISA 35:1-2** The wilderness and the desert will be glad, And the Arabah will rejoice and blossom; Like the crocus. It will blossom profusely And rejoice with rejoicing and shout of joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, The majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the glory of the LORD, The majesty of our God. (NASB)
- **HEB 9:11-12** But when Christ appeared [as] a high priest of the good things to come, [He entered] through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; 12 and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. (NASB)

### **THE HOLY GARMENTS OF THE HIGH PRIEST**

Seven special articles of clothing and ornaments composed the official apparel of the high priest: the robe, the embroidered coat, the ephod, the belt of the ephod, the breastplate, the mitre, and the diadem. They were all prescribed for the high priest for "glory and beauty."

- **EXO 28:2** "And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. (NASB)
- **EXO 28:40** "And for Aaron's sons you shall make tunics; you shall also make sashes for them, and you shall make caps for them, for glory and for beauty. (NASB)

We are to consider Jesus.

- **HEB 3:1,3** Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession. 3 For He has been counted worthy of more glory ...

God has quite a different plan for the priesthood of our Lord.

- **HEB 7:13-14** For the one concerning whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests.
- **HEB 8:4** Now if He were on earth, He would not be a priest at all, since there are those who offer the gifts according to the Law; See Heb. 7:11-25

Jesus ministers in the highest of the heavens as one who is unchangeable and eternal.

- **HEB 6:20** where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.
- **HEB 7:28** For the Law appoints men as high priests who are weak, but the word of the oath, which came after the Law, [appoints] a Son, made perfect forever.
- **HEB 9:24** For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a [mere] copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;
- **HEB 7:25** Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. (KJV)
- **HEB 10:11-12** And every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; 12 but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God,
- **HEB 12:1-2** Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, [2] fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

### **The Robe**

The robe of the high priest with its belt of bysus was made of finely woven fabric. The spotless white of the cotton was of the finest possible quality, and could not be imitated. Jesus is referred in the NT as the "just One" seven times.

- **ACT 22:14** And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. (KJV)
- **ACT 7:52** Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers: (KJV)

Our High Priest is enthroned above the Father as the perfect Man -- a fact of immeasurable significance. We are represented before God by a glorified Man, and in Him God is wholly pleased.

- **HEB 7:26** For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens;
- **HEB 4:15** For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as [we are, yet] without sin.

### **The Coat**

The coat of the high priest was completely blue. This is again a reference to the heavenly nature of the Lord Jesus. He came from heaven and He has gone to heaven.

### **The Bells**

The bells of pure gold portray His testimony. On the day of Pentecost, seven days after His ascension into heaven, the people of Jerusalem heard those bells - in type - as the inauguration ceremony was ending. They were 9 in number.

### **Pomegranates**

The Pomegranates were fastened alternately with the bells on the bottom of the coat, and they were alternately fixed colors of blue, purple, and scarlet. They were 9 in number.

### **The Ephod**

The ephod consisted of two shoulder pieces that were fastened together and reached nearly to the knee. They covered the back and the chest. The yarn of which it was made was bright with the colors blue, purple, and scarlet; also white byssus was present. This embroidered cloth was woven with threads of beaten gold. It was a marvelous piece of work, full of beauty and glory. The whole was a type of the nature of the Son of God in His high-priestly honor -- a picture of divine glory. God bestowed this honor on Him only because the Lord Jesus bore the judgment on the cross and because He arose afterward. "So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, today have I begotten thee. As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec" (HEB 5:5-6).

Concerning Aaron, the high priest, God said, I chose "him out of all-the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to offer upon mine altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me" (ISA 2:25).

Today the people of Israel are characterized by a prophecy of the utmost importance: "The children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice . . . and without an ephod." They have no high-priest who could enter in the beauty of the ephod before God for them. They are a people "without an ephod," because they rejected the true, heavenly Sent One of God. The tragic consequences of this decision are clearly placed before us. In consequence, Israel must still go through terrible judgments. But the heavenly people of God, the pardoned and redeemed of the Lord Jesus, rejoice in their High Priest, who is at the right hand of the Majesty on high and who represents them day and night. The fasteners of the shoulder pieces of the ephod were remarkable, for there two large gems set in gold bore the names of six of the tribes of Israel, each precious stone having six names engraved on it, like the engraving of a signet. In a related sense, they tell us that the blood bought church is unforgettable for God. In this, each believer may see a sign that the Father in heaven continually remembers His children. "Yet will I not forget thee" (ISA 49:15). That is indeed a promise full of comfort, vividly pictured by the names on the onyx -- the "stones of memorial" (EXO 28:12). "Thou shalt not be forgotten of me" (ISA 44:21).

### **The Belt Of The Ephod**

He who has girded himself shows that he stands ready for service. This splendid girdle testifies of the highpriestly ministry. It is called "the curious girdle" and was made of the same material as the ephod robe. Executed in embroidery work, it characterizes the unique, perfect ministry of our Lord.

