

The Mystery of the
TABERNACLE

משכן

MI SHKAN

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TABLE OF CONTENT

FOREWORD.....	1
<i>ACKNOWLEDGMENT.....</i>	<i>2</i>
FORESHADOWING	4
THE ELEMENTS OF THE TABERNACLE	6
BACKGROUND.....	8
1. THE OUTER COURT	10
<i>THE GATE / DOOR</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>THE PILLARS OF THE GATE.....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>THE FENCE.....</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>BRAZEN ALTAR.....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>BRONZE LAVER</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>THE SURROUNDINGS OF THE OUTER COURT.....</i>	<i>34</i>
SUMMARY	44
THE TABERNACLE	47
2. THE HOLY PLACE	56
<i>THE LAYOUT OF THE HOLY PLACE.....</i>	<i>59</i>
THE GOLDEN LAMPSTAND	62
<i>TYPOLOGICAL MEANING OF OLIVE OIL IN THE ANOINTING.....</i>	<i>69</i>
THE TABLE OF SHOWBREAD.....	75

SUMMARY	83
THE GOLDEN ALTAR OF INCENSE	86
<i>THE INCENSE.....</i>	<i>92</i>
<i>THE FIRE.....</i>	<i>95</i>
<i>THE VEIL.....</i>	<i>98</i>
3. THE HOLY OF HOLIES	100
<i>ARK OF THE COVENANT</i>	<i>103</i>
<i>THE MERCY SEAT</i>	<i>107</i>
<i>THE CONTENTS OF THE ARK OF THE COVENANT</i>	<i>113</i>
PRIESTLY GARMENTS.....	117
<i>THE HIGH PRIEST'S YEAR-ROUND UNIFORM.....</i>	<i>118</i>
1. BREASTPLATE	121
<i>SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE.....</i>	<i>129</i>
2. EPHOD	131
3. ROBE (TEKHELET).....	137
4. PLATE	141
5. TUNIC.....	142
6. TURBINE.....	144
7. SASH.....	145
8. UNDERGARMENTS	146

<i>THE HIGH PRIEST'S UNIFORM FOR THE DAY OF ATONEMENT</i>	147
THE OLD COVENANT	150
<i>THE FIRST ORDER OF PRIESTHOOD WAS OF MELCHIZEDEK.</i>	150
<i>THE SECOND ORDER OF PRIESTHOOD WAS OF AARON.....</i>	152
THE NEW COVENANT	153
A TESTAMENT DEMANDS DEATH	163
FORGIVENESS DEMANDS BLOOD	164
JUDGMENT DEMANDS A SUBSTITUTE	167
THE FIRST BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE	175
THE SECOND BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE	178
THE THIRD BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE	182
THE FOURTH BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE	184
THE FIFTH BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE	185
TYPOLOGICAL MEANING OF THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE	186
THE HUMAN BODY	190

<i>RELATING DNA TO BIBLE CONSTRUCTION</i>	<i>191</i>
<i>THE NUCLEOTIDE.....</i>	<i>196</i>
THE ARK OF THE COVENANT.....	199
MISHKAN	220
<i>LETTERS OF MISHKAN</i>	<i>222</i>
A BRIEF SUMMARY	232

BOOK CONTENTS

Part I: The Outer Court

Part II: The Holy Place – Golden Lampstand

Part III: The Holy Place – Table of Showbread

Part IV: The Holy Place – Golden Altar of Incense

Part V: The Most Holy Place

Part VI: The Priestly Garments

Part VII: Our Great High Priest

Part VIII: The Women of the Tabernacle

Part IX: God's Tabernacle in the human body

Part X: Mishkan

Part XI: Hints for the believer's life

The Tabernacle of Moses

FOREWORD

God ordained Moses to build a Tabernacle according to the heavenly pattern. This Tabernacle is the perfect model for the New Testament believer to be transformed back into the image and likeness of Adonai. All the elements found in the Tabernacle were designed to present Yashuah and His redemptive plan for humanity.

The Hebrew word for Tabernacle is “Mishkan”. This four-letter word contains a mystery to be discovered. It involves the long-range restoration plan of Adonai for mankind.

We will discover and discuss all the elements of the Tabernacle and their significance. It is a journey through time and scriptures to discover the greatness and perfection of Adonai and His grace.

Since we are now joined to Christ, we have been given the treasures of redemption by his blood—the total cancellation of our sins—all because of the cascading riches of his grace. ⁸ This superabundant grace is already powerfully working in us, releasing all forms of wisdom and practical understanding. ⁹ And through the revelation of the Anointed One, he unveiled his secret desires to us—the hidden mystery of his long-range plan, which he was delighted to implement from the very beginning of time. Ephesians 1:7-9 TPT

The Tabernacle was a foreshadowing of a greater, future Tabernacle.

Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount. Hebrews 8:5 KJV

The better Tabernacle to come will be a dwelling place for Adonai, not made with hands.

For we know that if our earthly house of this Tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 Corinthians 5:1 KJV

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I hereby acknowledge that the Holy Spirit has revealed many treasures hidden in the Tabernacle to various saints over time. In my walk with the Lord, I have also received much revelation knowledge through studies, YouTube teachings and directly from the Holy Ghost. These revelations I now share in this book.

The information is also available on the Berashith Online Journey Website (www.Berashith-oj.co.za).

I added my own knowledge to the already outlined bases of other students. My full acknowledgement firstly to “IMPACT”: Bible.org blog (<https://blogs.bible.org/the-tabernacle-of-moses-gods-heavenly-pattern-for-our-spiritual-transformation-part-i-the-outer-court/>) for their information, which is basically what the Holy Ghost had revealed to me as well. My full acknowledgment secondly to the LastTrumpetBlast Channel

on YouTube for excellent video teachings on this topic. They are equipping the Body of Christ with crucial revelation knowledge!

My sincere acknowledgment also to “The Most Holy Place website (<http://www.mostholypplace.com/book-01.html>) for making this specific information available.

Many years ago, I discovered that the elements in the Tabernacle are representations of the DNA structure and other cells in the human body. At that stage, the information was just too much for me, and I put it in a bin on my computer. The Holy Ghost has constantly been reminding me of this information, though. NOW is the time to release it!

I wish to emphasise that the Holy Ghost deserves ALL the glory and ALL acknowledgment! He is the author of it all! I am merely the vessel and do not claim anything for myself.

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Elohim!**

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Glory to GOD!

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FORESHADOWING

There is simply no end to the number of shadow types in the Tabernacle of Moses. The more I studied, the more I discovered. The golden wire throughout the Tabernacle constantly points to Yashuah –His death, burial and resurrection. His death was a once and for all sacrifice to save humanity from eternal damnation!

Paul referred to many Old Testament scriptures.

¹ *NOW EVEN the first covenant had its own rules and regulations for divine worship, and it had a sanctuary [but one] of this world.* [Exodus 25:10-40]

² *For a tabernacle (tent) was erected, in the outer division or compartment of which were the lampstand and the table with [its loaves of] the showbread set forth. [This portion] is called the **Holy Place**.* [Leviticus 24:5, 6]

³ *But [inside] beyond the second curtain or veil, [there stood another] tabernacle [division] known as the **Holy of Holies**.* [Exodus 26:31-33]

⁴ *It had the golden altar of incense and the ark (chest) of the covenant, covered over with wrought gold. This [ark] contained a golden jar which held the manna and the rod of Aaron that sprouted and the [two stone] slabs of the covenant [bearing the Ten Commandments].* [Exodus 16:32-34; 30:1-6; Numbers 17:8-10]

⁵ *Above [the ark] and overshadowing the mercy seat were the representations of the cherubim [winged creatures which were the symbols] of glory. We cannot now go into detail about these things.*

⁶ *These arrangements having thus been made, the priests enter [habitually] into the outer division of the tabernacle in performance of their ritual acts of worship.*

⁷ *But into the second [division of the tabernacle] none but the **high priest** goes, and he only once a year, and never without taking a sacrifice of blood with him, which he offers for himself and for the errors and sins of ignorance and thoughtlessness which the people have committed. [Leviticus 16:15]*

⁸ ***By this the Holy Spirit points out that the way into the [true Holy of] Holies is not yet thrown open as long as the former [the outer portion of the] tabernacle remains a recognized institution and is still standing,***

⁹ ***Seeing that that first [outer portion of the] tabernacle was a parable (a visible symbol or type or picture of the present age). In it gifts and sacrifices are offered, and yet are incapable of perfecting the conscience or of cleansing and renewing the inner man of the worshiper.***

¹⁰ ***For [the ceremonies] deal only with clean and unclean meats and drinks and different washings, [mere] external rules and regulations for the body imposed to tide the worshipers over until the time of setting things straight [of reformation, of the complete new order when Christ, the Messiah, shall establish the reality of what these things foreshadow—a better covenant].***

¹¹ ***But [that appointed time came] when Christ (the Messiah) appeared as a High Priest of the better things that have come and are to come. [Then] through the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with [human] hands, that is, not a part of this material creation,***

¹² *He went once for all into the [Holy of] Holies [of heaven], not by virtue of the blood of goats and calves [by which to make reconciliation between God and man], but His own blood, having found and secured a complete redemption (an everlasting release for us).* Hebrews 9:1-12 AMPC

THE ELEMENTS OF THE TABERNACLE

- The Ark – Exodus 25:10-22
- The Table of Showbread – Exodus 25:23-30
- The Menorah – Exodus 25:31-40
- The Tabernacle itself – Exodus 26:1-37
- The Altar of Burnt Offering – Exodus 27:1-8
- The Outer Court – Exodus 27:9-19
- The Lamp Oil – Exodus 27:20-21
- The Priest's Clothing [The Garments] – Exodus 28
- The Altar of Incense – Exodus 30:1-10
- The Laver – Exodus 30:17-21
- The Anointment Oil – Exodus 30:22-33
- The Incense – Exodus 30:34-38

As you will soon see, the complete Tabernacle and surrounding structures are all about JESUS! Everything embedded in the Tabernacle is a foreshadowing of something/someone better to come – the real Messiah!!

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**THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES:
GOD'S HEAVENLY PATTERN FOR
OUR SPIRITUAL
TRANSFORMATION**

PART I: THE OUTER COURT

BACKGROUND

The design for the Tabernacle of Moses (or Tent of Meeting) was given to Moses by God Himself when Moses was on Mount Sinai. The design was based upon the Tabernacle in Heaven (Hebrews 8:5; Exodus 25:40). This earthly Tabernacle was to prophetically point the way to God the Father, through Jesus. Therefore, no error was allowed in its construction! Furthermore, the building of the Tabernacle revealed the ultimate desire of God, our Father, to live amongst His children.

And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.

⁹According to all that I show thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its vessels, even so shall ye make it.

Exodus 25:8-9 KJV

Oh, the joy God must have experienced when He became flesh as the Saviour, our Emmanuel ("God with us"), and dwelt amongst His people! (John 1:14).

The Israelites constructed the Tabernacle at the foot of Mount Sinai in 1445 BC, eleven months after the Exodus from Egypt. It was built from the free-will offerings of the people (Exodus 35:5). In their excitement, they brought more than needed for the temple, so God had Moses restrain them from bringing any more offerings. (Exodus 36:3, Exodus 36:5-7)

The Tabernacle was central to Israel's worship and a sacrificial system for 485 years. It travelled with them, wherever they went. After they had crossed the Jordan River into the Promised Land, the Tabernacle was set up at Gilgal (Joshua 4:19). Directly after the conquest of Canaan, it was set up at Shiloh (Joshua 18:1), where Joshua's tribe lived. It remained there until about 1050 BC, while the judges ruled Israel. Shiloh was

destroyed by God (Jeremiah 7:14; 26:6) and the Tabernacle, which was abandoned by God (Psalms 78:59-64), as well as the Ark of the Covenant, which was captured by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:5-11; 4:17), was moved to Nob (1 Samuel 21:1-9; Mark 2:23-28), during King Saul's reign. The Tabernacle was then moved to Gibeon (1 Chronicles 16:39; 2 Chronicles 1:3).

The Ark of the Covenant had been returned by the Philistines to Beth Shemesh (1 Samuel 6:1-21). It was then moved to Kiriath Jearim (aka, Baalah) (1 Chronicles 13:1-8) by the people of that city, and then moved to Jerusalem by King David (2 Samuel 6:12-19). Upon completing the First Temple, King Solomon had the Tabernacle brought into its Holy Place (1 Kings 8:1-4; 2 Chronicles 5:4-7). He then had the Ark of the Covenant placed inside the Most Holy Place of the First Temple. The Tabernacle was never mentioned in the Old Testament again.

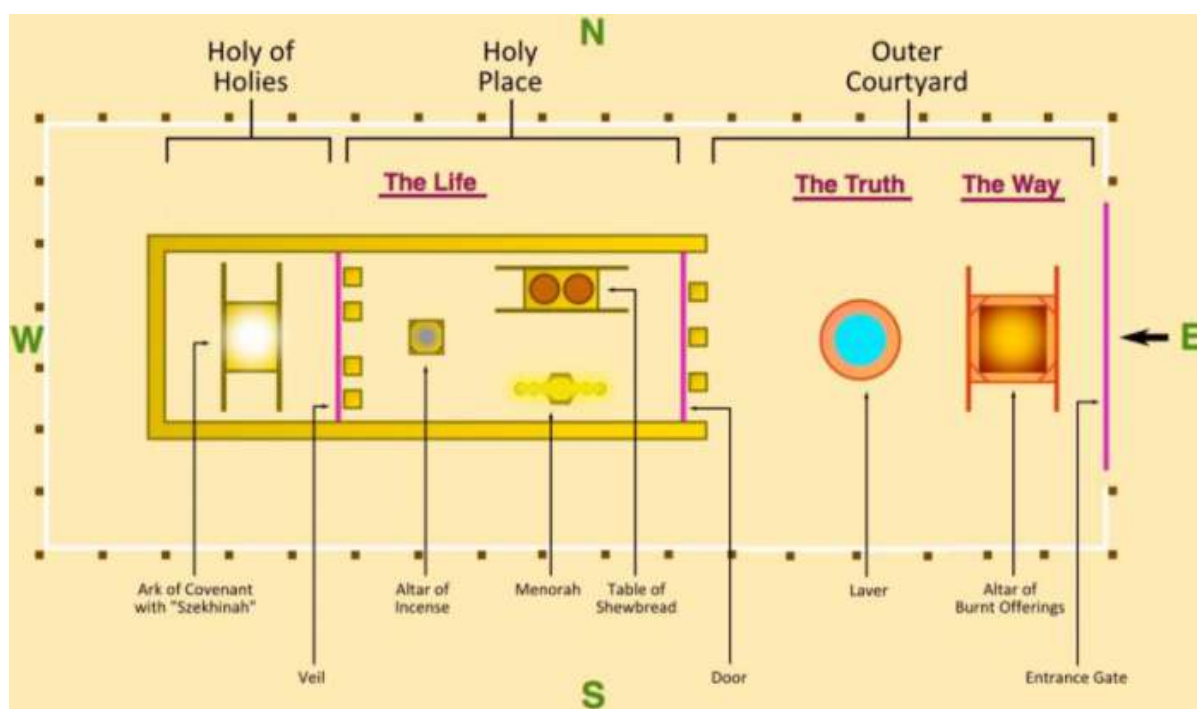
The specifications for the building of the Tabernacle were very exact, concerning every detail of the tent, the various instruments of service, and the surrounding wall of boards. Everything was designed to be taken down and re-erected with speed, as Israel was on the move towards the Promised Land!

The presence of the LORD was visible as a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night (Exodus 40:38). The Tabernacle, or tent, was to be the peculiar place where the fire rested. All this was GOD'S plan. It fitted into the revelation He was giving of Himself.

The Tabernacle that Moses constructed, contained many prophetic pictures of Jesus, including how we are to approach and relate to God (Hebrews 8:1-5).

THREE SECTIONS

The Old Testament Tabernacle had three distinct sections: the Outer Court, the Holy Place, and the Holy of Holies. This chapter will show the similarities between the three sections of the Tabernacle and our spirit, soul and body.



1. THE OUTER COURT

The outer court consisted of the following:

THE GATE / DOOR

And at the gate of the court there shall be a hanging of twenty cubits of blue and purple and scarlet and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework; and their pillars shall be four and their sockets four.

Exodus 27:16 JUB

Just as there was only one way to enter into the Tabernacle, so Jesus Christ is also the only way to God, our Father (John 10:9; Matthew

7:13,14). The Jews referred to the entrance of the outer court as “**the Way**,” the entrance to the Holy Place as “**the Truth**,” and the entrance to the Holy of Holies as “**the Life**” (John 14:6; 1 John 2:23). Note that the entrance faced East, where the Sun rises. Jesus is the Sun of Righteousness or the Daystar [the sun is a star that shines during the day] (Malachi 4:2; 2 Peter 1:19).

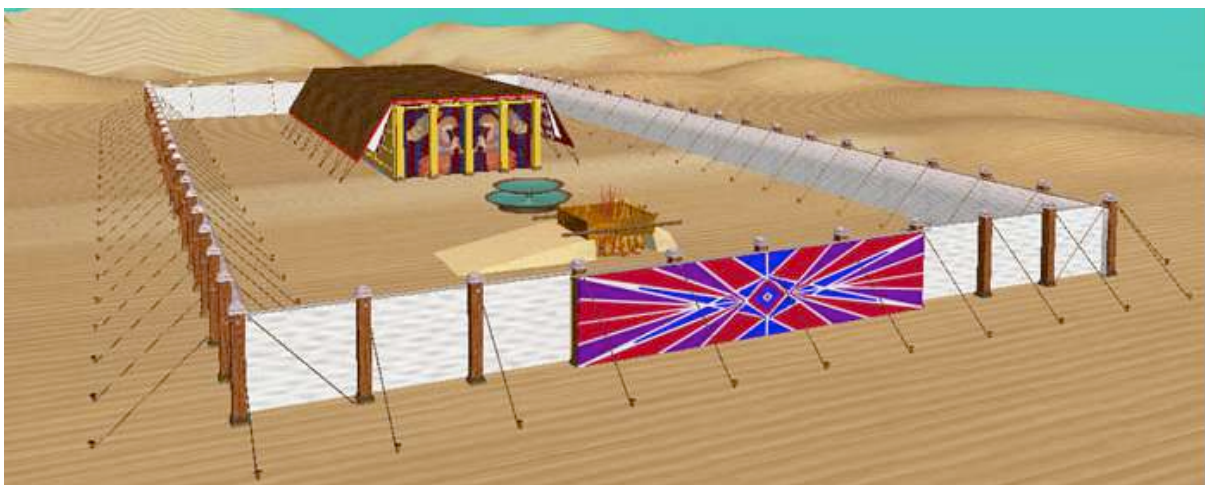
Entering through this gate represents that we need to seek Jesus as our personal Saviour and Lord to be saved from sin.



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

Even though it may sometimes seem as if your life is in spiritual darkness, remember to look towards the East, as the “Sun” will rise again!

The gate was covered by a hanging of **blue**, **purple** and **scarlet** colours.



Blue is the colour of Heaven and emphasises the divinity of Yashuah.

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. John 1:1 KJV

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. 1Timothy 3:16 KJV

Purple is the colour of royalty, fitting for the King of Kings.

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11 KJV

Which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords. 1 Timothy 6:15 NIV

Halelu-JAH; for the Lord God almighty reigns. Revelation 19:6 JUB

Scarlet points to the Blood of Jesus Christ.

Then come, shall the LORD say, and we shall be even; if your sins were as scarlet, they shall be made as white as snow; if they were red like crimson, they shall become as wool. Isaiah 1:18 JUB

Remove the sin in me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Psalm 51:7 JUB

But with the precious blood of the Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without contamination,²⁰ already ordained from before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for love of you,²¹ who by him do believe God, who raised him up from the dead and has given him glory: that your faith and hope might be in God. 1 Peter 1:19-21 JUB

The linen hanging before the entrance (The Gate) is pointing us to the righteousness of Christ. Man lacks this righteousness and can only receive it through the presence of God by entering through the GATE, which is Christ.

FOR ALL HAVE SINNED, AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD.

Romans 3:23 KJV

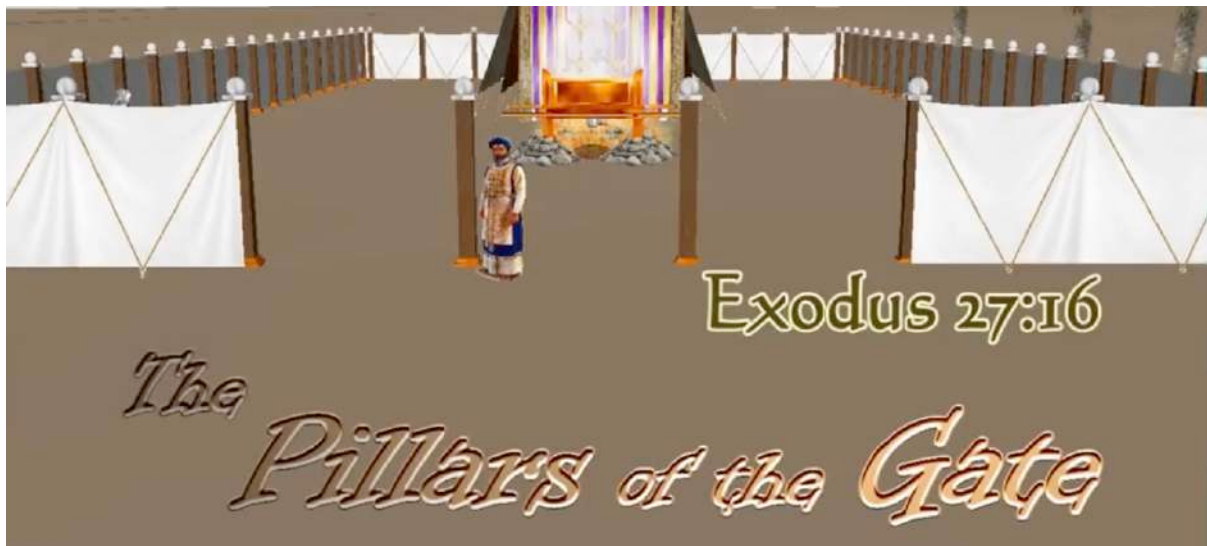
Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:²⁵ Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God. Romans 3:24-25 JUB

Anyone who tries to enter by any other means faces death.

But those that encamp before the tabernacle toward the east, even before the tabernacle of the congregation eastward, shall be Moses, and Aaron and his sons, keeping the charge of the sanctuary for the charge of the children of Israel; and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death. Number 3:38 KJV

The Pillars of the Gate

The four pillars of the gate were made of acacia wood with silver caps and brass sockets.



And for the gate of the court shall be an hanging of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework: and their pillars shall be four, and their sockets four.

¹⁷ All the pillars round about the court shall be filleted with silver; their hooks shall be of silver, and their sockets of brass.

Exodus 27:16-17 KJV

These four pillars point to the four Gospels in the New Testament.

- Matthew represents Jesus' royalty as the King and is represented by a Lion. We see the colour purple in the hangings at the Gate, again pointing to the Messiah as King.
- Mark focused on Jesus as the faithful servant, represented by an Ox. Scarlet, which is also present in the hangings before the gate, is reddish and points us to the crucifixion of Jesus.

- Luke portrayed Jesus' brotherly sympathy as the Son of Man, symbolised as a Man. Fine linen is the righteousness of the saints (Revelation 19:8). It is spotlessly white and points to our Lord's perfection, not as the Godhead, but as Human. He was holy, harmless, undefiled. He was also "that holy thing", which was born of Mary, called the Son of God. Throughout Luke, we see Him presented to us as this holy, spotless humanity. At His transfiguration, His garments were exceedingly white, as no fuller (cleanser of woollen garments) could ever make them! This reveals the glory of the holiness that was intrinsic in our blessed Lord.
- John described Jesus' Majesty as the Son of God, represented by the Eagle. Blue is a heavenly colour and points us to our new birth, which is from above. Salvation is the knowledge of God and eternal life looks on the entrance into Heaven. The very confession of sin happens in the light of God's holy presence. Thus, the colour blue unmistakably reminds us of the Gospel of John.

Right at the Gate, we encounter these four elements, presenting the four Gospels. The four creatures - the face of a man, the lion, the ox and the eagle are all present at the Throne of God, as Ezekiel stated.

As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle.
Ezekiel 1:10 KJV

John confirmed this on the Island of Patmos.

And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle. ⁸ And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. Revelation 4:7-8



These are the cherubim, protecting the Throne of God. They also protected the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden and were on the Mercy Seat. Cherubim are living creatures and are not the same as Seraphim, which is a class of angels. Therefore, the eagle, the ox, the lion, and the face of a man all represent the Messiah! The 12 tribes of Israel were also divided into four groups or houses. These four houses surrounded the Tabernacle in the form of a cross.

Again, we encounter the four creatures.

- The House of Judah, represented by a Lion.
- The House of Reuben, represented by Man.

- The House of Dan, represented by an Eagle.
- The House of Ephraim, represented by an Ox.



The Fence

The presence of God resided on the inside of the wall. The presence of God was not outside the fence. Man could only enter into His presence through the Gate.

That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:12-13 KJV

The fence was too high to see over. This speaks of the spiritual blindness of man that prevents him from seeing God.

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 1 Corinthians 2:9 KJV

The pillars were made of acacia wood, the sockets of brass and the caps of silver.



Brass symbolises judgment.

And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived. Numbers 21:9 KJV

This verse points us to the crucifixion of Christ Jesus.

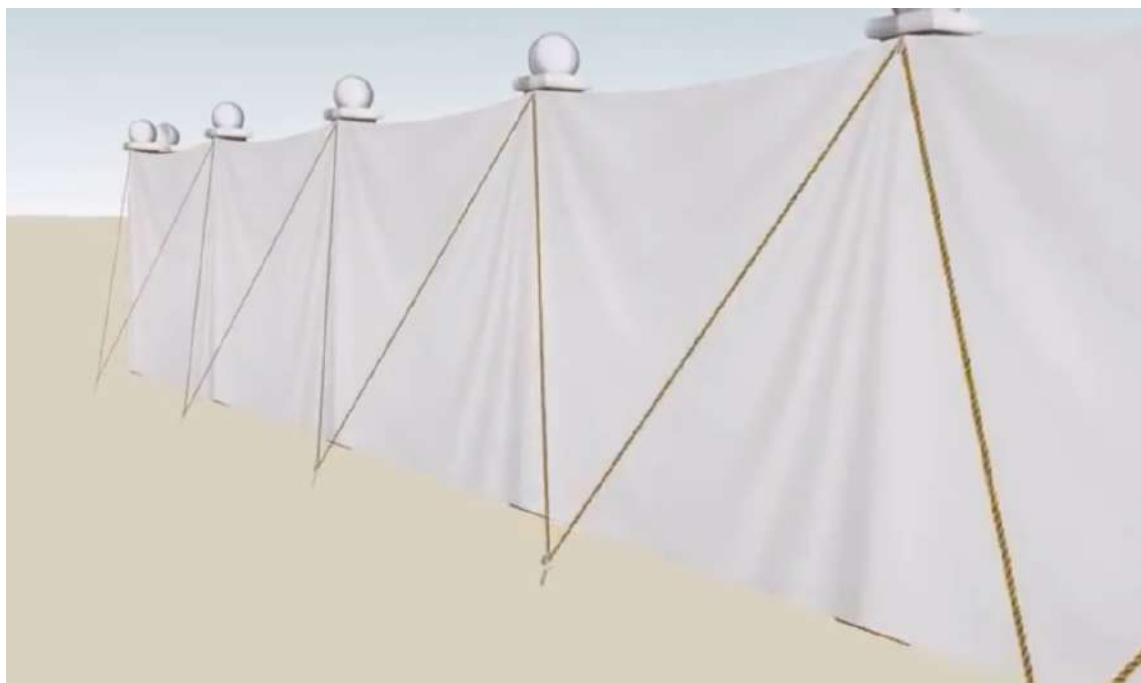
And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: ¹⁵ That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:14-15 KJV

The silver caps on top of the pillars symbolise Christ's atonement as a ransom for the soul.

When thou takest the sum of the children of Israel after their number then shall they give every man a ransom for this soul unto the Lord.
Exodus 30:12 KJV

And of the hundred talents of silver were cast the sockets of the sanctuary, and the sockets of the vail; an hundred sockets of the hundred talents, a talent for a socket. ²⁸And of the thousand seven hundred seventy and five shekels he made hooks for the pillars, and overlaid their chapiters, and filleted them. Exodus 38:27-28 KJV

From the outside, one could only see the protruding silver caps as a reminder of our atonement made by Christ alone.



Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by

tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹ But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. 1 Peter 1:18-19 KJV



The Outer Court represents the BODY of man (2 Corinthians 5:4). It was surrounded by a 7.5-foot tall fence, enclosing an area of 75 feet wide by 150 feet long. The tent, or Tabernacle, containing the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies, was located in this area. The Outer Court was under the open sky, receiving the natural illumination of the sun and moon.

Here, in the Outer Court, we encounter our first truth! The Tabernacle shows us that we are separated from our holy God's manifest presence, however, there IS a way into His presence - through the Gate! The outer court contained the Brazen Altar and the Bronze Laver.

Brazen Altar

To reach the Holy Place (the first room in the tent), you first had to pass the altar. It was centrally located in the outer court, standing 4.5 feet high and 7.5 feet square. The altar stood raised on a mound of earth, higher than the surrounding furniture. It was made of wood from the acacia tree and was overlaid with bronze (Exodus 27:1; 38:1), symbolising judgment on sin (Numbers 21:8,9).

And thou shalt make an altar of shittim wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar shall be foursquare: and the height thereof shall be three cubits. ² And thou shalt make the horns of it

upon the four corners thereof: his horns shall be of the same: and thou shalt overlay it with brass. ³And thou shalt make his pans to receive his ashes, and his shovels, and his basons, and his fleshhooks, and his firepans: all the vessels thereof thou shalt make of brass. ⁴And thou shalt make for it a grate of network of brass; and upon the net shalt thou make four brasen rings in the four corners thereof. ⁵And thou shalt put it under the compass of the altar beneath, that the net may be even to the midst of the altar. ⁶ And thou shalt make staves for the altar, staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with brass. ⁷And the staves shall be put into the rings, and the staves shall be upon the two sides of the altar, to bear it. ⁸ Hollow with boards shalt thou make it: as it was shewed thee in the mount, so shall they make it. Exodus 27:1-8 KJV

Because the acacia wood was sealed with brass, it could not be consumed, even while continually being subject to the heat of the fire.

Likewise, we are subject to the intense heat of God's wrath on our sins, but we are not consumed, because we are sealed by the Blood of the Lamb!

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:6 KJV



The Brazen Altar had a lower grate inside to support the sacrifice. A covering grate for the top of the altar was made later from the censers used in the rebellion of Korah (Numbers 16:38,39). The wood on the altar

was to be kept burning at all times, and daily sacrifices were offered (Leviticus 6:8-13). The altar was perfectly square, giving equal opportunity to all to come into the presence of the Messiah, our Redeemer. It rested on the ground, indicating that it was within reach of all. Each of the four corners of the square altar had an integral horn, overlaid with bronze (Exodus 27:2; 38:2), as a symbol of strength and protection (Psalms 18:2). Certain sacrificial rituals required the altar's horns to be smeared with the blood of sacrificial animals (e.g., Leviticus 4:7, 25). They were also used to tie down a sacrifice (Psalms 118:27). Accused criminals, seeking sanctuary, could cling to the horns of the altar, but safety was not automatically guaranteed (Exodus 21:12-14; Kings 1:50–53; 1 Kings 2:28). Amos prophesied that God would cut off the altar's horns to punish rebellious Israel (Amos 3:14).

As the animals of sacrifice were nailed down to the altar on these four horns, so was Christ nailed down to the cross.

God is the LORD, which hath shewed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar. Psalm 118:27 KJV

Just as they applied the blood of the animals on these horns, so did Yashuah's blood cover the cross through the nails. The four horns are a representation of Yashuah's two hands and two feet. Through His wounds, we are saved!

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:5 KJV

What wonderful news that we need not go up to the altar any longer, because Yashuah came down to us!

Neither shalt thou go up by steps unto mine altar, that thy nakedness be not discovered thereon. Exodus 20:26 KJV

The Brazen Altar, with its four sides and four horns, represents our Lord Jesus's cross, with its four ends (Hebrews 13:10-13). The number four means the sacrifice is effectual for salvation to the four corners of the world (North, East, West, South)! It is available to ALL! Now that is Good NEWS! Hallelujah!

The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence. 2 Samuel 22:3 KJV

Jesus poured out His Blood on the cross (1 Peter 1:18,19; Hebrews 9:13,14; Hebrews 10:10,14,18). He poured out His life to pay for our sins. At three o'clock in the afternoon, Jesus, God's Lamb, died on the cross, which is the same time the priest in the temple offered up the afternoon lamb on the Day of Atonement (John 1:29; 1 John 2:2). This is our call to follow Jesus' example and empty ourselves of the self (Luke 9:23; Romans 12:1). We must pour out (give up) our life that we might have His

life. We are to be living sacrifices (alive to God, but dead to sin) (Romans 6:11; Galatians 2:20).

Lambs were sacrificed by fire to atone for the people's sins. Each day, the people confessed their sins by laying hands on the innocent lamb, transferring their sins to the lamb. Then the animal was laid on the altar. Blood or life had to be shed for a person's sin (Leviticus 17:11; Hebrews 9:22). When a person sinned, they were to bring a lamb to the priest, who would kill it as a sacrifice for their sin(s). Blood was applied to the four horns of the altar, signifying the power of the blood to atone for sins, even to the four corners of the earth (Psalms 18:2; Luke 1:69). The high priest then sprinkled the lamb's blood onto the Mercy Seat, with the lamb's entrails being burned.

This burning of the sacrifice's flesh produced a stench that God called "pleasant". It was a soothing, sweet-smelling aroma to God as it ascended to Heaven. From God's perspective, He was sensing the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus in that smell. His resurrection was to be followed by His ASCENSION to Heaven! This included the joy brought to God, our Father, by the salvation of lost sinners! (Luke 15:10).

The Altar is the picture and the foreshadowing of the cross, where Yashuah made the final, once and for all sacrifice – a sacrifice that no man or any animal could ever make. There is no forgiveness of sin apart from sacrifice.

For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul. Leviticus 17:11 KJV

And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. ¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.
Hebrews 10:11-14 ESV

And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:2 KJV

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Hebrews 9:14 KJV

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. Hebrews 9:22 KJV

Death of the self occurs during the fiery trials of life, IF we submit to God (1 Peter 4:12). The pain we feel during trials is because of our weaknesses. No more self-will, no more pain (Isaiah 48:10). Furthermore, the death of the self-will leads to the resurrection of Christ's will in our lives. However, merely desiring to lose your life will not save it. You must genuinely lose your life in Christ to save your life (Luke 17:33). This cannot be done in our own ability, but only as we submit to God's plan for our lives. It is a slow and often painful process, but the result is priceless! We must carry our crosses and decrease in ourselves, for Jesus to increase. We must get to know Him in whom we believe (2 Timothy 1:12)!

Rection of this sacrifice of Jesus means judgment from these horns!

And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, ¹⁴ Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. ¹⁵ And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. Revelation 9:13-15 KJV

Notice that only the Altar and the Laver were visible to the people. All the other elements were hidden inside the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies.

The reason is that God is teaching us to worship HIM, as represented by the objects speaking of HIM, and not the object itself!

Note that the height of the Altar was the same as the Mercy Seat. In this way, we see grace between earthly things and heavenly things. We see the grace between the truth and righteousness of Christ and the mercy and peace of God. We see God's justice in His sacrifice and His mercy, providing redemption. The Gate, which is Yashuah, is the way into the presence of God. But, before we can enter into that presence, a sacrifice has to be made. Only through the Blood of Christ can we approach God.

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. Hebrews 9:22 KJV

At the Brazen Altar, God met with men.

This shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD: where I will meet you, to speak there unto thee. ⁴³ And there I will

meet with the children of Israel, and the tabernacle shall be sanctified by my glory. Exodus 29:42-43 KJV

Likewise, at the cross, we meet God through Christ!

He is always ready to accept and meet us on the altar, as this altar was continually burning.

Bronze Laver

The item following the Altar of Sacrifice in the Outer Court is the Bronze Laver.

*And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, ¹⁸Thou shalt also make a laver of brass, and his foot also of brass, **to wash withal**: and thou shalt put it between the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar, and thou shalt put water therein. ¹⁹For Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet thereat: ²⁰When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, **they shall wash with water, that they die not**; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD: ²¹So they shall **wash their hands and their feet, that they die not**: and it shall be a statute for ever to them, even to him and to his seed throughout their generations. Exodus 30:17-21 KJV*

Notice from the above scripture, the emphasis on the washing of hands and feet. It comes with a warning: “that you die not”. This washing is a foreshadowing of the new birth, which is not through any works, but through His mercy alone.

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. Titus 3:5 KJV

This now points us to our baptism (“Baptizo”, that is to dip, to immerse, to submerge, to wash, to make clean with water). When Yashuah was baptised, He received the Holy Ghost, who descended from Heaven like a dove. The Father declared in an audible voice: *“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”* Matthew 3:17 KJV

Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened. ²² And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased. Luke 3:21-22 KJV

If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me. John 13:8b KJV

The Bronze Laver was a circular bowl, made from the mirrors of the



women who served at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting. In those days, mirrors were not made of glass, as they are today, but of polished bronze. The bronze had to be flawless. It would have been rejected for the use of

a mirror unless it was of a high visibility consistent alloy of pure tin and copper. Without these mirrors, our defilement could not be shown.

He made the large basin of bronze and its pedestal of bronze from the mirrors of the women who served at the entrance of the tent of meeting. Exodus 38:8 NET

The Laver was filled with water and was located between the Bronze Altar and the entrance to the Tabernacle. God required that the priests be cleansed before they entered the Tabernacle, so He provided this laver for cleansing the soil and blood off their hands and feet. The Brazen Laver had two washing basins, a separate one for the hands (***cleansing our service for God***) and one for the feet (***cleansing our walk with God***). Unlike the other items of furniture used in the Tabernacle, the dimensions of the Bronze Laver were not specified.

Because of sin, all humanity is born from corruptible seed. At this Bronze Laver, we all have the opportunity to be cleansed.

In the Book of Enoch, Chapter 8, we read of Azazel, one of the fallen angels, who taught men to make swords, knives, shields, breastplates, **fabrication of mirrors**, workmanship of bracelets and ornaments, the use of paint, the beautifying of the eyebrows, the use of stones of every valuable and select kind, and all sorts of dyes. Through the use of these things, the world became altered. Impiety increased; fornication multiplied, and they transgressed and corrupted all their ways.

However, what has been introduced as corruption (the mirror), then became the vessel of cleansing (the Bronze Laver)! What was once

used to look at the outside (man's flesh) is now being used to look at the inside (man's spirit).

Glory to GOD!!

The bronze mirror reveals the natural beauty and speaks of judgment. When we look into the water of God's Word and measure our reflection against His standards of righteousness, as written in the Bible, we will always fall short. However, when the priests washed their bloody hands in the water of the laver, the blood and water mingled, and when this happened, they measured up in the eyes of the Father. When we look at the Word through the blood, we measure up as well. The lack of specific dimensions for the Bronze Laver attests to the limitless power of the Lord Jesus' Blood to wash away all of our sins, no matter how bad they were.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8-9 KJV

Cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also. Matthew 23:26 KJV

When the soldier pierced Jesus' side while He was hanging on the cross, blood and water came forth. This points to the Bronze Laver, where blood and water mixed to redeem us from judgment (represented by bronze) against our pride and rebellion. *The mirrors used to make the laver are a reference to pride.* Blood represents atonement from a life given, and water represents life received through both the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. The Word, the Spirit of God, and the Blood of Jesus unite to effect salvation or redemption in one's life. The Bible states that every legal matter must be determined in the mouth of two or three witnesses

(2 Corinthians 13:1). Consequently, God has provided three witnesses to our salvation, with each playing a role in and testifying to man's redemption through Jesus!

For there are three that testify, the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three are in agreement. 1 John 5:7-8 NET

The witness of the Spirit of God and His transforming work in our lives.

- **Blood** points to the remission of past sins, and the forgiveness of present and future sins.
- **Water** points to the Word of God washing, renewing and cleansing us from sin in the inner man to conform us to the image of Jesus - the "Word-Made-Flesh".

Again, the Bronze Laver shows that even after becoming a believer, we must be cleansed continually from sin by the Word of God (Ephesians 5:25-27). Jesus prayed that we would be sanctified by the Word (John 17:17). The Word of God is referred to as a mirror (James 1:23-25). If we look intently into the Word of God, it will expose the sin and defects in our lives. However, we must take action upon what is revealed, or it will not do any good. It is not enough to just confess our sins. We have not truly repented unless we have confessed and forsaken our sins (Proverbs 28:13; 1 John 1:6-9). In Greek, the true meaning of repentance is to turn 180 degrees away from sin. That means we are to regret sinning against a Holy God and not just simply regret the consequences of our sinful actions (Psalms 51:1-4; 2 Corinthians 7:9,10). As believers, we are freed from the guilt of sin (Romans 8:1). However, daily cleansing from sin is still needed (John 13:10; 1 John 1:10).