When He washed the disciples' feet, the Lord Jesus wore the linen girdle -- a picture of perfect humility. He took upon Himself at that moment the form of a servant to enable His own to have fellowship with Him. (JOH 13).

Today in glory the Lord Jesus wears the magnificent girdle of the ephod. As our High Priest, He brings to the Father the "supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks" of His people (1TI 2:1).

### **The Breastplate (EXO 28:15-30)**

On the ephod, above the girdle, the high priest wore an article that consisted of the same fabric as the other two parts of the priestly garment. Also here, gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and byssus were visibly woven together. Each side of the square breastplate measured a handbreadth. The two pieces of cloth of equal size were bound together at the bottom; open above, they formed a container, a kind of pocket. In them were laid the "Urim and Thummim" (See Pages 43 & 44). On the front side, the breastplate was decorated with twelve precious stones. Each of these sparkling stones was distinct. Each shone in a different color when the light of the golden candlestick fell upon it. A more detailed description of these jewels is given in the section on the heave offering. The breastplate received its name from the fact that it was worn on the breast of the high priest. God's Word required that it be carefully fastened to the garment of the ephod. Chains of braided gold and golden rings with loops of blue secured the breastplate in position. It was to rest on the heart of the anointed priest without being displaced.

"And Aaron shall bear the names of the children of Israel in the breastplate of judgment upon his heart, when he goeth in unto the holy place, for a memorial before the Lord continually. And thou shalt put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim [lights and perfections], and they shall be upon Aaron's heart . . . continually" (EXO 28:25-30). The expression "the breastplate of judgment" means "administration of justice" or "pronouncement of judgment." The high priest carried the names of the twelve tribes of Israel on his shoulders and on his heart. When decisions were to be asked of God, the Urim and Thummim gave expression to the wisdom of God. How meaningful

these pictures are! Jesus Christ the High Priest carries His blood-bought saints upon His loving heart and with the strength of His shoulders. They are entrusted to His unceasing care.

The names of the redeemed are indelibly engraved in precious stones as a memorial before God. This wonder fully reveals the worth and importance of the precious stones and their God-ordained distinction as a picture of the children of God. These gleaming stones, set in gold on the breastplate, were "for beauty and glory." Thus may every believer be joyfully aware that he is a part of the glory and adornment of His Lord and Savior. In His high-priestly prayer, the Lord Jesus testified concerning all who were given to Him by the Father: "For them which thou hast given me.... I am glorified in them" (JOH 17:9-10). Paul also wrote about his beloved brethren and fellow workers: "They are . . . the glory of Christ" (2CO 8:23). Let us praise our Lord and Savior in worship and homage, He who in His incomprehensible grace has given His own such an exalted place. We know from Holy Scriptures that God has promised His own that He will preserve them in holy faithfulness during their earthly existence. "He loveth righteousness and judgment" (PSA 33:5). "The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment" (PSA 103:6). "He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake" (PSA 23:3).

### **The Holy Diadem On The Headdress**

As the crowning feature of the entire holy vesture, the high priest wore a diadem of fine gold on a white headdress of byssus. Of this, the Word of God says, "And they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, like to the engravings of a signet, **HOLINESS TO THE LORD**. And they tied unto it a lace of blue, to fasten it on high upon the mitre; as the Lord commanded Moses" (EXO 39:3-31).

What was the function of this splendid decoration?

- **EXO 28:38** "And it shall be on Aaron's forehead, and Aaron shall take away the iniquity of the holy things which the sons of Israel consecrate, with regard to all their holy gifts; and it shall always be on his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD. (NASB)

The people of God had the glorious calling, as a priestly race, to serve in the presence of God; they were to bring Him thanksgiving, praise, and worship as an offering. He seeks such as His worshipers (JOH 4:23). His worshipers are able to fulfill this desire of God in humility and holy reverence, in spirit and in truth. They perform this ministry as "an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ" (1PE 2:5). In the sacrificial services of Israel, the holy diadem was the visible expression of acceptability before God. Naturally, a variety of imperfections, weaknesses, or failures could creep into this ministry. It was, therefore, always important to every upright Israelite that the high priest graced with the holy diadem -- exercise all priestly duties in a manner appropriate to the holiness of God. Only in this way could they meet His approval.

The true worshiper sees a comforting, encouraging picture of the grace of God in the diadem. Only grace makes it possible to exercise spiritual service in freedom of spirit. "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus . . . having an high priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith" (HEB 10:19,21-22). We enter God's holy presence because He has called us, sanctified us, and made us worthy to do so, and because our great High Priest presents our offerings on our behalf. For Jesus' sake, the pleasure of God rests on us.

- **PSA 43:4** Then I will go to the altar of God, To God my exceeding joy; And upon the lyre I shall praise Thee, O God, my God. (NASB)
- "Accepted in the beloved" (**EPH 1:6**)-- before the presence of the living God!

We have been led into the tabernacle to view the glory of the Lord. How good it is when the Holy Spirit is our Guide, and we have fulfilled His desire.