As a priest unto God, we have the Bronze Laver (Word of God) through which the Holy Spirit reveals to us what needs to be cleansed for our sanctification (Revelation 1:6). Furthermore, this cleansing is only found in the Word Himself – Jesus, our Saviour, our Lord and King! (John 1:1,14). The promises of God in His Word cause us to have victory over lust and to thus escape from the world's corruption due to sin (2 Peter 1:4). Furthermore, satan is overcome by the blood-bought Word of God in the hearts and mouths of Christ-conformed believers (Revelation 12:11).

At the Altar of Sacrifice, cleansing of sins takes place, but at the Bronze Laver, cleansing of the child of God takes place. The Altar shows who Christ is, but the Bronze Laver shows who man is. Therefore, the Laver is the mirror of God's Word, a reflection of who we are. It provides the means of cleansing.

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. Ephesians 5:26 KJV

To serve the Lord, we must not only be saved from our sins but also cleansed from our sins, as the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23).

When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water, that they die not; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD.
Exodus 30:20 KJV

Exodus 30 applied to the priests. The New Testament believers are also now royal priests (1 Peter 2:5) and, therefore, it is now also applicable to us.

If you listen to the Word and don't live out the message you hear, you become like the person who looks in the mirror of the Word to discover the reflection of his face in the beginning. ²⁴ You perceive how God sees you in the mirror of the Word, but then you go out and forget your divine origin. ²⁵ But those who set their gaze deeply into the perfecting law of liberty are fascinated by and respond to the truth they hear and are strengthened by it—they experience God's blessing in all that they do! James 1:23-25 TPT

Seeing the man in the mirror is seeing how God has been seeing us from the beginning, before the fall of Adam, which resulted in sin's devastation to human hearts. The man in the mirror is the new creation man!

To experience God's blessing, we need cleansing!

We cannot enter the Holy Place when we spiritually stay in the Outer Courts! We need cleansing from the flesh, but also from sins in the heart, such as bitterness, pride, stubbornness, unlovingness, guilt, unforgiveness, and resentment.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12 KJV

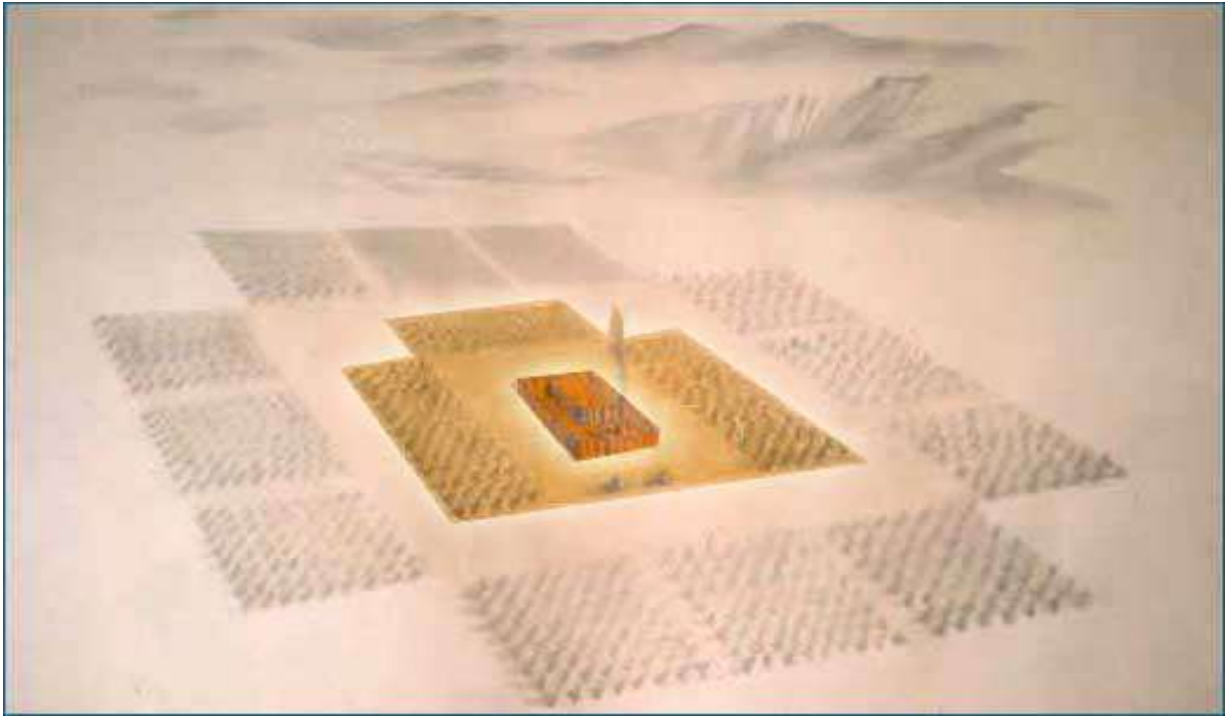
Note again that there are no dimensions given to the Laver, indicating that there are NO LIMITS to our cleansing. There was also no instruction for the Laver to be covered or carried around. **This means that cleansing continues during our daily walk!**

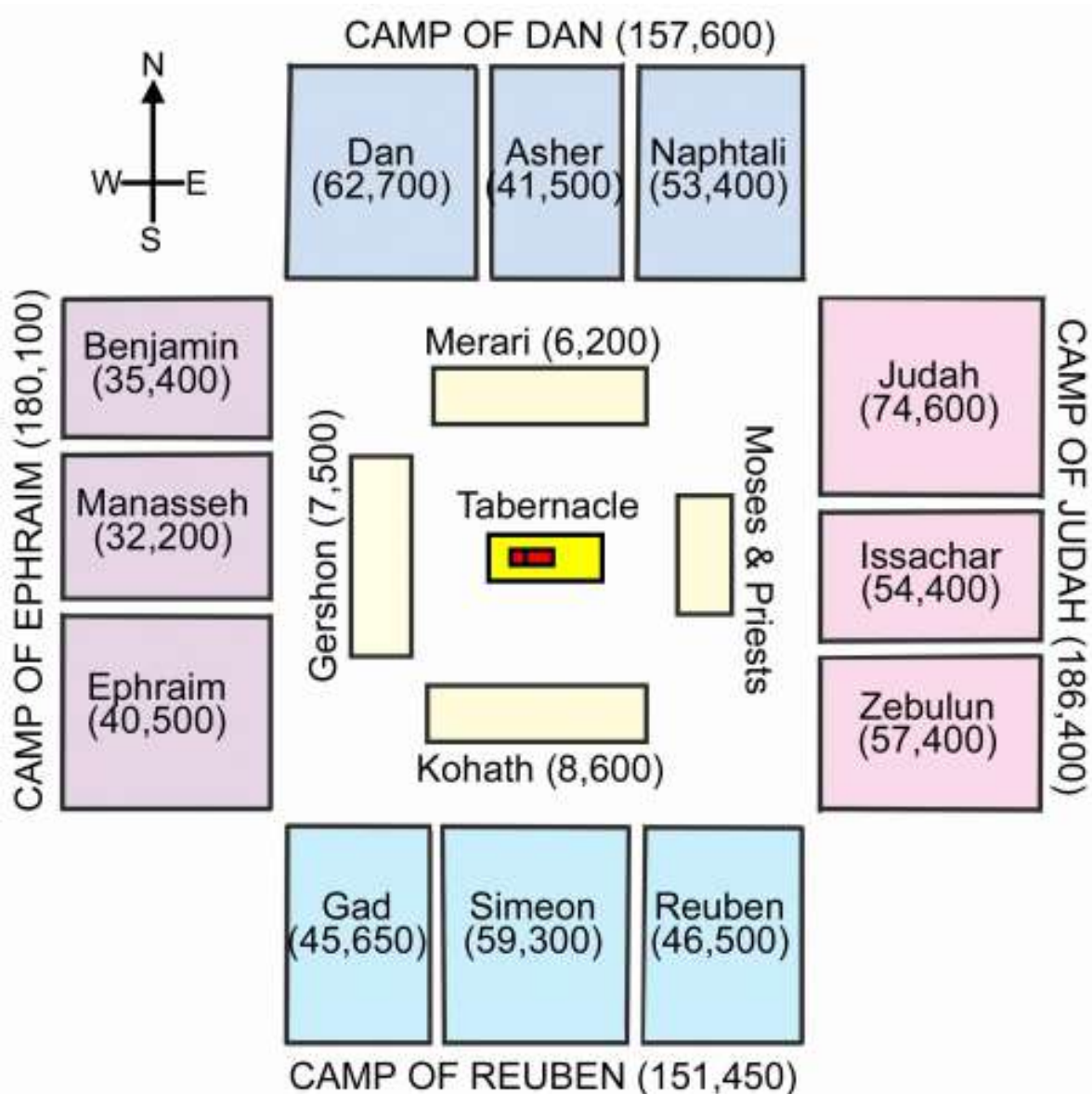
Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Hebrews 10:22 KJV

The Surroundings of the Outer Court

The Outer Court of the Tabernacle, as viewed by someone approaching it, would appear as a privacy fence of fifty cubits (72.9 ft/22.3m) wide by one hundred cubits (145.8 ft/44.5m) long by five cubits (7.3 ft/2.3m) high. It was made of fine white linen, meaning it had a high thread count per inch. It was supported by bronze posts (twenty on the long sides and ten on the short sides) with bronze bases and silver caps on top (Exodus 27:9-15). Also, there were silver hooks on the posts for attaching the linen and bronze stakes for cords to support the posts on both sides (Exodus 27:17-19).

After passing through the many dark tents of the children of Israel camped around it, the person approaching the Tabernacle would see this white fence, with a cloud of smoke rising from the centre of it. What a remarkable contrast!

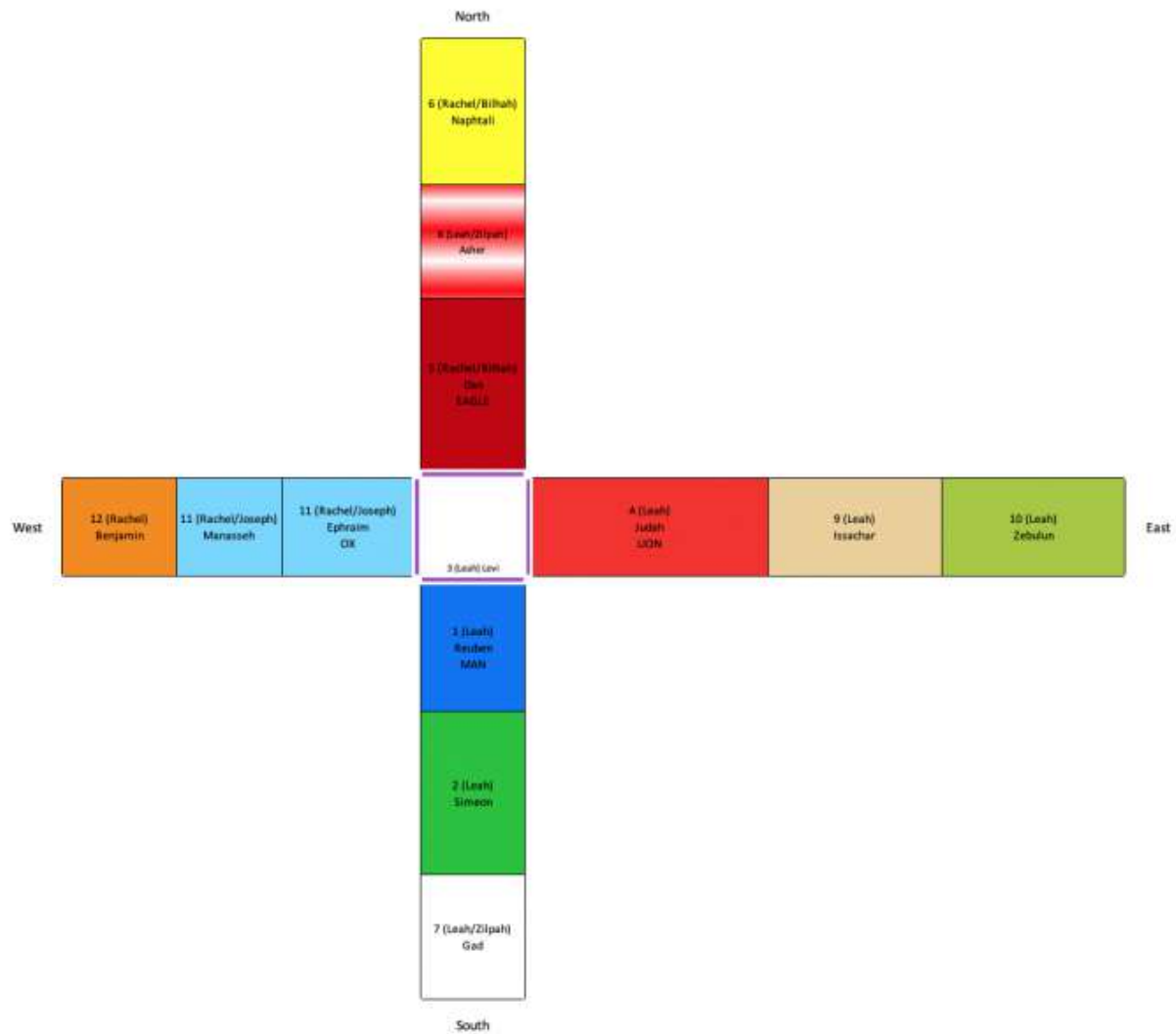




Arrangement of the Camp of Israel

Numbers 2:1-3:39

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The figure above graphically depicts how Israel was instructed to camp (Numbers 2:1-34) with the width (East and West) and height (North and South) of each tribe, corresponding to its population. This arrangement of the tribes formed a cross, with its base towards the East. There is some deviation from the breastplate order as the tribe of Levi is in the middle of the camp around the Tabernacle, and the tribe of Joseph is replaced with his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, effectively giving the tribe of Joseph a double portion in the promised land.

Approaching the outer court of the Tabernacle of Moses, one would see



the bright white linen symbolically representing God's high standard of purity or righteousness (Revelation 19:8). This would convict of sin (Romans 3:23). The outer fence of the Tabernacle had bronze posts (representing God's judgment, because of our sin) placed on top of the soil (representing all humanity, Genesis 2:7). The silver on the top of the posts represents a "price on our head" for redemption that must be paid (Numbers 18:16. Exodus 30:16) to make us

righteous (Romans 3:24-26). Once this price was paid by the Blood of Jesus (***symbolically represented by the silver hooks supporting the white linen***), we received the ability to become righteous and thus escape the fiery judgment that we deserve (symbolically represented by the bronze posts and base in Numbers 21:8,9).

To anyone approaching the Outer Court, the message of sin, righteousness, and judgment is conveyed via the materials and construction of the Outer Court's fence or wall (John 16:8-11). The message of the wall, which represents the law, is that we must be perfect to enter the Tabernacle Complex to approach a Holy God!

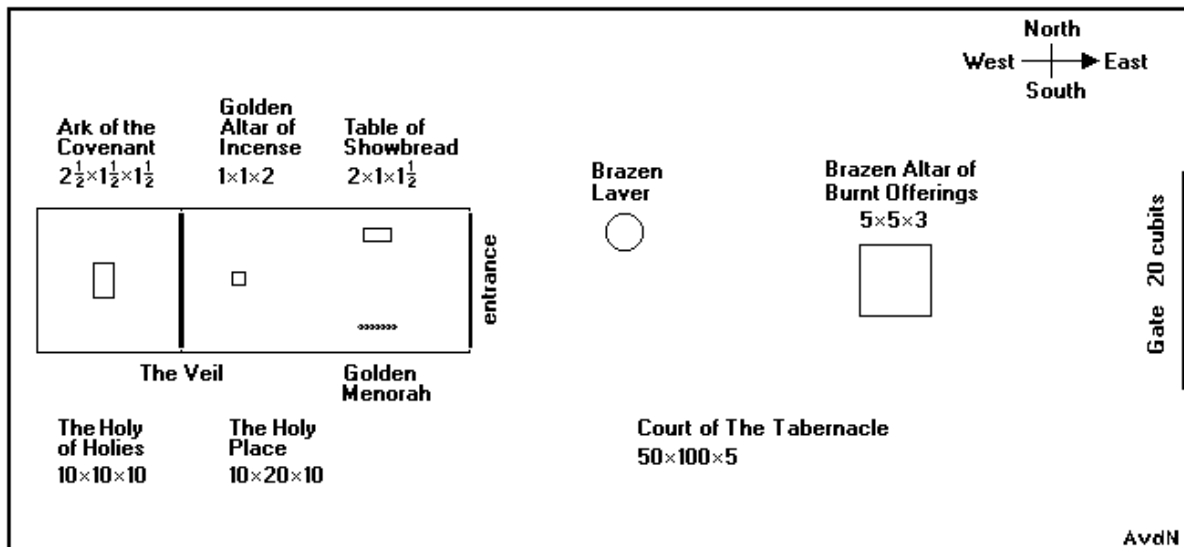
**The only way to become perfectly righteous is to accept
Jesus as Lord and Saviour.**

The curtain gate on the East side was the only entrance (“The Way”) into the Outer Court. The Outer Court represents the body of man (1 Thessalonians 5:23). The curtain made a relatively wide gate in comparison to the wall width, but still narrow in comparison to the world (Matthew 7:13,14). It was twenty cubits (29.2 ft/8.9 m) in width, made of white linen with blue, purple, and scarlet thread woven into it and suspended by four bronze posts (Exodus 27:16). The four posts supporting the curtain gate represent that this entrance was and is available to all, even to the Earth’s four corners (1 John 2:2; Revelation 20:18).

White is the colour of purity, blue is the colour of Heaven and divinity, purple is the colour of royalty, and red is the colour of blood. Together they symbolically represent that “The Way” into the Tabernacle will be by ONE who is sinless and who is both God from Heaven (John 3:31) and King (John 18:37), one who paid the price for our redemption with His pure and righteous blood (Mark 10:45. Revelation 1:5). Only one person has fulfilled those requirements – JESUS (1 Corinthians 15:3,4)! The Curtain Gate, being so brightly coloured, made it very clear where the entrance was.

The message is that a way of grace has been made by Jesus so that all may enter (1 John 2:2). Therefore, the Outer Court’s curtain gate symbolically represents Jesus as “**The Way**” (John 14:6).

We spiritually enter His gates into the Outer Court with thanksgiving. We sing songs of thanks and praises towards God for what He has done for us (Psalms 100:4).



Upon entering the Outer Court, we would pass the Brazen (bronze) Altar. It was five (the symbolic number for grace, God's unearned favour) cubits square and represented our Lord Jesus's cross, where He took the fiery judgment for our sin (Isaiah 53).

Interestingly, when describing the construction of the Tabernacle, God called the Brazen Altar "most holy" four times (Exodus 29:37; 30:10; 30:29; 40:10). He said it only once about the Golden Altar of Incense (Exodus 30:36). This means that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was very, very, very, sacred to God the Father, and it is available to ALL who would accept it by faith (Romans 10:13; Romans 10:9,10).

Unfortunately, some will enter the Outer Court learning about the Altar only with their minds, but never believing it with their spiritual hearts (Romans 3:23-25; Hebrews 4:2). Furthermore, they will blend in with the

other believers, “**talking the talk**” and believing that they are saved. Those genuine believers they are with are indeed doing the Lord’s work, but those individuals who are believers only in their minds, are not.

God is interested in YOU and your personal relationship with the Lord Jesus, and not simply in the “we” of the company that you keep (Matthew 7:22,23).

No religious practices, family, or friends can save us. Only God, as the Father and Jesus Christ His Son, facilitated by God the Holy Spirit, can save us.

Still, others may enter the Outer Court for some time and then choose to leave. However, some will return and be saved by accepting Jesus as their SAVIOUR (John 3:16-18; Acts 26:18). Unfortunately, others will decide to never return and will be lost (Hebrews 10:26-39).

Some, who have initially laid down their lives at the Brazen Altar, will choose to go back to living their old lives instead of deciding to live for Jesus and denying themselves at the Bronze Laver. Consequently, they will experience very little of Jesus’ ministry in their life. They will be left to stroll around in the Outer Court, dependent upon natural illumination and never have the illumination of the Holy Spirit, found only in the Holy Place. A believer in this condition cannot understand deeper spiritual truths (1 Corinthians 3:2; Hebrews 5:12-14).



Tabernacle Model

Some interesting facts:

The Tabernacle's outer wall was 100 cubits in length, 50 cubits in width, and 5 cubits in height (Exodus 27:18). If we add the two longer walls (100+100) to the two shorter walls (50+50), we find that the Tabernacle Courtyard had a perimeter of 300 cubits. Furthermore, if we multiply 300 cubits by 5 cubits (the wall height), we find that the wall was 1500 square cubits.