### **The Completed Work**

"So Moses finished the work. Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle" (EXO 40:33-35). "And on the day that the tabernacle was reared up the cloud covered the tabernacle, namely, the tent of the testimony: and at even there was upon the tabernacle as it were the appearance of fire, until the morning" (NUM 9:15).

"The cloud of glory" -- the visible sign of the presence of God -- was not unknown to Israel. During the EXO from Egypt, the people received guidance and light from the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire. The pillars protected the assembly of the Lord and gave them victory over the foe (EXO 13:21; 14:19-20). But now this shekinah stayed among them, a visible sign of the presence of God so rich in grace. It was a testimony of His glory and holiness (NUM 14:14).

God speaks of this cloud fifty-six times in the Old Testament. The cloud is the uniting focal point for the people of the Lord. Where the cloud stood was the center of a united people. They were blessed and led, illuminated and preserved by God. God, in His wonderful condescension and love, desired to have fellowship with His people. "For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the Lord loved you" (DEU 7:6-8).

How much more do these words apply to all those who are redeemed, cleansed, and sanctified, "called . . . out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1PE 2:9). This has become true of them: "And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God" (ROM 9:26). God has richly blessed us. The "example and shadow of heavenly things" move our innermost being. Their purpose is to place before our eyes and heart a fullness of the glories of our Lord Jesus Christ. Then, full of holy wonder, we may worshipfully join in the words of the Holy Spirit: "For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who

hath been his counsellor? . For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen" (ROM 11:34,36). "Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen" (EPH 3:21).

### Urim And Thummim

What the "Urim and Thummim" were cannot be determined with any certainty. All we certainly know is that they were a certain divinely-given means by which God imparted, through the high priest, direction and counsel to Israel when these were needed. The method by which this was done can be only a matter of mere conjecture. They were apparently material objects, quite distinct from the breastplate, but something added to it after all the stones had been set in it, something in addition to the breastplate and its jewels. They may have been, as some suppose, two small images, which were kept in the bag of the breastplate, by which, in some unknown way, the high priest could give forth his divinely imparted decision when consulted. They were probably lost at the destruction of the temple by Nebuchadnezzar. They were never seen after the return from captivity.

1. They were placed in the breastplate of the high priest.
  - **EXO 28:30** "And you shall put in the breastpiece of judgment the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be over Aaron's heart when he goes in before the LORD; and Aaron shall carry the judgment of the sons of Israel over his heart before the LORD CONTINUALLY. (NASB)
  - **LEV 8:8** He then placed the breastpiece on him, and in the breastpiece he put the Urim and the Thummim.
2. God was to be consulted by them.
  - **NUM 27:21** "Moreover, he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire for him by the judgment of the Urim before the LORD. At his command they shall go out and at his command they shall come in, [both] he and the sons of Israel with him, even all the congregation." (NASB)
3. Instances of consulting God by them.
  - **JDG 1:1** Now it came about after the death of JOS that the sons of Israel inquired of the LORD, saying, "Who shall go up first for us against the Canaanites, to fight against them?" (NASB)
  - **JDG 20:18** Now the sons of Israel arose, went up to Bethel, and inquired of God, and said, "Who shall go up first for us to battle against the sons of Benjamin?" Then the LORD said, "Judah [shall go up] first. " (NASB)
  - **JDG 20:28** and Phinehas the son of Eleazar, Aaron's son, stood before it to [minister] in those days, saying, "Shall I yet again go out to battle against the sons of my brother Benjamin, or shall I cease?" And the LORD said, "Go up, for tomorrow I will deliver them into your hand." (NASB)
  - **1SA 23:9-11** Now David knew that Saul was plotting evil against him; so he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring the ephod here." Then David said, "O LORD God of Israel, Thy servant has heard for certain that Saul is seeking to come to Keilah to destroy the city on my account. "Will the men of Keilah surrender me into his hand? Will Saul come down just as Thy servant has heard? O LORD God of Israel, I pray, tell Thy servant." And the LORD said, "He will come down." (NASB)
  - **1SA 30:7-8** Then David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelech, "Please bring me the ephod." So Abiathar brought the ephod to David. And David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I pursue this band? Shall I overtake them?" And He said to him, "Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them, and you shall surely rescue [all]." (NASB)
4. Sometimes no answer by, in consequence of the sin of those consulting
  - **1SA 28:6** When Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by prophets. (NASB)
5. They were no where to be found in the second temple.
  - **Ezra 2:63** And the governor said to them that they should not eat from the most holy things until a priest stood up with Urim and Thummim. (NASB)
  - **NEH 7:65** And the governor said to them that they should not eat from the most holy things until a priest arose with Urim and Thummim. (NASB)
6. Illustrative of the light and perfection of Christ, the true high priest.
  - **DEU 33:8** And of Levi he said, "[Let] Thy Thummim and Thy Urim [belong] to Thy godly man, Whom Thou didst prove at Massah, With whom Thou didst contend at the waters of Meribah; (NASB)
  - **JOH 1:4,9,17** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. .... There was the true light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. ... For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. (NASB)
  - **COL 2:2-3**.... Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. (NASB)