The Courtyard contained the Bronze Laver and the Brazen Altar, where Jews brought their ritual sacrifices to God. In other words, the Courtyard represents the Age of the Law and Prophets. From Moses, who received the Law on Mount Sinai, to the resurrection of Christ, was approximately 1500 years. The Most Holy Place had dimensions of 10x10x10 or 1000 cubic cubits. Perhaps this

represents the Millennial Kingdom of Christ, which will last a thousand years. During this time, Jesus Christ, the Living Bread from Heaven, will rule and reign from the Mercy Seat in Jerusalem with a rod of iron. He will write His Law on our hearts, and the lion will lie down with the lamb.

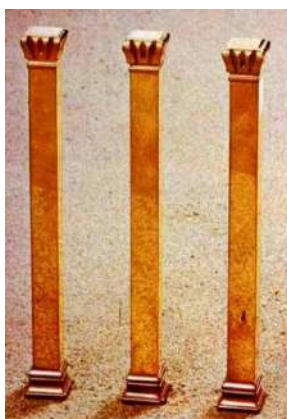
The Holy Place was 20 cubits long, 10 cubits wide, and 10 cubits high, or 2000 cubic cubits. The Holy Place contained the Table of Showbread (the Lord's Supper), the Altar of Incense (the prayer of the saints), and the seven-branched Lampstand, typifying the Church in the book of Revelation. Possibly the Holy Place represents the Church Age, meaning that it will be approximately 2 000 years in duration.

Some who have been saved or born again at the Brazen Altar will decide to move forward to the Bronze Laver, where they will choose to yield to Jesus as LORD in their spiritual hearts and thus allow the Word of God to purify and separate them to God as they live for Him. That means that they will acknowledge that Jesus died for them (symbolised by the Brazen Altar), and from then on they will live for Him (symbolised by the Bronze Laver). Only those who have yielded to Jesus as both SAVIOUR (symbolised by the Brazen Altar) and LORD (symbolised by the Bronze Laver) will be able to enter into the Holy Place (Matthew 7:14).

The curtain screen or entrance of the Holy Place is woven in the same colour scheme as the entrance to the Outer Court. That is white linen with blue, purple, and red thread woven into it (Exodus 26:36,27; Exodus 36:37,38).

Five (symbolic number for grace) posts or pillars support the linen screen at the Holy Place's entrance. Furthermore, these posts are made of acacia wood, covered with gold and gold caps on top, but with a bronze base. The posts at the entrance were bronze with silver caps and bronze bases. The posts of the entrance to the Outer Court symbolise our sinful condition that deserves God's fiery judgment (bronze). However, a price could be paid for our redemption (silver). The posts of the entrance to the Holy Place were of gold, with gold caps, representing that we have become as righteous as Jesus Christ is righteous by identifying with His sacrifice on the cross (symbolically represented by the Brazen Altar) (2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Corinthians 1:30).

Nevertheless, the base of bronze represents that there is still more work



to be done (John 13:10). When we are born again, we receive a new spirit and a new spiritual heart. However, we do not receive a new mind. Consequently, it is our responsibility to undertake the disciplines that will change our

carnal and worldly way of thinking to the truth of God (Romans 12:2).

SUMMARY

Figuratively, when we desire to become true believers, we enter the Outer Court via Jesus, the Door. However, if we do not **lay down our lives**, we will remain in the Outer Court. The choice is ours! Many believers in the church spend all their lives walking about in the Outer Court without ever entering the Tabernacle. They enjoy the view of the Tabernacle, but do

not give up their lives so that they could have His life. If you desire to save your earthly life, you will lose it (Matthew 16:24,25)

A person in the Outer Court, who has accepted Jesus as Saviour (identified with the message of the Brazen Altar), has been baptised in the Holy Spirit and thus is part of the Body of Christ. He is now born again, saved and a believer. However, if he has not yielded his life to God at the Bronze Laver (Romans 12:1), he has not started to “**know Him**” (Philippians 3:10) through the study of the Word of God. Studying the Word would lead to being cleansed from sinful thoughts and habits (John 17:17; 2 Peter 1:4).

Therefore, until yielding our lives, we will remain “Phase Zero” believers.

Those who choose to lay down their lives and rid themselves of a lifestyle of sinful desires by studying the Word of God (symbolised by the Bronze Laver) will become “Phase I” believers and will be enabled to proceed into the Tabernacle.

The blood represents a life given, while the water represents a life received.

Lastly, water Baptism (immersion) is represented by our identifying with the shed blood at the Brazen Altar, representing Jesus’ shed Blood at the cross, and His resurrection to a new life by the water at the Bronze Laver.



**THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES:
GOD'S HEAVENLY PATTERN FOR
OUR SPIRITUAL
TRANSFORMATION**

**PART II: THE HOLY PLACE –
GOLDEN LAMPSTAND**

THE TABERNACLE

The Tabernacle was a tent located within the Outer Court. It was 45 feet long, 15 feet wide, and 15 feet high. Four curtains served as the roof and outer covering of the walls of the Tabernacle. The innermost curtain was made of fine linen.

Model of the Tabernacle



The structure of the Tabernacle itself was made out of wood boards (shittim wood) and is described in Exodus 26.

And thou shalt make boards for the tabernacle of shittim wood standing up. ¹⁶ Ten cubits shall be the length of a board, and a cubit and a half shall be the breadth of one board. ¹⁷ Two tenons shall there be in one board, set in order one against another: thus shalt thou make for all the boards of the tabernacle. ¹⁸ And thou shalt make the boards for the tabernacle, twenty boards on the south side southward. Exodus 26:16-18 KJV

These boards represent sinners, saved by grace.

Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; ²⁰ And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; ²¹ In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: ²² In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.
Ephesians 2:19-22 KJV

Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:5 KJV

God filled a man called Bezalel with the Holy Spirit in wisdom and knowledge and all manner of workmanship to make these boards and to build the Tabernacle.

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: ² "See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. ³ And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, ⁴ to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, ⁵ in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship.
Exodus 31:1-5 KJV

Bezalel means "**the shadow of God**". He is a type of the Holy Spirit guiding us.

And Moses said unto the children of Israel, See, the LORD hath called by name Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah;

³¹ And he hath filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship. Exodus 35:30-31 KJV

These boards were covered by gold, just as we are covered by the glory of God. The Tabernacle as a whole rested on silver sockets, a total of about five tons of silver!

This silver came from the ransom that the Israelites had to pay.

The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less than half a shekel, when they give an offering unto the LORD, to make an atonement for your souls. ¹⁶ And thou shalt take the atonement money of the children of Israel, and shalt appoint it for the service of the tabernacle of the congregation; that it may be a memorial unto the children of Israel before the LORD, to make an atonement for your souls. Exodus 30:15-16 KJV

Notice that everyone had to give the same, rich or poor. It was an affordable amount, therefore, no one could boast or have an excuse. The silver sockets first had to be in place before the boards could be installed. Likewise, the church is built on the foundation of Jesus Christ, Yashuah HaMashiach. He paid it all, and His ecclesia (church) is built on His atonement.

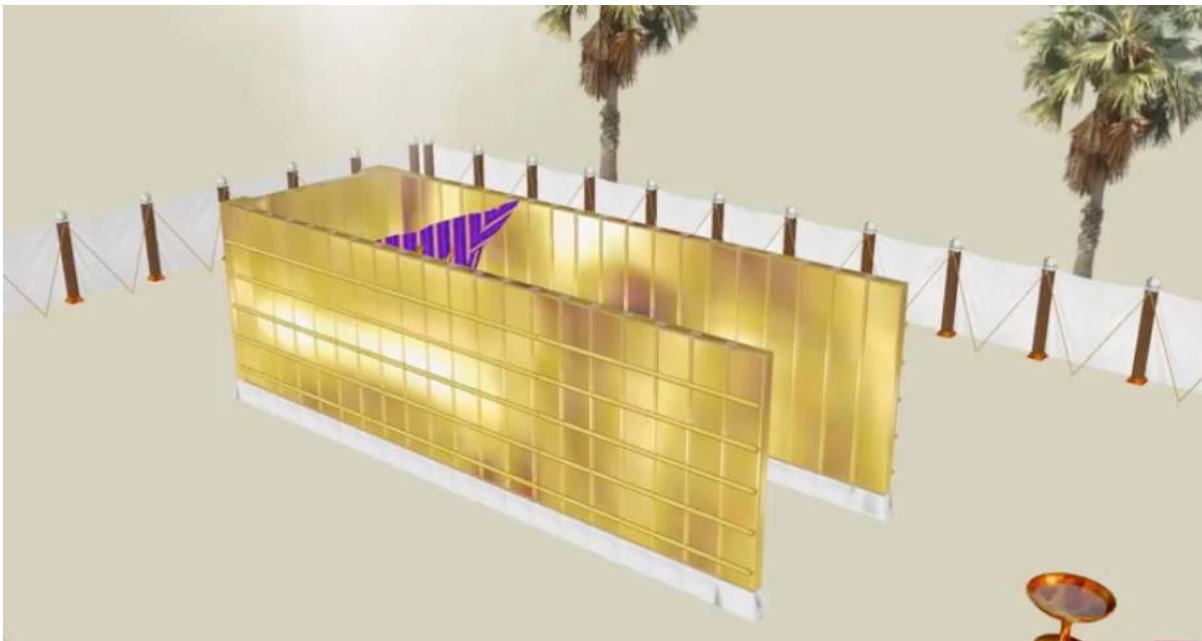


For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; ¹³ Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. ¹⁴ If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. ¹⁵ If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? ¹⁷ If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

1 Corinthians 3:11-17 KJV

Apart from these boards, there were also bars which went all the way through the boards, holding them firmly together. This foreshadowed that we are not only united in Christ Jesus, our Foundation, but also in our relationship with each other.

Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; ¹² That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world. Ephesians 2:11-12 KJV

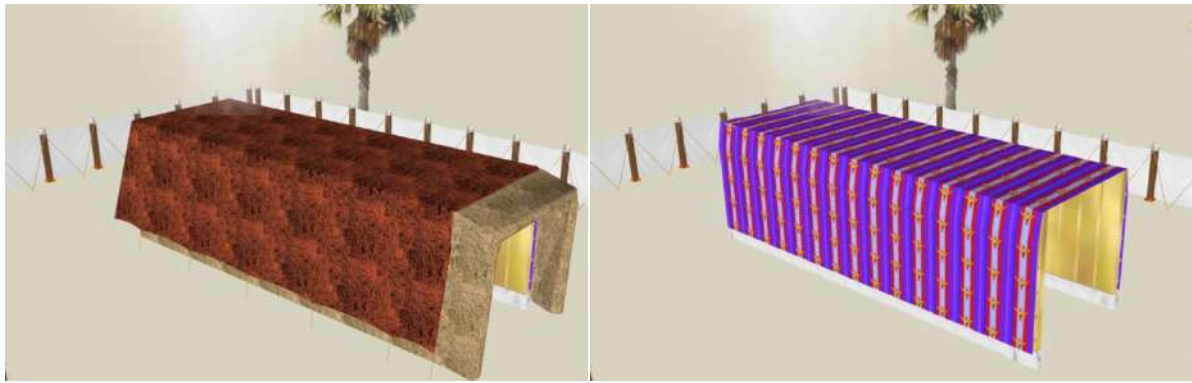


These bars point us to unity, love and fellowship with each other.

From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love. Ephesians 4:16 KJV

Coverings

The Tabernacle had four covers, two outer and two inner coverings. The first covering on the outside was badger's skin, followed by ram's skin, goat's hair and then linen.



The badger's skin was very durable and tough, and was exposed to even the harshest weather conditions. It was unattractive – a picture of the human being.

For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. Isaiah 53:2 KJV

There was no beauty on the outside, nor any glory. This reveals Christ's humanity.

For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. 2 John 1:7 KJV

The ram's skin was taken from the animals that were sacrificed on the altar, which were substitutes for the sinner. The ram's skins represent death and atonement. It was red, emphasising the atonement of blood for purification. The ram's skin is a picture of Yashuah, as a sin-bearer.

And when he hath made an end of reconciling the holy place, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar, he shall bring the live goat: ²¹ And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel,

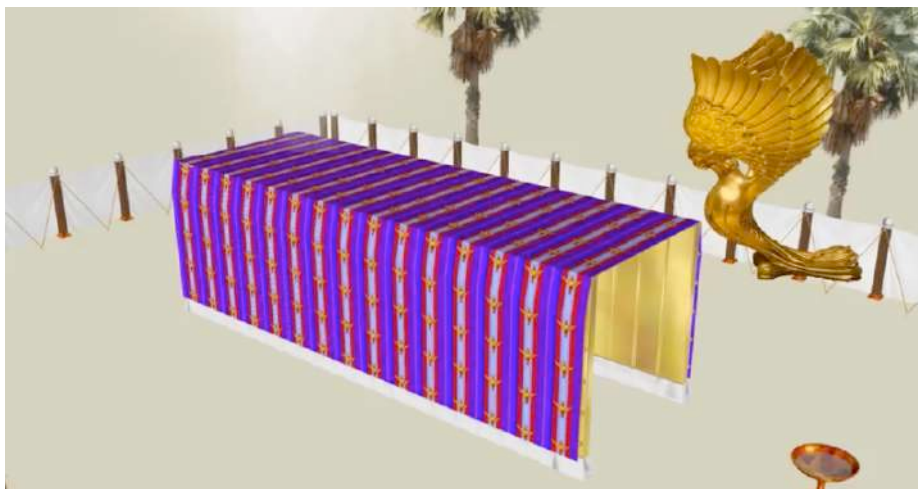
and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness: ²² And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness. Leviticus 16:20-22 KJV

Our sins are now upon Him!

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 2 Corinthians 5:21 KJV

So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation. Hebrews 9:28 KJV

The ceiling of fine linen was only visible to those inside the Tabernacle.



The colours were the same as at the gate, namely blue, purple and scarlet (red), which is a representation

of heaven, royalty and sacrifice. On the fine linen were cherubim. These were the guardians of God's holiness. It is a representation of those who came unto Christ and who are cleansed from sin.

So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life. Genesis 3:24 KJV

From the outside to the inside, we see the following picture of Jesus Christ in the curtains:

- The outermost curtain of **badger's skin** shows God in the flesh. In Greek, it represents two words, God and Son. It served to protect the Tabernacle from the harsh desert climate and represented Jesus as the provision for all needs, including protection! (Some scholars believe that what was translated as badger skin was dolphin skin.)
- Then, a curtain of **ram's skin**, which was dyed **red**. It showed us the sacrifice of Jesus, the shedding of His Blood for our sins – our Substitute.
- This was covered by a curtain of **black goat's hair**. Jesus bore our sins. The goat's hair points to Jesus, as our scapegoat. Both coverings (ram's and goat's skins) point to our Saviour.
- The innermost curtain was made of **fine linen**. It represented Jesus, who became our righteousness and also the expression of the fullness of God in His presence.

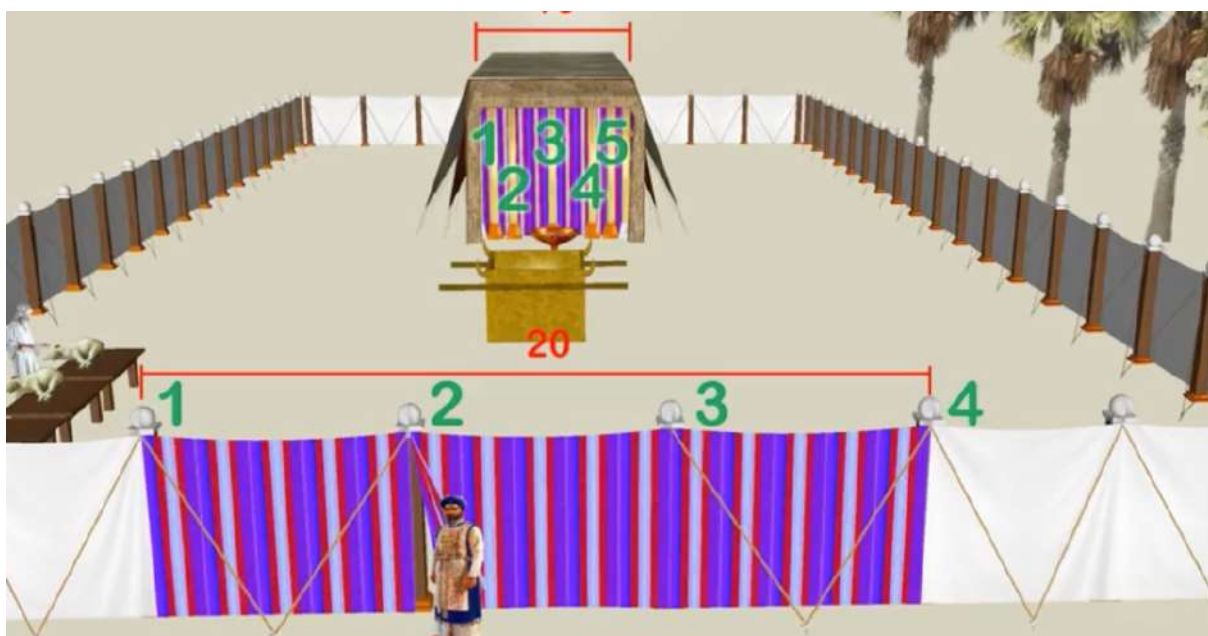
These curtains prevented any natural light from entering the Holy Place. Furthermore, only the priests were allowed to enter the Holy Place. Remember, all believers are now called to be priests unto God, serving under the Great High Priest, our Lord Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:6; Hebrews 2:17). Two rooms were contained within the Tabernacle: the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place (the Holy of Holies).

Entering the Tabernacle

Moving from the Outer Court into the Tabernacle, we find five pillars and the door. Notice that the entrance of this door is narrower than the

entrance of the Gate of the Outer Court. In contrast with only four pillars, representing the four Gospels, we now find five pillars at the entrance to the Tabernacle. It shows the grace given by the sacrifice and the cleansing, which was already presented at the Altar and the Laver. Grace is presented in the Bible by the number five.

Let us enter into the Holy Place!



Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus ²⁰ By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; ²¹ And having an high priest over the house of God; ²² Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.
Hebrews 10:19-22 KJV

These five pillars of the Tabernacle were different in comparison to the pillars of the Outer Court, which held up the fine white linen. The pillars were made from shittim wood (not covered with gold) with brass bases and silver cups. The pillars of the Tabernacle were covered with gold. In the Tabernacle, we are now covered with the glory of Christ! The bases are still bronze, indicating that there is still work to be done!

2. THE HOLY PLACE



The wallboards of the Holy Place were overlaid with gold and were held together by a solid silver block-like foundation at their base. This base also prevented the wallboards from touching the soil (Exodus 26:19). Pure gold represents the Holiness of God, who cannot touch sin. Silver represents the price paid for redemption (Numbers 18:16) and dirt represents fallen man (2 Corinthians 4:7). Symbolically, this tells the story of our mediator, Jesus, the God-Man, making way for the fallen man (dirt) to reconnect to God the Father (pure gold) by becoming our payment for redemption (silver) (1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 9:15).

It also represents the foundation of our lives. The church is the result of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ!

Inside the Holy Place, we find the Candlestick or the Menorah. The only light inside the Tabernacle came from the Menorah, and it had to be kept burning continually with olive oil. The fire itself came from the Altar of Sacrifice, which was lit by God himself.

And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same. ³² And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side. Exodus 25:31-32 KJV

And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it. Exodus 25:37 KJV

The Priests could not enter for service into the Holy Place without the Menorah burning. Likewise, believers must constantly have the light, which is the Gospel of Jesus, presented by the Holy Spirit.

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. John 8:12 KJV

As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. John 9:5

The priest had to trim the wick of the Lampstand in the morning and evening and fill it up with oil to ensure that the light burned continually.

Command the children of Israel, that they bring unto thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamps to burn continually. Leviticus 24:2 KJV

Likewise, we daily need the filling of the Holy Spirit to keep our lives burning day and night.

Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. ⁹ But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. ¹⁰ And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Matthew 25:7-10 KJV

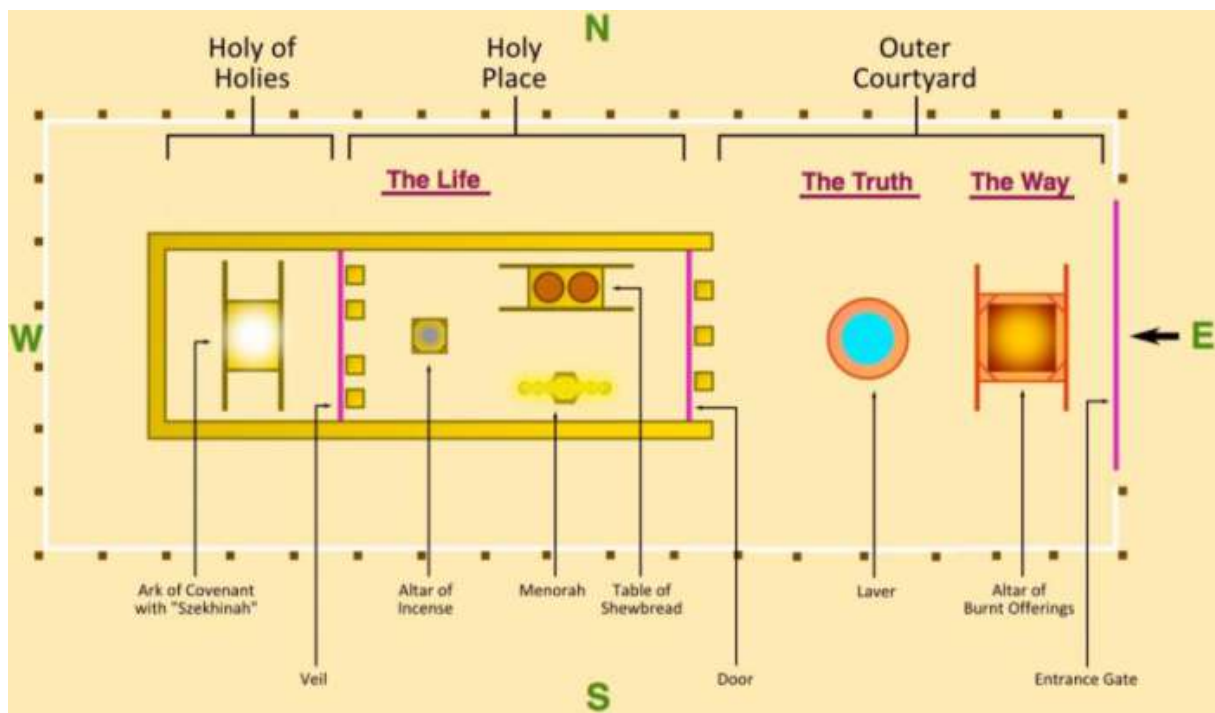
Take note that this fire can go out! Jesus warned the end-time church that unless we repent, He would remove our candlestick (Revelation 2:5). History proved this when the fire went out in the Temple because of the unrepented iniquity in the house of Eli.

And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep.

1 Samuel 3:3 KJV

*And the LORD said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle. ¹² In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end. ¹³ or I have told him that **I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth**; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not. ¹⁴ And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the **iniquity** of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever.* 1 Samuel 3:11-14 KJV

The Layout of the Holy Place



The Holy Place is the first room entered into. It is 30 feet by 15 feet and represents the SOUL of man. The soul of man consists of the mind, emotions, and will.

It contains three pieces of furniture, attended to by the priests daily.

- The Golden Lampstand, the Table of Showbread, and the Golden Altar of Incense.
- These three pieces of furniture represent three phases of growth in the lives of Holy Spirit-led believers.

This room is only entered by believers who have already laid down their lives before God at the Bronze Altar and who have rid themselves of a lifestyle of sinful desires. This does not mean they never sin, but they do not live in sin (1 John 1:8; 1 John 3:6). They have been cleansed by the Word of God at the Bronze Laver, and they are “Phase I” believers.

In the Outer Court, the natural illumination of the sun represents man’s natural ability to understand God. The Outer Court is where all believers begin, after having accepted the Lord Jesus by faith alone. Fleshly or carnal believers are those who remain in the Outer Court, living like natural men, with little discernible difference between them and the world (1 Corinthians 3:1-3). Consequently, they do not believe that it is possible to understand the ways of God. They live a life devoid of God’s character and power (1 Corinthians 2:9-16). They are full of self, self-pity and selfishness. They are self-seeking, self-interested and self-motivated. A believer in this condition cannot understand deeper spiritual truths (1 Corinthians 3:2; Hebrews 5:12-14).

Again, those who have accepted Jesus as Saviour and Lord will have entered the Outer Court via the narrow gate, called “**The Way**” (Matthew 7:13,14). There they were to offer their bodies as a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1) and were to die to the self at the Bronze Altar (Matt 16:24,25). Then started the process of removing sinful desires from their lives at the Bronze Laver (John 17:17; 2 Peter 1:4).

Once they have laid down their lives and chosen to give up a lifestyle of sinful desires, they have gained entrance into the Holy Place via the door, called “**The Truth.**” Believers who **DO** seriously choose a selfless life will enter into their calling to be priests unto God (Revelation 1:6) and will be ushered into the Holy Place. The Bible calls the believers who enter here spiritual men, juxtaposed to men of flesh (the believers who remain in the outer court) (1 Corinthians 3:1-3; Hebrews 5:12-14).

The light of the Candlestick was only for those who had already visited the Altar. We need to prepare ourselves with Godly sorrow for our sins. Light is an expression of God’s character.

Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

¹⁵ Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:14-16 KJV

Be not ye therefore partakers with them. ⁸ For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light.

Ephesians 5:7-8 KJV

As Christ is the Light of the world, so is His church also the light of the world. It is represented by the branches of the lampstand. These

branches could not stand on their own but needed the support of the central stand. We, too, need His support and His light. Each of these branches had its own light but from the same source.

And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; ¹³ And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

Revelation 1:12-13 KJV

These seven lights represent the seven churches during the Age of Grace.

The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches. Revelation 1:20 KJV

The Lampstand was also a reminder of the burning bush where God commanded Moses to deliver Israel in Exodus 3.

THE GOLDEN LAMPSTAND

As we enter the Holy Place of the Tabernacle of Moses, we see on our left, along the Southside of the Tabernacle, a lampstand (Menorah), formed out of one solid piece of pure beaten gold. It was the only piece of furniture in the Tabernacle that was of solid gold. Pure gold represents the holiness of God, who is **Lord**. It consisted of an upright shaft with three branches, extending from each side, with a lamp atop each branch (Exodus 25:31-40). These lamps provided the only **light** in the Holy Place and burned continuously, with pure olive oil supplied by the priests, morning and evening (Exodus 27:20).



Three bowls made like unto almonds, with a knop and a flower in one branch; and three bowls made like almonds in the other branch, with a knop and a flower: so in the six branches that come out of the candlestick. ³⁴ And in the candlestick shall be four bowls made like unto almonds, with their knops and their flowers.
Exodus 25:33-34 KJV

The central shaft and branches were decorated with golden bowls or cups, shaped like almond flowers, with buds and blossoms (Exodus 37:17-24).

- The one central shaft represented God, who is one (Deuteronomy 6:4; Mark 12:29) and who is the Vine (John 15:1).
- On either side of the shaft were three branches, representing the church, composed of Jew and Gentile believers. The total of branches was six, which is the number of mankind (John 15:5).

- Also pictured is man and God in perfect union. When you have the combination of man and God, the Divine (six plus one), you have the number seven, which is the number of perfection.

The knobs, the bowls, and the flowers speak of the **bud**, the flower, and the fruit that grows on a branch. It is a very special kind of fruit - **almonds**. In the Near East of Israel, the almond tree is called the “wakeful tree,” or “the tree that awakens first.” The almond tree blossoms very early in the season, and flowers as early as January. The flowers are pinkish and are produced before the leaves, making them very conspicuous. Almond trees were abundant in ancient Syria and Palestine and still are today. The Hebrew word for almond, "**shakeid**," also means "**watchful**," so symbolically the almond represents God's watchfulness over His people.

The fact that almonds signify the goods of life, corresponding to the truths of the good of the interior natural, is because the almond is a nobler tree. In Genesis 43:11, the almond is described as "**the best of fruits**," and in Numbers 17:8 and Hebrews 9:4, Aaron's rod sprouted sweet almonds for the followers of God's laws, with the promise that forsaking these laws will turn the almonds bitter and inedible.

The almonds on the branches remind us of Aaron's rod, which budded inside the Ark of the Covenant.

And it happened on the next day Moses went into the tabernacle of witness. And behold! The rod of Aaron for the house of Levi had budded and had brought forth buds, and had bloomed blossoms, and had yielded almonds. Numbers 17:8 MKJV

This is a picture of the resurrection, of the dead coming to life. It also points to the first fruits. The almond tree is the first to bloom after winter, proclaiming life, with its snow-white blossoms. Jesus is the First Fruit.

But now Christ is risen from the dead, and become the firstfruit of those that slept. 1 Corinthians 15:20 JUB

The budding rod also points us to the divine election of each saint as a servant of the Kingdom. There were twenty-two almonds on the Menorah. There are also twenty-two letters in the Hebrew alphabet, which points to the importance of the Word. It also shows us the completion of God and His plan. The twenty-two almonds and the seven lights also result in the numeric value of pi ($22 \div 7 = 3,14$). It again shows God's perfection and full circle. He is eternal and endless, like the number of decimals in pi.

In a spiritual sense, the tree itself, as well as the blossoms and fruit, signify a perception of interior truth. In this sense, the almond tree is spoken of in Jeremiah.



And the word of the Lord came to me, saying, "Jeremiah, what do you see?" And I said, "I see an almond branch." Then the Lord said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching over my word to perform it."

Jeremiah 1:11,12 ESV

This speaks of the perfection of God's plan. A rod denotes power, an almond tree denotes the perception of interior truth. Here, being predicated on Jehovah, it denotes waking over it. The almonds that budded on the rod of Aaron for the tribe of Levi are also signified goods of charity, or goods of life, of which Moses wrote.

This hastening of the period of flowering of almonds also represents God watching over His word to perform it.

So Moses spoke to the Israelites, and each of their leaders gave him a staff, one for each leader, according to their tribes—twelve staffs; the staff of Aaron was among their staffs. ⁷ Then Moses placed the staffs before the Lord in the tent of the testimony. ⁸ On the next day Moses went into the tent of the testimony—and the staff of Aaron for the house of Levi had sprouted, and brought forth buds, and produced blossoms, and yielded almonds! Numbers 17:6–8 NET

This was a sign that this tribe was chosen for the priesthood since the tribe of Levi signified charity, which is the essence of the spiritual church. Aaron had a staff or rod that he used in the desert to strike at snakes, herd the sheep, and lean upon. It was simply a piece of dead wood. However, after being before the Lord, there were leaves, buds, flowers, and fruit on the rod! All of this is a type, a picture, of life out of death. That is, it pictures resurrection. In the Golden Lampstand (Menorah), we see the same thing. We see the bud, the flower, and the fruit. It speaks of Christ,

our Life. It speaks of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, who gives life.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come so that they may have life, and may have it abundantly. John 10:10 NET

In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1:4–5 ESV

The life of Jesus is the light for mankind.

As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. John 9:5 NET

We are also the light of the world.

You are the light of the world. *A city located on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under a basket but on a lamp stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before people, so that they can see your good deeds and give honor to your Father in heaven.* Matthew 5:14-16 NET

How do we become the light of the world? We stay attached to Jesus, who is the Light of the world! He is the Light of the world, so **we can also be the light of the world**. The Golden Lampstand was made of one solid piece of gold. Only as the six branches, representing Jew and Gentile believers, abide in that central branch, could they bear forth the light. Again, the seven lamps provided the only light in the Holy Place and burned continuously, with pure olive oil given by the Israelites (Exodus 27:20) and re-supplied to the Menorah by the priests morning and evening. This pure oil represents the Holy Spirit. The seven lights on the Menorah also point us to the seven spirits of God.

And out of the throne came lightnings and thunderings and voices. And seven lamps of fire were burning in front of the throne, which are the seven spirits of God. Revelation 4:5 MKJV

The following are characteristics of the seven spirits from Isaiah.

And a Shoot goes out from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. And the Spirit of Jehovah shall rest on Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Jehovah. Isaiah 11:1-2 MKJV

- The Spirit of the Lord – Yahweh: The third person of the Trinity.
- The Spirit of Wisdom – Chokmah: Ethical wisdom. The understanding of the enemy's schemes.
- The spirit of understanding – Biynah: Result of wisdom and discernment.
- The spirit of counselling – 'Etsah: Advice of forming plans.
- The spirit of strength – Gebuwrah: Bravely, effectiveness and might.
- The spirit of knowledge – Da'ath: It is about perception, cunningness, and intelligence.
- The spirit of the fear of the Lord – Yir'ah: This is true wisdom and respect.

When man is regenerated and filled with the Holy Spirit, he becomes the light in the darkness.

Typological Meaning of Olive Oil in the Anointing



Then Moses took the anointing oil and anointed the tabernacle and everything in it, and so consecrated them. ¹¹ Next he sprinkled some of it on the altar seven times and so anointed the altar, all its vessels, and the wash basin and its stand to consecrate them. ¹² He then poured some of the anointing oil on the head of Aaron and anointed him to consecrate him. Leviticus 8:10–12 NET

Aaron, the high priest, when he was sanctified and prepared to be a high priest, had olive oil poured on his head. It pictured the Holy Spirit being poured out upon Aaron. Furthermore, it symbolised the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the Lord Jesus Christ and the Church.

The anointing oil represents the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the pure oil energising the head of the Church, Jesus Christ, and the body of the church, composed of Jew and Gentile believers.

Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus also was baptized. And while he was praying, the heavens opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my one dear Son; in you I take great delight."
Luke 3:21–22 NET

*You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness. So God, your **God, has anointed you** over your companions with the oil of rejoicing.* Hebrews 1:9 NET

*Then Jesus, **full of the Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan River and was **led by the Spirit** in the wilderness.* Luke 4:1 NET

*So when the devil had completed every temptation, he departed from him until a more opportune time. Then Jesus, **in the power of the Spirit**, returned to Galilee, and news about him spread throughout the surrounding countryside. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by all.* Luke 4:13 NET

*Now Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, ¹⁸ **"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me** to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and the regaining of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."* Luke 4:16–19 NET

*With respect to Jesus from Nazareth, that **God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power**. He went around doing good and*

healing all who were oppressed by the devil, because God was with him. Acts 10:38 NET

This is how Jesus Christ did His work - by the power of the Holy Spirit. What a wonderful, wonderful, wonderful lesson it is for us that the very same power that Jesus Christ used in His life is available to all believers! The very power that caused Jesus to be a bright and shining light to the world empowers us to be the light of the world too. Hallelujah! Furthermore, the branches, abiding in that central shaft that produce light, are covered with buds and flowers and fruit. That means, when we abide in Him and bear light, we also bear fruit.

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. John 15:7 ESV

I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me - and I in him - bears much fruit, because apart from me you can accomplish nothing. John 15:5 NET

We are simply light bearers in this world, and not generators producing light. We are also not the vine, but merely the branches. **We don't produce the fruit; we must bear the fruit.** There is only one thing necessary for us to do, and that is to abide in Jesus. Jesus is our Lord, our Life, our Light and our Source!



On the **Day of Pentecost**, when the **Holy Spirit** was poured out, there sat upon every man's head, what? Cloven tongues of fire! You see, when the Lord poured out the oil, He lit the fire (Matthew 3:11). That is what it is all about - that we are to be the light of the world! We are those six branches, now unified with that one central branch in perfection. All we have to do is abide... and shine! All we have to do is abide... and bear fruit (John 15:5).

The lampstand burns the oil supplied, in contrast to a candle, with its own waxy substance, which would burn itself out in a while. Is it not time for us to start burning the oil and stop trying to be a candle? That way, we would not cause nearly as much smoke, and we would burn a lot longer. What a beautiful fire we could produce once we stop burning the wick and start burning the oil! Remember, the oil is a metaphor for the Holy Spirit.

The Golden Lampstand is also symbolic of the illumination of our MIND by God. Therefore, the message for us today is that we must have the illumination of the Word of God by the Holy Spirit to approach God in deeper intimacy (that is, to enter the Holy of Holies – the Most Holy Place).

What the Holy Spirit illuminates us with is the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ! He is the WORD (John 1:1) and Jesus is the true LIGHT! (John 8:12; John 12:46; John 1:4; John 1:9; 2 Corinthians 4:6; 1 Timothy 6:15,16). We begin the process of transformation into Christ-likeness by renewing our minds via the Word of God (Romans 12:2). That is, we attain the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:9-16).

The Golden Lampstand also symbolically represents the time in our spiritual journey when the Holy Spirit, who has been within us since the New Birth, comes upon us and anoints us. We then begin to demonstrate the power of God through prayer in undoing the plans of the enemy and receiving God's blessings. We discover the gifts of the Spirit operating in our lives, with the result that we experience the "all things are possible" that the Bible speaks about (Philippians 4:13; John 14:12). Others will be amazed at the anointing in our teaching and/or preaching, our boldness, our faith, etc. We have then become a "Phase II" believer and truly experience the power of Jesus' resurrection (Philippians 3:10).

Unfortunately, in this phase, we may think that God has given us His power to fulfil our own plans! Furthermore, we might think that God's power and our ability combined make a good team. We might even think God is fortunate to have us on His team! Therefore, God does not leave those who begin to operate in the power of the Gospel in this phase for too long. We must learn that it is God alone (1 Timothy 1:17). This lesson will be learned at the Table of Showbread.



**THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES:
GOD'S HEAVENLY PATTERN FOR
OUR SPIRITUAL
TRANSFORMATION**

**PART III: THE HOLY PLACE –
TABLE OF SHOWBREAD**

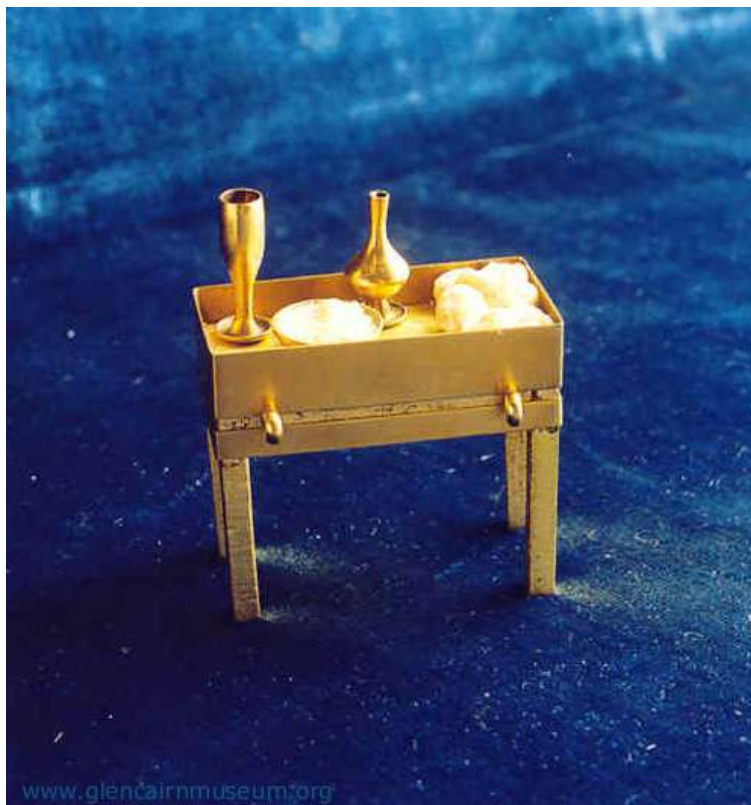
THE TABLE OF SHOWBREAD

The Table of Showbread is located to the right, on the North side of the Tabernacle, directly across from, and illuminated by the Golden Lampstand. Remember, there was no other source of light in the Holy Place other than the Golden Lampstand. Its light reflected off the walls that were made of acacia wood boards, which were very disease and pest-resistant and overlaid with pure gold (Exodus 26:15-29). The ceiling was made of coloured fine linen, with cherubim sewn onto it (Exodus 26:1-6). The cherubim are the angels that are guarding God's throne in Heaven. Just as the priests could not physically see the bread without the illumination of the Golden Lampstand, we cannot see God's provision for our lives without the illumination of the Holy Spirit.

You shall also make a table of acacia-wood, its length two cubits, and its breadth a cubit, and its height a cubit and a half. ²⁴ And you shall overlay it with pure gold, and make to this a crown of gold all around. ²⁵ And you shall make to it a border of a hand's breadth round about. And you shall make a golden crown to the border of it, all around. ²⁶ And you shall make for it four rings of gold, and put the rings in the four corners that are on the four feet of it. ²⁷ The rings shall be adjoining the border as housings for the staves to carry the table. ²⁸ And you shall make the staves of acacia-wood and overlay them with gold, so that the table may be carried with them. ²⁹ And you shall make its dishes, and its spoons, and its pitchers, and its sacrificial cups with which a drink-offering is made. You shall make them of pure gold. ³⁰ And you shall set upon the table Bread of the Presence before Me always. Exodus 25:23-30 MKJV

Everything on the Table of Showbread was made of pure gold. Even the frankincense in the bread was pure. This indicates that all things involved with the worship of God have to be pure. It typifies the purity of the worshipper. Nobody can come before Adonai in impurity. All dirt on hands and feet was left in the Outer Court on the Altar and at the Laver.

The table of the showbread was made of acacia wood, which was a very



hard and durable wood, also known as Ironwood. It was overlaid with pure gold (Exodus 25:23-26). It had golden rings on each corner to insert the gold-covered acacia wood poles, used to carry it. There were plates, bowls, pitchers and cups, all made of pure gold. Twelve small cakes (like tortillas) of

unleavened bread were placed on it in two stacks of six each, representing Jews and Gentiles living in harmony (Leviticus 24:5-9). These twelve cakes also represented the twelve tribes of Israel and the future twelve Apostles of the Lamb.

You shall bring out of your homes two wave loaves of two-tenth parts. They shall be of fine flour. They shall be baked with leaven, firstfruits to Jehovah. Leviticus 23:17 MKJV

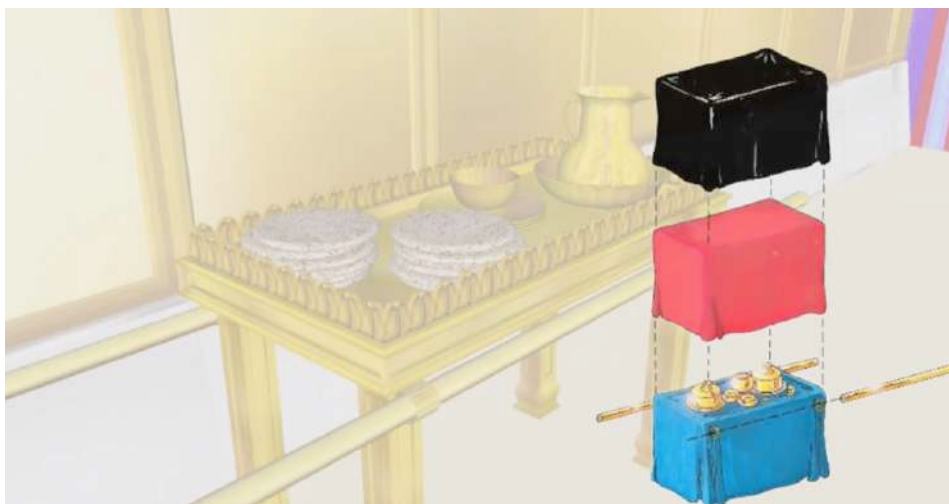
And the priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits, a wave offering before Jehovah, with the two lambs. They shall be holy to Jehovah for the priest. Leviticus 23:20. MKJV

But now Christ is risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of those that slept. 1 Corinthians 15:20 JUB

The cakes remained on the table for seven days and were then eaten by Aaron and his sons at the table on the Sabbath, after they had been replaced by fresh bread. The bread had to be eaten with the other priests at the Table of Showbread in the Holy Place, for the bread was Holy. The solid gold plates were used for the cakes of bread. The solid gold bowls contained the frankincense sprinkled on the bread, using solid gold spoons (Exodus 25:29). The solid gold pitcher and cups contained wine (Numbers 4:7). The Table of Showbread faced North, the direction of Heaven.

For lifting up comes neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. ⁷ But God is the judge; He puts down one and sets up another. Psalm 75:6-7 MKJV

Notice that the Table of Showbread was covered with three different layers of cloth, similar to the coverings of the Tabernacle. The colour of



the first covering was blue, which points to Heaven. The second was scarlet, which points to the

cross of suffering and the ultimate blood sacrifice of Yashuah, whose death and atonement were the substitute for sinners. The last covering was of badger's skin and points to the human side of Yashuah. This description of Yashuah is also found in the Gospel of Luke, which refers to Yashuah as the Son of Man.

The meaning is not so much in the Table, but rather in what was on it. Showbread means "**bread of my face**" and means the bread that will cause God to "**show up**". Symbolically, Jesus is our bread (**provision**), and those who partake of it will receive eternal life (John 6:35; John 6:47-51). The cakes were made of fine flour and pointed to perfection. Unleavened bread, which has no raising power in it, points to sinlessness, as all our sins have been removed by Yashuah!

Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? ⁷ Therefore purge out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, as you are unleavened. For also Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. ⁸ Therefore let us keep the feast; not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1 Corinthians 5:6-8 MKJV

The frankincense represents our **prayers** to God (Revelation 5:8). The wine is symbolic of blood, which **represents life**. It was poured out as an offering (Leviticus 17:11; 1 Corinthians 11:25). It was only the priests who were allowed to eat the bread:

*And it shall be Aaron's and his sons'. And they shall eat it in the holy place, for it is most holy to him of **the fire offerings of Jehovah**, by a never-ending statute. Leviticus 24:9 MKJV*

The fire for the fire offerings was the only fire allowed, and no other “strange fires” were acceptable. Two of Aaron’s sons, Nadab and Abihu, however, offered incense with “**strange fire**”. The Hebrew word for “strange” means “unauthorised, foreign, or profane”. God not only rejected their sacrifice but also found it so offensive that He **consumed the two men with fire**. This is what the LORD spoke of when He said:

Among those who approach me I will show myself holy; in the sight of all the people I will be honoured. Leviticus 10:3

The exact nature of the profane fire isn’t known, but since it was the fire itself that was unauthorised, it could be that Nadab and Abihu were burning the incense with fire of their own making, rather than taking fire from the altar, as specified in Leviticus 16:12. Or the two men perhaps came into the Tabernacle drunk and therefore could not remember what the instructions were (Leviticus 10:8–9). Whatever the case, the men rendered the offering profane, and it was a sign of their disregard for the utter holiness of God and the need to honour and obey Him in solemn and holy fear. Their carelessness and irreverence were their downfall.

There is yet a deeper spiritual meaning in the Table of Showbread. For God to show up, we need to put something costly on the altar.

The fire of God never falls unless there is a sacrifice of something costly on the altar.

Furthermore, at the same time, God measures your giving NOT only by what you give but rather by what you withhold. (Mark 12:41-44).

Therefore, the Table of Showbread contains the following message for us:

WHEN WE, THE PRIESTS (ALL BELIEVERS ARE CALLED TO BE PRIESTS, ACCORDING TO REVELATION 1:6), COME TOGETHER IN UNITY AND PRAYER TO PARTAKE OF JESUS, OUR “BREAD OF LIFE”, AND POUR OUT OUR LIVES AS A SACRIFICIAL OFFERING, THEN GOD WILL “SHOW UP” IN OUR MIDST! (MATTHEW 18:19-20; 1 CORINTHIANS 10:17).

Eating this bread is of spiritual significance. Bread is a type of the written Word of God.

And Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.
John 6:35 NKJV

The showbread was for the priests who served daily. Likewise, it is for the believer who worships daily and who feeds on the Living Bread.

Your Words were found, and I ate them; and Your Word was to me the joy and gladness of my heart; for I am called by Your name, O Jehovah, the God of Hosts. Jeremiah 15:16 MKJV

Furthermore, this table not only represents our union with Christ but also our unity with others. The cakes are stacked adjacent to one another, in heaps of six, representing mankind living in harmony (1 Corinthians 10:16,17). In the Bible, six is man's number. Whenever we come together unified by prayer, in Jesus' name, then God's oil, the Holy Spirit, will flow down from the Head of the Church (Jesus) to the body (the church on Earth) (Psalms 133. Acts 4:24-31).

The members of the church cannot get along with one another consistently without the anointing of the Holy Spirit (Philippians 2:1-4). He is the oil that reduces the friction between fellow believers. Regrettably, very few believers have the anointing that abides within. Figuratively, they

are still outside the Tabernacle, admiring the Brazen Altar but not laying down their lives on it. **No wonder we spend so much time devouring one another** (Galatians 5:15,16).

At the Brazen Altar, we identified with the suffering Jesus endured when He redeemed us on the cross of Calvary. The crucifixion was a suffering we could NOT endure for a price we could NOT pay (the price for our justification). However, at the Table of Showbread, we enter into a fellowship with Jesus' suffering that we can and must learn to overcome (Philippians 3:10; 1 Peter 4:1; 1 Peter 2:21). It is suffering that will teach us to obey God, no matter the circumstances, and to welcome the character of Christ in our lives (Isaiah 48:10; Hebrews 5:8;2:10,18;4:15; 1 Peter 4:12-19). This suffering will be inversely proportional to our level of obedience.

The love of God compels Him to allow this suffering into our lives. He loves us too much to leave us in our fallen condition, in light of the availability of having our character conformed to that of Jesus! (Romans 8:29-39). However, this is not referring to self-imposed suffering based on foolish choices, but suffering (Hebrews 2:18) that is divinely orchestrated to accomplish God's purpose of making us like Jesus Christ in the same obedience and character as His. This is the price for sanctification.

Suffering is represented by the stale unleavened bread eaten with bitter frankincense. **It is the call to pick up your cross daily and deny yourself what the world is profusely offering – the temporary pleasures of sin** (Hebrews 11:25; 1 John 2:16). It is at the Table of Showbread that we die to our fleshly **EMOTIONS** leading us. That is, we teach our emotions to follow our will, not vice versa.

When we confess our sins and wash daily at the Laver, we can also enjoy our daily food and fellowship with the Lord in the Holy Place, just as the priests did. It is in the Holy Place where we are separated from the cares, desires and destructions of the world.

There were no chairs in the Holy Place. This speaks of work and not entertainment.

If reading the Bible is boring and confusing, you are trying to serve the Lord while still in the Courtyard, instead of in the Holy Place.

We need to enter into fellowship with Him!

The replacement of fresh bread and wine was a foreshadowing of the Holy Communion of the Lord.

For I say to you, I will not any more eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God. Luke 22:16 MKJV

For I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God shall come. Luke 22:18 MKJV

*And I appoint a kingdom to you, as My Father has appointed to Me,
³⁰ that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on
thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Luke 22:29-30 MKJV*

It was a seal of the Covenant, the promise to enter the Kingdom, which is the Holy of Holies. We must not take this lightly.

So that whoever shall eat this bread and drink this cup of the Lord unworthily, he will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸ But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink

of that cup. ²⁹ For he who eats and drinks unworthily eats and drinks condemnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

1 Corinthians 11:27-29 MKJV

SUMMARY

In **Phase I** (Brazen Altar and Bronze Laver) of our spiritual journey, we began to know in whom we have believed (2 Timothy 1:12). This led to the renewing of our minds and experiencing His power at the Golden Lampstand, which is **Phase II**.

In **Phase III**, at the Table of Showbread, God passes judgment for suffering to come into our lives to shape our obedience and character into that of Christ (James 1:2-4), which includes the removal of pride (2 Corinthians 12:7). This is so that our fallen nature and character might not use His power to ruin ourselves.

The believers who have experienced the power of God in Phase II and have learned to “suffer effectively”, will begin the process of having their character changed into that of Christ Jesus over their lifetime, as Phase III believers (Romans 5:3-5;8:29).

Spending time at the Table of Showbread will change our character to be like Christ Jesus. It will inculcate a relational Christianity in our lives, and we will learn obedience through suffering. However, the final surrender of our will at the Golden Altar of Incense still lies ahead.

We **identified** with Jesus’ suffering and death at the Brazen Altar and **participated** in His sufferings at the Table of Showbread. Still, now we must participate in His death via the final death of our own will until we

realise that the only reason we live is to accomplish His will, which is learned at the Golden Altar of Incense (Philippians 3:10; Hebrews 10:7; Philippians 1:21).



**THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES:
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TRANSFORMATION**

**PART IV: THE HOLY PLACE –
GOLDEN ALTAR OF INCENSE**

THE GOLDEN ALTAR OF INCENSE

We face the Altar of Incense directly in front of the veil that leads to the Holy of Holies, on the West side of the Holy Place. It represents prayer, as we shall discover. The Altar of Incense was also made of acacia wood (shittim wood) and overlaid with pure gold. It is smaller than the Brazen Altar in the Outer Court, measuring about one and one-half feet square and three feet high. It is transported by inserting two poles through two golden rings, attached to two corners of the altar (Exodus 30:1-10). Wood and gold indicate humanity and deity – the combination of Christ, our Saviour, as being both man and God. This was the smallest piece of furniture in the Tabernacle. It shows that our prayer life can be done in a small way and with little faith.

The altar was used to burn incense morning and evening so that the fragrance was continually ascending to God. When the morning batch of



incense was exhausted, the evening batch was lit. The incense represents the prayers of His saints (Revelation 5:8). The continual burning of incense depicts praying continually, without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17). No other sacrifices were offered on this altar of gold, but the sweet-smelling incense (Exodus 30:9). This incense had to burn continually throughout the day, while the sacrifices were made in the

Outer Court. It offered a pleasing aroma to the Lord.

**Praying without ceasing
(1 Thessalonians 5:17)**

The blood of atonement was to be put on the horns annually. The blood on the altar's horns is symbolic of the power of Jesus' Blood to save all, to the four corners of the earth! **That means that this altar is now available to all, not just some elite group of Christians** (1 John 2:2; Revelation 7:1).

Note that this altar was not made of bronze, which is symbolic of judgment. That is, the Golden Altar is not so much about paying the price for sin, but “**praying**” the price for intimacy with God (pure gold is symbolic of God).

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6 ESV

The Golden Altar of Incense was the closest piece of furniture to the Holy of Holies. Therefore, it is closest to the heart of God. As we wait before God, talk with Him, and long for Him, we are drawing nearer to His presence.

A cubit shall be its length, and a cubit its breadth. It shall be square. And two cubits shall be the height of it, its horns from itself. ³ And you shall overlay it with pure gold, its top, and its sides all around, and its horns. And you shall make to it a crown of gold all around. ⁴ And you shall make two golden rings to it under the crown of it, by the two corners of it, upon the two sides of it you shall make it. And they shall be housings for the staves to bear it with. Exodus 30:2-4 MKJV

Notice the recurring number “**two**” in the design of the Altar of Incense. The number emphasises intercession.

Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. Matthew 18:19 KJV

The ministry of intercession is the last ministry before going beyond the veil into the presence of God. Those who arrive at the Golden Altar of Incense have become Phase IV believers.

Remember once again that we **identified** with Jesus’ suffering and death at the Brazen Altar and **participated** in His sufferings at the Table of Showbread. Still, now we must participate in His death via the final surrendering (death) of our will. At the Golden Altar of Incense, we finally understand in our spiritual hearts that the only reason we live is to accomplish His will (Philippians 3:10; Hebrews 10:7; Philippians 1:21). That means, at the Golden Altar of Incense, we choose to lay down our own purpose and pick up Jesus’ purpose.

Consequently, the Golden Altar of incense represents the WILL of man. It is here that we resolutely decide that, from now on, it is not about my own will any longer, but about God’s will! (Hebrews 10:6,7; Luke 11:2)

The purpose of Phase IV of our spiritual journey is to conform to His **death** (Philippians 3:10). This is not our physical death, which we all must experience at the end of our time on Earth (Hebrews 9:27), but it is the death to the self, as Jesus modelled when He willingly set aside His position in heaven as God over this whole universe, with millions of angels serving and worshipping Him. He became the God-Man Servant on Earth

who humbled Himself to the point of dying on the cross for us (Philippians 2:5-8).

During His time on Earth, Jesus only did what our Heavenly Father showed Him to do (John 5:19,30,36) and He spoke only what God told Him to speak (John 12:49,50; John 14:24; 1 Timothy 6:13). He did this so flawlessly that seeing Jesus was seeing God the Father (John 14:9).

Furthermore, this is why He is called the **WORD**, because there is no difference between what God the Father speaks and does and what Jesus speaks and does (John 1:1). Similarly, we are to die to the self (to disobedience and sin) in every area of our lives. Jesus referred to this as the daily picking up of our crosses (Mark 8:34,35).

Note that simply “desiring” to save our lives, even if we do not save them, will require us to live His life, or rather allow Jesus to live His life through us (Mark 8:35). **Furthermore, we must complete Phase IV or we will never move on to experience the joy of Jesus living His life through us, which is Phase V, the final phase of our spiritual journey (Philippians 3:11; Galatians 2:20). To do this, we must learn to suffer effectively.**

God-ordained suffering enters our lives at the Table of Showbread, leading to the formation of a Christlike character (Hebrews 12:11-13). However, at the Golden Altar of Incense, the suffering greatly intensifies.

Trouble in your ministry, career, and your family can all happen while at the Golden Altar of Incense. Everything we so often work hard for in our own ability could be lost. Therefore, we learn to no longer trust in our own abilities

(dead works), but only in those things done in God's ability (good works) (Revelation 3:1,2).

No other sacrifices were permitted to be offered on this Golden Altar other than the incense, which is our prayers. This is because the offering of our will in prayer is the only acceptable sacrifice here (1 Samuel 15:22; Psalms 51:17; Philippians 3:10). God is waiting for us to surrender our intact wills to Him on this altar (Matthew 26:39; Hebrews 10:7).

The Golden Altar of Incense is also symbolic of Jesus' ministry as our Great High Priest, always offering intercession for us, His Saints (1 John 2:1; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 4:14-16). It was only because of His sacrifice on the cross that worship was made possible.

When Jesus died on the cross, the veil of the temple in Jerusalem was supernaturally torn in two from top to bottom (Mark 15:37-39). This was to show us that a new way had been created for us to obtain access to the Heavenly Father, namely through Jesus (Hebrews 10:19, 20). The Golden Altar of Incense speaks of Jesus Christ as our intercessor before the Father.

Who is he condemning? It is Christ who has died, but rather also who is raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Romans 8:34 MKJV

But I have prayed for you, that your faith fail not. And when you are converted, strengthen your brothers. Luke 22:32 MKJV

And whatever you may ask in My name, that I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. John 14:13-14 MKJV

The veil represented our fleshly bodies, limited from accessing God. God is Spirit and can only be worshipped in spirit and truth (John 4:24). However, Jesus paid for our sins on the cross to establish a **New Covenant** for us with God the Father. This New Covenant gives believers a new spirit which is alive unto God the Father, allowing us to appear before Him in prayer (Hebrews 4:16).

Interestingly, in the Old Testament, the Golden Altar of Incense was inside the Holy Place, in front of the veil, and now in the New Testament, it is said to be on the other side of the veil, in the Most Holy Place (Holy of Holies) (Exodus 40:26; Hebrews 9:3,4). This represents the purpose of the Altar of Incense. Prayer at the Altar results in Jesus, our Great High Priest, ushering us into the presence of God the Father! (Hebrews 4:14; Hebrews 6:19).

It is the Phase IV believers who have laid down their will on the Golden Altar and who have learnt to yield to the Holy Spirit in prayer, who will pass through the veil into God's presence (Romans 8:26,27). Remember God's promise that if we draw near to Him, He will draw near to us (James 4:8).

The following song captures the attitude of the Phase IV believer.

All I once held dear (Knowing You)

All I once held dear built my life upon
All this world reveres, and wars to own
All I once thought gain I have counted loss
Spent and worthless now, compared to this

(Chorus)

Knowing you, Jesus knowing you
There is no greater thing
You're my all you're the best
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love you, lord

Now my heart's desire is to know you more
To be found in you, and known as yours
To possess by faith what I could not earn
All surpassing gift of righteousness

(Repeat Chorus)

Oh to know the power of your risen life
And to know you in your suffering
To become like you in your death my Lord
So with You to live
And never die

(Composed by Graham Kendrick)

The Incense

And Jehovah said to Moses, Take to yourself sweet spices, stacte, and onycha, and galbanum; sweet spices with pure frankincense, a part of each one. ³⁵ And you shall make it a perfume, an incense according to the art of the perfumer, salted, pure and holy. ³⁶ And you shall beat some of it very small, and put it before the testimony in the tabernacle of the congregation, where I will meet with you. It shall be most holy to you. ³⁷ And the perfume which you shall make, you

*shall not make any for yourselves according to the way it is made. It shall be holy to you for Jehovah. ³⁸ **Whoever shall make any like that, to smell of it, shall even be cut off from his people.***

Exodus 30:34-38 MKJV

Four different spices were used for the incense, namely Stacte, Onycha, Galbanum and Frankincense. God commanded His people to not use the same formula outside of the Tabernacle for their consumption, otherwise, they would be cut off from the people. It was not easy to make the incense, and that speaks of the tremendous suffering of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, where He sweated blood even before the crucifixion.

- Stacte speaks of death and points to the death of the self.
- Onycha speaks of foundation. For our prayer life to be effective, it must be on a solid foundation.
- Galbanum brings peace. If our prayer life is effective, it will bring peace.
- Frankincense is well-known for its sweet smell, and, therefore, our prayer lives bring a sweet odour before God. God loves to hear our voices in prayer.

Incense and prayer are interlinked in Scripture. There can be no doubt that our prayers are as the sweet aroma of incense before the Lord!

According to the custom of the priests, it was his lot to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. ¹⁰ And all the multitude of the people were praying outside at the time of incense.

Luke 1:9-10 MKJV

*Let my prayer be set forth before You as **incense**, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Psalm 141:2 MKJV*

And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer. And many incenses were given to him, so that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints on the golden altar before the throne.

*⁴ And the smoke of the **incense which came with the prayers of the saints**, ascended up before God from the angel's hand. Revelation 8:3-4 MKJV*

*And when He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one having harps and golden vials **full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints**. Revelation 5:8 MKJV*

Prayers are pleasing to God and He treasures them. As the incense was unique, so is the righteousness of Adonai. When strange incense is offered to Him, people will face sickness or death, as the sons of Aaron, Nadab and Abihu did when they offered incense with “**strange fire**.”

And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, and put incense on it, and offered strange fire before Jehovah, which He had not commanded them. ² And there went out fire from Jehovah and devoured them, and they died before Jehovah. ³ Then Moses said to Aaron, It is that which Jehovah spoke, saying, I will be sanctified in them that come near me, and before all the people I will be glorified. And Aaron held his peace. Leviticus 10:1-3 MKJV

Another example is King Uzziah, who offered strange incense and was struck with leprosy.

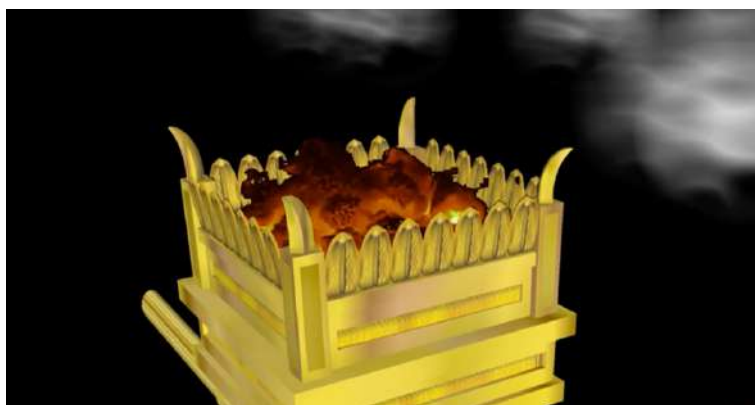
*But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to ruin. For he sinned against Jehovah his God, and went into the temple of Jehovah to burn incense on the altar of incense.¹⁷ And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him eighty priests of Jehovah, mighty men.¹⁸ And they withstood Uzziah the king and said to him, It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord, but to the priests, the sons of Aaron who are consecrated to burn incense. Go out of the temple, for you have sinned. Nor shall it be for your honor from Jehovah God.¹⁹ And Uzziah was angry. **And he had a censer in his hand to burn incense. And while he was angry with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of Jehovah, from beside the incense altar.**²⁰ And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked on him. And, behold, he was leprous in his forehead! And they thrust him out from there. Yes, he himself hurried to go out also, because Jehovah had stricken him.²¹ **And Uzziah the king was a leper until the day of his death, and lived in a separate house a leper. For he was cut off from the house of Jehovah.** And Jotham his son was over the king's house, judging the people of the land. 2 Chronicles 26:16-21 MKJV*

We have to take this seriously! Do not bring incense with strange fire before our God. We easily participate at the table of demons and the table of the Lord simultaneously when participating in pagan feasts, like Christmas, honouring ourselves with birthday parties, and celebrating worldly holidays like Father's Day, Mother's Day and Valentine's Day.

The Fire

The priests brought the fire from the Altar of Sacrifice with sensors. No other fire was allowed. Adonai was very strict about this. If any man

disobeyed His commandments, he would face the consequences. Strange incense of prayer was not acceptable before Adonai, because it was not based on a blood sacrifice. The remission of sin can only take place with blood. After the fall, Adam and Eve tried to cover their nakedness with the leaves of a fig tree. But nakedness cannot be covered with leaves, so God slaughtered an animal to cover them with its skin. From the beginning, blood was the requirement to cover the sin of man.



The crown around the fire prevented the fire from being wasted. This is a picture of the Holy Spirit **NOT** being wasted, like through blasphemy or unbelief. He is fully

utilised in the power of our prayers. The four horns around the Altar were sprinkled with blood on the day of Atonement. Notice that the horns on the Altar of Sacrifice in the Outer Courts represent the power of Christ's Blood on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. But the horns on the Altar of Incense represent the power of His Blood in prayer as we confess our sins and ask forgiveness. This Altar was covered with a blue cloth and with badger's skin. The badger's skin points to Yashuah as the Son of Man, and blue points to heaven. It is a direct link between His work as a man to restore our access to heaven.



**THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES:
GOD'S HEAVENLY PATTERN FOR
OUR SPIRITUAL
TRANSFORMATION**

PART V: THE MOST HOLY PLACE

The Veil



The Holy Place, as discussed in the previous section, represents the **SOUL** of man (1 Thessalonians 5:23), and the three items of furniture (Golden Lampstand, Table of Showbread,

Golden Altar of Incense) represent the process that will lead to the transformation into Truth. Therefore, the Holy Place's curtain screen symbolically represents Jesus as "**The Truth**" (John 14:6). We spiritually enter through the curtain screen into His court of the Holy Place with praise (Psalms 100:4). When standing at the Golden Altar of Incense, we see the curtain veil or entrance to the Most Holy Place (Holy of Holies). The curtain was woven with the same colour scheme as the entrance to the Outer Court and the Holy Place. However, it had the addition of cherubim (God's Honour Guardian Angels, Genesis 3:24) embroidered on them (Exodus 26:31-33). The cherubim represent that entering the Most Holy Place is entering into the presence of God. We must be holy to enter (Leviticus 10:1-3).

The temple's veil in Jerusalem was split in two when Jesus died on the cross of Calvary (Mathew 27:50,51; Mark 15:37,38; Luke 23:45,46). This symbolically represents that a new way has been made by Jesus' death for us to enter into the Most Holy Place (Hebrews 9:6-8; Hebrews 10:19,20).

There are four posts or pillars used to support the linen veil at the entrance to the Most Holy Place. As previously mentioned, the number “four” is here symbolic that this entrance is available to *ALL* who will “**pay the price**” and not just to some Christian elite. Furthermore, these posts were made of acacia wood, covered with gold caps on top, but with a silver base. Their hooks were made of gold and their sockets of silver.

The silver bases (instead of bronze) represent the transformation that has taken place in the believer who has disciplined himself in the Holy Place. However, the bases are not of gold, which would represent sinless perfection like God, but they are of silver, representing that the believer no longer chooses a lifestyle of sin, but still sins in his humanity (1 John 3:4; 1 John 1:8).

Nevertheless, the believer is walking so close to the Lord that any known sin is quickly confessed, repented, forgiven, and cleansed (1 John 1:7,9). The believer is so in love with God that dishonouring Him by intentionally sinning is unimaginable (Luke 7:47). Those who have “prayed the price” are invited to go behind the veil into the presence of God and live a LIFE of oneness with God (John 17:21-23). That is, to experience the Life of God (Greek word “Zoe”). Therefore, the curtain veil to the Most Holy Place symbolically represents Jesus as “**The Life**” (John 14:6).

The veil, separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place, is also symbolic of man’s spiritual heart. Man’s spiritual heart connects the spirit and the soul, similar to the physical brain connecting the body and the soul of man. (Hebrews 4:12).

**The Holy of Holies represents the *SPIRIT* of man
(1 Thessalonians 5:23).**

This is where God the Holy Spirit dwells in the believer upon salvation. This is baptism with the Holy Spirit.

We initiate entering into God's presence with thanksgiving, followed by praise (Psalms 100:4). Spiritually, our praises create a Holy Place where God, who is Holiness Himself, can dwell among us (Psalms 22:3). The word "praise" in this verse is the Hebrew word "**tehillah**", which is a spontaneous song that implies to "go for it" and "singing to God from the heart". This is the only type of praise recorded in the Bible that creates a throne for God. When we are earnestly praising God with our hands raised high, lost in adoration of our Lord and Saviour, we are offering to Him our hands made holy by Him for the express purpose of creating His throne! We indeed say: "Here we are, your servants, Lord! Send us to carry your glory to the nations" (1 Timothy 2:8; Psalms 2:8). Then, and only then, are we invited behind the veil to worship the Lord in Spirit and Truth. This is the beauty of holiness!

The Ark of the Testimony was to be brought within the veil, and the veil was to separate the two rooms in the inner sanctuary, namely the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies. The Mercy Seat, or Throne, was to be put upon the Ark of the Testimony within the veil in the Most Holy Place. The Mercy Seat was the lid of the ark (Exodus 25:10-22).

3. THE HOLY OF HOLIES

Behind the veil, we find the Ark of the Covenant.

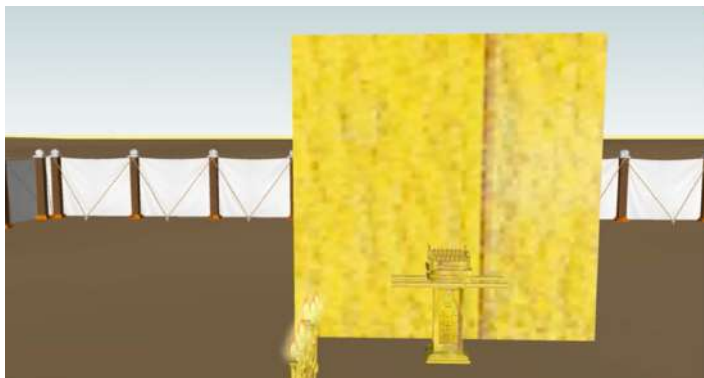
And you shall make a veil of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined bleached linen of embroidered work. It shall be made with

cherubs. ³² And you shall hang it upon four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold. Their hooks shall be of gold, upon the four sockets of silver.

³³ And you shall hang up the veil under the clasps, that you may bring the ark of the testimony in there within the veil. And the veil shall divide for you between the holy place and the Holy of Holies.

Exodus 26:31-33 MKJV

The Holy of Holies was half the size of the Holy Place - a perfect cube, just like the new Jerusalem.



And the city lies four-square, and the length is as large as the breadth. And he measured the city with the reed, twelve

thousand stadia. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. Revelation 21:16 MKJV



The Holy of Holies represents Heaven, which is now accessible through Christ! There were four pillars, just as in the gate. On the door were cherubim, which

protected the holiness of God. They prevented people from entering God's presence. The pillars in the Outer Court represent "The Gate", and here, in the Holy of Holies, the pillars represent Yashuah, who is the only way to God the Father. This was fulfilled by His death.

And crying again with a loud voice, Jesus released His spirit. ⁵¹ And, behold! The veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. And the earth quaked, and the rocks were sheared.
Matthew 27:50-51 MKJV

Jesus died at three o'clock in the afternoon, the same hour the sacrifice was made in the Temple. All the people gathered there for the sacrifice during Passover. At that moment, the veil tore in two. This was Christ's fulfilment that no high priest was any longer needed for us to enter into God's presence. We now have direct access to the Father through the Blood of Christ.

Therefore, brothers, having boldness to enter into the Holy of Holies by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He has consecrated for us through the veil, that is to say, His flesh; ²¹ and having a High Priest over the house of God. Hebrews 10:19-21 MKJV

Jesus announced this personally after He had ascended into heaven as the first fruit wave offering. He descended again and appeared to his disciples. He announced that the Father had accepted the first fruit wave offering, and NOW there will forever be peace between us and Him, because of the blood sacrifice of Jesus.

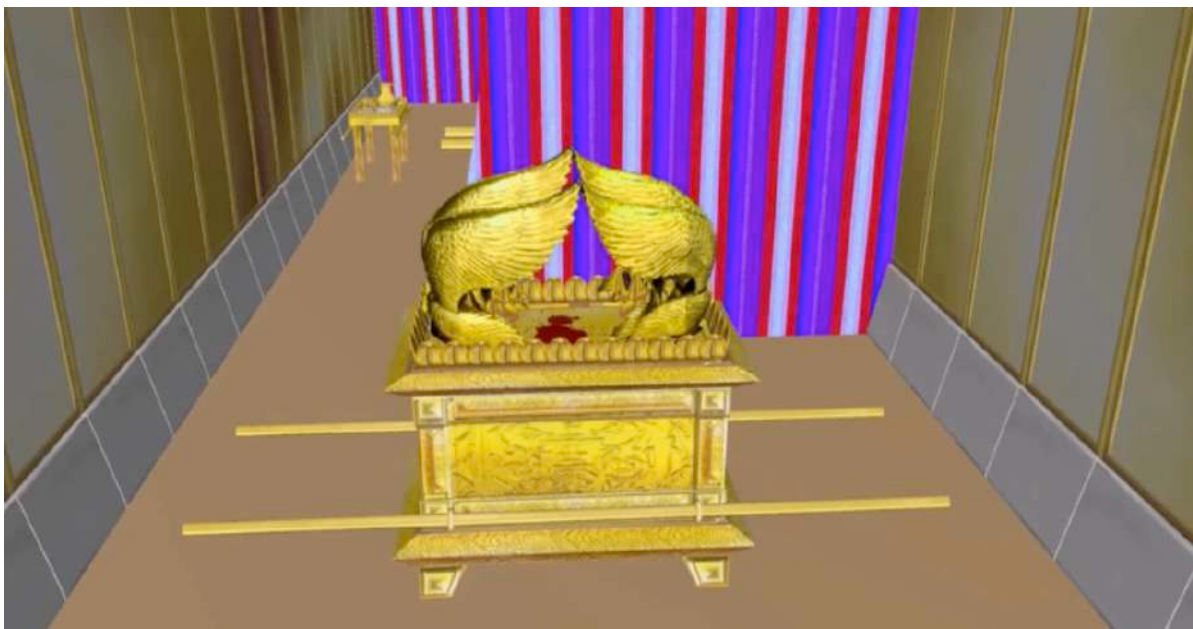
On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"
John 20:19 NIV

Before this final sacrifice of Jesus Christ was made, only the high priest could enter into God's presence. Now it is accessible to all! Glory to God!

This veil was 20m high and 10m wide and 10cm thick. When it was torn from top to bottom, it revealed that this was indeed an act from above!

No one can enter into the Father's presence unless they accept Jesus Christ, the Anointed One! What a glorious day for the New Testament believer that we all can now enter into the presence of our heavenly Father through Him!

Ark of the Covenant



And they shall make an ark of acacia-wood. Two and a half cubits long and a cubit and a half wide and a cubit and a half high. ¹¹ And you shall overlay it with pure gold. You shall overlay it inside and out, and shall make on it a crown of gold all around.
Exodus 25:10-11 MKJV

And the staves shall be in the rings of the ark. They shall not be taken from it. ¹⁶ And you shall put into the ark the testimony which I shall give you. ¹⁷ And you shall make a mercy-seat of pure gold. Two and

a half cubits shall be the length of it, and a cubit and a half the breadth of it. ¹⁸ And you shall make two cherubs of gold; of beaten work you shall make them, in the two ends of the mercy-seat.
Exodus 25:15-18 MKJV

And you shall put the mercy-seat above, upon the ark. And in the ark you shall put the testimony that I shall give you. ²² And I will meet with you there, and I will talk with you from above the mercy-seat, from between the two cherubs on the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give you in commandment to the sons of Israel.
Exodus 25:21-22 MKJV

The Ark consisted of two parts, namely the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat. The latter was never to be removed from the Ark, because no one was supposed to touch the Ark or look inside, or they would die. This was God's Throne, where He dwelt.

And David arose and went with all the people with him from beyond Baale of Judah, to bring up the ark of God from there, which is called by the Name, the Name of Jehovah of Hosts who dwells above the cherubs. 2 Samuel 6:2 MKJV

The Ark was a box, or chest, two and a half cubits long (43.75in/111.25cm), one and a half cubits wide (26.25in/66.75cm), and one and a half cubits high (2.19ft/0.6675m). It was overlaid with pure gold outside and inside. Within the Ark was to be placed "The Testimony which I shall give you", as the Lord told Moses (Exodus 25:21). In addition to the Tablets of the Covenant (The Ten Commandments), it contained a golden pot with manna (Exodus 16:32-34) and Aaron's rod that had budded (Numbers 17:1-11). The Ark of the Covenant's content is

confirmed to be these three items in the New Covenant as well (Hebrews 9:2-5). Each of the three items within the Ark represented man's inability to do anything right outside of abiding in God (John 15:5). They represented the entire spectrum of mankind's rejection of God:

- **Rejection of God's provision, represented by the golden pot of manna.**

Manna (Hebrew for "what is it?") was like coriander seed, and white (Exodus 16:31). It was given to Israel to provide for them in the Wilderness of Sin after they had questioned God's faithfulness. Furthermore, after the manna was given, they rebelled against God's instructions for gathering and using it (Exodus 16). The manna in the ark never went bad. Symbolically, God has made provision by giving us the incorruptible Bread of Life (John 6:32-35). However, sinful man continues to reject God's Bread from Heaven – Jesus!

- **Rejection of God-appointed leadership, represented by Aaron's rod.**

When Korah and others rebelled against God's selection of Moses and Aaron, the rod of Aaron was caused to bud and produce blossoms and almonds overnight to show that God had picked Aaron and his descendants to be the priests. Symbolically, the very first tree in Israel to awake from its winter sleep is the almond tree. God has all authority and can bring life from death (resurrection) (Matthew 28:18), which He did when He raised Jesus as the firstborn from among the dead (not simply raised from the dead but born from death to life) (Revelation 1:5). However, sinful man continues to reject that authority and life.

- **Rejection of God's Law, represented by the stone (sapphire) tablets.**

The Testimony, or Ten Commandments, has been rebelled against from their very inception. While Moses was on the mountain receiving them, the Israelites were making an idol of gold and they worshipped it. They even called it by God's name – Yahweh! They broke the Law, thus breaking the Covenant, and Moses gave them an object lesson by breaking the tablets of stone on which were written the Ten Commandments. Symbolically, God has given us the law to lead us to understand our need for salvation (Galatians 3:21-25). The unbroken second set of tablets of stone on which the Ten Commandments were written, represents Jesus, who never broke the law. However, sinful man continues to reject God's law. Thus, they do not fully understand the need for salvation by grace and faith (Ephesians 2:8,9).

The Ark thus contained evidence of man's failure to live holy before God - evidence of man rebelling against a loving and perfect God, evidence that God is the Great Provider, Leader, and Giver, evidence that fallen man is hopelessly flawed and in desperate need of a Saviour. Furthermore, the Ark points to Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the World, who was, is, and shall ever be!

The light of the Menorah could not penetrate the Holy of Holies because of the veil. There was a supernatural, unapproachable light inside the Holy of Holies.

Who alone has immortality, dwelling in light which cannot be approached, whom no one of men have seen, nor can see; to whom be honor and power everlasting. Amen. 1 Timothy 6:16 MKJV

This light in the Holy of Holies is called “**Shekhinah**”, which means the “**glory of Adonai**”. It was there, between the two cherubim, where God spoke and met with the high priest and with Moses.

*And when Moses had gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with Him, **then he heard the voice of One speaking to him from the mercy-seat on the ark of testimony, from between the two cherubs.** And He spoke to him. Numbers 7:89 MKJV*

The Mercy Seat

For a cover (or lid) over the Ark, Moses was to make a “**Mercy Seat**” (Mercy Throne for God) of solid pure gold, with cherubim, one at each end, facing each other, and all out of one solid piece of gold. The cherubim were to stretch forth their wings, COVERING the Ark. The Mercy Seat (Mercy Throne) was the centre of all within the Holiest of all, the throne of the God of glory. From there, God would speak (Exodus 25:22). It was a place of covering and forgiveness of sin. The cloud and fire of God’s presence rested over the Mercy Seat.

The Hebrew word translated as “mercy seat” is “**kapporet**” and means a “*covering*”. It is from the same root as the word “kaphar”, translated as “**atonement**”. The only place in the Bible where the word “kapporet” is used is for “**mercy seat**”. This distinguishes the Mercy Throne as a PROTECTIVE COVERING. The Ark covered the place of forgiveness for sin and of the Testimony of the Lord. The covering of the Ark was the protective covering of the nation. God indeed said in multiple instances: “**If you keep my covenant, I will cover and bless you**” (Deuteronomy 28:1-14)!

The Mercy Seat is a picture of Christ's ultimate offering.

And He is the propitiation concerning our sins, and not concerning ours only, but also concerning the sins of all the world.

1 John 2:2 MKJV

Who does not need, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice daily, first for his own sins and then for the people's sins. For He did this once for all, when He offered up Himself. Hebrews 7:27 MKJV

It was the judgment throne of the Invisible One, Israel's King (Hebrews 9:5). The Greek word for "**mercy seat**" used here is "hilasterion" (hil-as-tay'-ree-on), meaning the place of appeasement. The same Greek word "hilasterion" is translated as "propitiation" in Romans 3:25, meaning **Jesus is our Mercy Seat**.

Furthermore, the Greek word for "**propitiation**" in 1 John 2:2 is "**hilasmos**" (hil-as-mos'), meaning "*that which appeases*". Consequentially, Jesus is both the "place of appeasement" and "that which appeases".

**Jesus is both the "Mercy Seat" and the "Sinless Sacrificial Lamb"!
Jesus is fully "God" and fully "Man"!**

Jesus, as God Himself, became the appeasement demanded by His holiness and justice (1 John 4:10). God, the Righteous Judge, took upon Himself the penalty of the one whom He has judged guilty (man), so that man can have GRACE (unearned favour) and for God to show MERCY (provide whatever is needed to restore, heal, rescue, protect and save). God paid the penalty for our sins at the cross of Calvary, and based on this, God's mercy is extended to all. That is, the judgment seat has become a Mercy Seat (James 2:13).

Everything in the Law of Moses centred around that Mercy Seat. All sacrifices had to do with that Mercy Seat within the veil. The shedding of the blood of offerings had to do with that one chief sprinkling of blood upon the Mercy Seat. The Ark and the Mercy Seat within the Holy of Holies symbolised the coming “Word-Made-Flesh”, Jesus Christ. The “blood of sprinkling” symbolises the Lamb of God, who bore the world’s sin (Hebrews 9:11,12; Hebrews 9:22-26). This is MERCY!

The two cherubim watching over the Mercy Seat (Jesus) are a foreshadowing of the two angels that would guard Jesus’ body, one at His head and one at His feet, so that His body would not experience corruption or decay after the crucifixion (Acts 2:31; John 20:10-12). These two cherubim looked down upon the Mercy Seat.

To them it was revealed that not to themselves, but to us, they ministered the things which are now reported to you by those who have preached the gospel to you in the Holy Spirit sent from Heaven; which things the angels desire to look into. 1 Peter 1:12 MKJV

They looked upon the people’s rejection of God’s standard, God’s provision and God’s authority. The sin of the human race would be covered by the Blood of the Lamb. In all these elements in the Tabernacle, Adonai reveals to us His care and mercy and His plan for our salvation. Even the angels in heaven yearn for our salvation!

Likewise I say to you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents. Luke 15:10 MKJV

Moses went into the presence of God in the Holy of Holies, and the presence of God (the Glory of God) permeated his body (Exodus 39:29,30; Exodus 34:35; 2 Corinthians 3:7). He would then exit

the Holy of Holies and share the presence of God with his people. That is, Moses would go into God's presence to "bless Him" and would receive the power to "bless them".

Remember, under the Law, no one except the high priest could go into the Holy of Holies, and then only once a year on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur). However, New Testament believers are all priests unto God and have the right and responsibility to enter the Holy of Holies in the spirit (Revelation 1:5, 6). This is where we drink the living water of the Holy Spirit and thirst no more (John 10:10-14). We do this in our quiet times via the Word of God and prayer (John 10:9). When properly aligned to the Holy Spirit, the anointing of the Holy Spirit will flow out of the Holy of Holies (our spirit), into the Holy Place (our soul), and then also into the Outer Court (our body) to prepare the lost world to receive the presence of God (John 7:38; Acts 10:38).

The anointing of the Holy Spirit is not an end in itself, but the vehicle to transport the presence of God. The priest first applied blood, then oil (Leviticus 14:14-17).

We must die to ourselves before the life of God can be demonstrated through us (Philippians 3:9-11). We first must lay down our lives, our self-will, and our own plan for our lives at the Golden Altar of Incense, and then will we be ushered into the Holy of Holies to experience intimacy or union with God (John 17:21-23). There, the Oil of Gladness – God the Holy Spirit - will come upon us as we seek to obey Jesus (Hebrews 1:9). We will then go forth to minister in God's ability to produce good works (John 15:7,8) and not in our own ability, which produces dead works (Revelation 3:1,2).

Again, we choose to enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise, but only God can choose to allow us into His precious presence for worship. No amount of trying or crying will allow us into His presence. Only the Phase V believers will be ushered into God's presence since they have **submitted to God's destiny** for their lives. Consequently, they now **receive the anointing to fulfil God's destiny** for their lives. This is the destiny that He planned for them even before they were born (Jeremiah 1:5; Galatians 1:15).

The Tabernacle is a typology of the incarnation of Jesus.

In the third month of Sivan, Moses went up to meet God on Sinai. He was given the plans for the Tabernacle and committed to having it constructed, even as Mary had agreed to have Jesus formed in her womb (Luke 1:38).

In the third month after the Israelites went out from the land of Egypt, on the very day, they came to the Desert of Sinai. ²After they journeyed from Rephidim, they came to the Desert of Sinai, and they camped in the desert; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. ³Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, "Thus you will tell the house of Jacob, and declare to the people of Israel:" Exodus 19:1–3 NET

The Holy Spirit constructed the Tabernacle components through Bezalel, Oholiab, and other skilled workers, even as the Holy Spirit formed/constructed Jesus' body in Mary's womb. (Luke 1:35; Psalms 139:13)

Moses said to the Israelites, "See, the Lord has chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. ³¹He has filled him with the Spirit of God—with skill, with understanding, with knowledge, and

in all kinds of work, ³² to design artistic designs, to work in gold, in silver, and in bronze, ³³ and in cutting stones for their setting, and in cutting wood, to do work in every artistic craft. ³⁴ And he has put it in his heart to teach, he and Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. ³⁵ He has filled them with skill to do all kinds of work as craftsmen, as designers, as embroiderers in blue, purple, and scarlet yarn and in fine linen, and as weavers. They are craftsmen in all the work and artistic designers. Exodus 35:30-35 NET

So Bezalel and Oholiab and every skilled person in whom the Lord has put skill and ability to know how to do all the work for the service of the sanctuary are to do the work according to all that the Lord has commanded. Exodus 36:1 NET

Nine months later, God directed Moses to set up ("birth") the Tabernacle on the first day of the first month of Nisan, even as Mary travailed in labour to birth Jesus on that same date years later (Luke 2:6).

Then the Lord spoke to Moses: ² "On the first day of the first month you are to set up the tabernacle, the tent of meeting.³ You are to place the ark of the testimony in it and shield the ark with the special curtain. Exodus 40:1-3 NET

Then God filled the Tabernacle with Himself. God tabernacled with humanity for the first time on Nisan 1, the same month and day Jesus would be born years later and would come to tabernacle with humanity (Luke 2:7; John 1:14).

And he set up the courtyard around the tabernacle and the altar, and put the curtain at the gate of the courtyard. So Moses finished the work. ³⁴ Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of

the Lord filled the tabernacle. ³⁵ Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. Exodus 40:33–35 NET

And the Word, entering a new mode of existence, became flesh, and lived in a tent [His physical body] among us. And we gazed with attentive and careful regard and spiritual perception at His glory, a glory such as that of a uniquely-begotten Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14 WUEST TNT

The Contents of the Ark of the Covenant

Would the Mercy Seat be removed, we would find several items within the Ark. Let us look into more detail:



Having a golden altar of incense, and the ark of the covenant overlaid all around with gold, in which was the golden pot that

had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant. Hebrews 9:4 MKJV

1. The Tablets of the Covenant / Law.

This was a reminder of the Lord. It also points to sin, and therefore, the need for atonement. This is covered by blood on the Mercy Seat.

2. The Golden Pot of Manna.

Manna means “**What is it?**” and is not naturally identified. In the desert, it was spoiled when kept for longer than a day. In the Ark, however, it lasted for many years to prove that Jesus, the Living Bread, is eternal.

And He humbled you and allowed you to hunger, and then He fed you with manna, which you did not know, neither did your fathers know it, so that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes out of the mouth of Jehovah man shall live. Deuteronomy 8:3 MKJV

Jesus tried to explain this to the people, yet they could not understand His speech.

Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and died. ⁵⁰ This is the Bread which comes down from Heaven, so that a man may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹ I am the Living Bread which came down from Heaven. If anyone eats of this Bread, he shall live forever. And truly the bread that I will give is My flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. John 6:49-51 MKJV

This concept of bread is so important that Jesus repeated it to John in Revelation.

*He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat of the **hidden manna**, and will give to him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knows except he who receives it. Revelation 2:17 MKJV*

In this passage, we find the concept of “hidden manna”, which speaks of mysteries in God’s Word. These revelations are only for the spirit man of those who constantly seek the truth and walk in maturity.

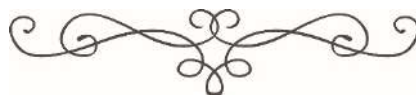
3. Aaron’s rod.

And Jehovah said to Moses, Bring Aaron's rod again before the testimony, to be kept as a token against the rebels. And you shall completely take away their murmurings from Me so that they do not die. Numbers 17:10 MKJV

It was a dead, dry branch that was given life. This speaks of resurrection. Yashuah came back to life after three days and brought forth fruit. He was indeed the First Fruit of a bigger resurrection harvest.

And it happened on the next day Moses went into the tabernacle of witness. And behold! The rod of Aaron for the house of Levi had budded and had brought forth buds, and had bloomed blossoms, and had yielded almonds. Numbers 17:8 MKJV

These items also point to the Triune God - the Father (Tablets of Stone), the Spirit (Manna) and the Son (Resurrection).



**THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES:
GOD'S HEAVENLY PATTERN FOR
OUR SPIRITUAL
TRANSFORMATION**

**PART VI: THE PRIESTLY
GARMENTS**

PRIESTLY GARMENTS

The purpose here is to review in detail the three priestly garments of the Old Testament.

- The high priest's year-round garment.
- The high priest's Day of Atonement garment.
- The priest's year-round garment.

And you, bring near to you your brother Aaron and his sons with him from among the Israelites, so that they may minister as my priests—Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons. ² You must make holy garments for your brother Aaron, for glory and for beauty. ³ You are to speak to all who are specially skilled, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, so that they may make Aaron's garments to set him apart to minister as my priest.

Exodus 28:1-3 NET

These garments were made for glory and beauty. The garments brought praise to God and admiration from all who gazed upon them. This bespoke of custom-fitted, meticulously detailed, and immaculately clean garments.

The High Priest's Year-Round Uniform



The high priest was revered as much as or even more than any king or royalty of the nations around Israel. Consequently, these clothes carried the richness and beauty that surpassed the royal robes of the mightiest kings of the surrounding empires. The “Golden Garment” of the high priest’s uniform was a two-layered set of clothing, which included the four garments of the regular priests, plus four additional articles of clothing that were added to enhance the ritual beauty and honour of the sacredness of the duties of the high priest in his daily work of atonement for Israel.

The golden garments were worn all year in the rituals performed by the high priest when he, given the people of Israel, entered the sanctuary interior in the morning and evening sacrifices. The high priest and priests wore no shoes or sandals, meaning they would walk barefoot, which is the prerequisite for walking on holy ground (Exodus 3:5).

The first four articles of clothing were uniquely worn by the high priest, and the last four garments were similar to those worn by the other priests, except the Sash, which was unique for the “Golden Garment”. The articles of clothing were:

- Breastplate
- Ephod (Vest or Apron)
- Robe (Coat – Outer Garment)
- Plate (Diadem or Crown)
- Tunic (Long Shirt – Inner Garment)
- Turban (Hat or Mitre)
- Sash (Linen Belt or Girdle)
- Undergarments (Short Pants)

Now these are the garments that they are to make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a fitted tunic, a turban, and a sash. They are to make holy garments for your brother Aaron and for his sons, that they may minister as my priests. ⁵ The artisans are to use the gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine linen. Exodus 28:4,5 NET

From the blue, purple, and scarlet yarn, they made woven garments for serving in the sanctuary; they made holy garments that were for Aaron, just as the LORD had commanded Moses. Exodus 39:1 NET

You are to present Aaron and his sons at the entrance of the tent of meeting. You are to wash them with water ⁵ and take the garments and clothe Aaron with the tunic, the robe of the ephod, the ephod, and the breastpiece; you are to fasten the ephod on him by using the skillfully woven waistband. ⁶ You are to put the turban on his head and put the holy diadem on the turban. ⁷ You are to take the anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him. ⁸ You are to present his sons and clothe them with tunics ⁹ and wrap the sashes around Aaron and his sons and put headbands on them, and so the ministry of priesthood will belong to them by a perpetual ordinance. Thus you are to consecrate Aaron and his sons. Exodus 29:4-9 NET

Then he put the tunic on Aaron, wrapped the sash around him, and clothed him with the robe. Next he put the ephod on him and placed on him the decorated band of the ephod, and fastened the ephod closely to him with the band. ⁸ He then set the breastpiece on him and put the Urim and Thummim into the breastpiece. ⁹ Finally, he set the turban on his head and attached the gold plate, the holy diadem, to the front of the turban just as the LORD had commanded Moses. ¹⁰ Then Moses took the anointing oil and anointed the tabernacle and everything in it, and so consecrated them. ¹¹ Next he sprinkled some of it on the altar seven times and so anointed the altar, all its vessels, and the wash basin and its stand to consecrate them. ¹² He then poured some of the anointing oil on the head of Aaron and anointed him to consecrate him. ¹³ Moses also brought forward Aaron's sons, clothed them with tunics, wrapped sashes around them, and wrapped headbands on them just as the LORD had commanded Moses. Leviticus 8:7-13 NET

Spiritual Significance

Yarn and Thread Colours

There were five colours. Five is the Biblical number for grace.

- Gold – Pure. Almighty God, who is Holy and Divinely Righteous.
- Blue – Heaven, the abode of God. God's divinity has come from Heaven. Jesus the Messiah! The colour of Grace. The Gospel of John depicts Jesus as the Son of God.
- Red – Blood. Blood is the requirement for redemption that leads to righteousness. In Hebrew, "Dham" means blood and "Adham" (Adam) means red-blooded man. Jesus came from Heaven to become a red-blooded man (1 Corinthians 15:45-47). The Gospel of Mark depicts Jesus as the suffering servant.
- Purple – God's Royal Blood in the Son of Man (Red) that came from Heaven (Blue). Red and blue combined yield purple. The Gospel of Matthew depicts Jesus as of royal lineage.
- White – Righteousness and purity. That is right standing, or rather, the "right to stand" before our Holy God. The Gospel of Luke depicts Jesus as the Son of Man.
- The Golden garments of the high priest revealed Jesus as God, the Great High Priest in Heaven. When the high priest put on these garments, he was putting on Christ! It was, so to speak, "The Word" (Jesus) who offered the animal sacrifices to God the Father.

1. BREASTPLATE

The ephod was worn like a vest or apron. Over the ephod, the high priest wore a breastplate, which was a pouch about 22 cm square (about 9

inches), made of beautifully woven material. The Urim and Thummim were placed inside this pouch. The name “**Urim**” means “lights,” while “**Thummim**” means “perfections.”

On the front of the breastplate were fastened twelve precious stones in four rows of three each. On each was engraved the name of one of the tribes of Israel. The breastplate was, in reality, a piece of elaborately finished cloth of the same material as the ephod. It was a strip twice as long as it was wide, but it folded back on itself to form a square bag into which the Urim and Thummim were placed.

The breastplate was held in place by golden chains attached to the onyx



shoulder clasps and blue lace ribbons, which attached the breastplate to the ephod. There must have been a small golden ring attached to each corner of the breastplate to which, in turn, the golden chains and ribbons were connected. The stones upon the breastplate

represented the twelve tribes of Israel, and they were borne before the Lord continually as a memorial. Since the twelve stones were in one breastplate, they speak of the oneness of the people of God, while their position upon Aaron’s breast speaks of God’s affection for His people. The names on the breastplate were always close to Aaron’s heart, just as

Christ carries His precious ones close to His heart. The Bible instructed that each thread used in the high priest's breastplate and ephod had to be 28 plies. Each thread was made from 6 threads, each of sky-blue, purple, crimson and white twisted linen, and 4 threads of pure gold.

You are to make a breastpiece for use in making decisions, the work of an artistic designer; you are to make it in the same fashion as the ephod; you are to make it of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twisted linen. ¹⁶ It is to be square when doubled, nine inches long and nine inches wide. ¹⁷ You are to set in it a setting for stones, four rows of stones, a row with a ruby, a topaz, and a beryl– the first row; ¹⁸ and the second row, a turquoise, a sapphire, and an emerald; ¹⁹ and the third row, a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; ²⁰ and the fourth row, a chrysolite, an onyx, and a jasper. They are to be enclosed in gold in their filigree settings. ²¹ The stones are to be for the names of the sons of Israel, twelve, according to the number of their names. Each name according to the twelve tribes is to be like the engravings of a seal. ²² "You are to make for the breastpiece braided chains like cords of pure gold, ²³ and you are to make for the breastpiece two gold rings and attach the two rings to the upper two ends of the breastpiece. ²⁴ You are to attach the two gold chains to the two rings at the ends of the breastpiece; ²⁵ the other two ends of the two chains you will attach to the two settings and then attach them to the shoulder pieces of the ephod at the front of it. ²⁶ You are to make two rings of gold and put them on the other two ends of the breastpiece, on its edge that is on the inner side of the ephod. ²⁷ You are to make two more gold rings and attach them to the bottom of the two shoulder pieces on the front of the ephod, close to the juncture above the waistband of the ephod. ²⁸ They are to tie the breastpiece by its rings

to the rings of the ephod by blue cord, so that it may be above the waistband of the ephod, and so that the breastpiece will not be loose from the ephod. ²⁹ *Aaron will bear the names of the sons of Israel in the breastpiece of decision over his heart when he goes into the holy place, for a memorial before the LORD continually.* ³⁰ *"You are to put the Urim and the Thummim into the breastpiece of decision; and they are to be over Aaron's heart when he goes in before the LORD. Aaron is to bear the decisions of the Israelites over his heart before the LORD continually.* Exodus 28:15-30 NET

He made the breastpiece, the work of an artistic designer, in the same fashion as the ephod, of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet, and fine twisted linen. ⁹ *It was square– they made the breastpiece doubled, nine inches long and nine inches wide when doubled.* ¹⁰ *They set on it four rows of stones: a row with a ruby, a topaz, and a beryl– the first row;* ¹¹ *and the second row, a turquoise, a sapphire, and an emerald;* ¹² *and the third row, a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst;* ¹³ *and the fourth row, a chrysolite, an onyx, and a jasper. They were enclosed in gold filigree settings.* ¹⁴ *The stones were for the names of the sons of Israel, twelve, corresponding to the number of their names. Each name corresponding to one of the twelve tribes was like the engravings of a seal.* ¹⁵ *They made for the breastpiece braided chains like cords of pure gold,* ¹⁶ *and they made two gold filigree settings and two gold rings, and they attached the two rings to the upper two ends of the breastpiece.* ¹⁷ *They attached the two gold chains to the two rings at the ends of the breastpiece;* ¹⁸ *the other two ends of the two chains they attached to the two settings, and they attached them to the shoulder pieces of the ephod at the front of it.* ¹⁹ *They made two rings of gold and put them on the other two ends of the breastpiece*

on its edge, which is on the inner side of the ephod. ²⁰ They made two more gold rings and attached them to the bottom of the two shoulder pieces on the front of the ephod, close to the juncture above the waistband of the ephod. ²¹ They tied the breastpiece by its rings to the rings of the ephod by blue cord, so that it was above the waistband of the ephod, so that the breastpiece would not be loose from the ephod, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.
Exodus 39:8-21 NET

And he will stand before Eleazar the priest, who will seek counsel for him before the LORD by the decision of the Urim. At his command they will go out, and at his command they will come in, he and all the Israelites with him, the whole community. Numbers 27:21 NET

The governor instructed them not to eat any of the sacred food until there was a priest who could consult the Urim and Thummim.
Ezra 2:63 NET

So Saul inquired of the LORD, but the LORD did not answer him– not by dreams nor by Urim nor by the prophets. 1 Samuel 28:6 NET



The only eye-witness account of the breastplate outside of the Old Testament is the written description of Josephus, who himself was a priest and served in his priestly duties in Herod's Temple in Jerusalem. Josephus, Antiquities 3:7:1 – “Twelve stones were also on the breastplate, extraordinary in largeness and beauty; and they were an ornament

not to be purchased by men, because of their immense value. These stones, however, stood in three rows, by four in a row, and were inserted into the breastplate itself, and they were set in (p)ouches of gold, that were themselves inserted in the breastplate and were so made that they might not fall out. Now the first three stones were a sardonyx, a topaz, and an emerald.

The second row contained a carbuncle, a jasper, and a sapphire. The first of the third row was a ligure, then an amethyst, and the third an agate, being the ninth of the whole number. The first of the fourth row was a chrysolite, the next was an onyx, and then a beryl, which was the last of all. Now the names of all those sons of Jacob were engraved on these stones, whom we esteem the head of our tribes, each stone having the honour of a name, in the order according to which they were born.

There was also a girdle sewn to the breastplate, which was of the aforementioned colours, with gold intermixed, which, when it had gone once round, was tied again upon the seam and hung down.



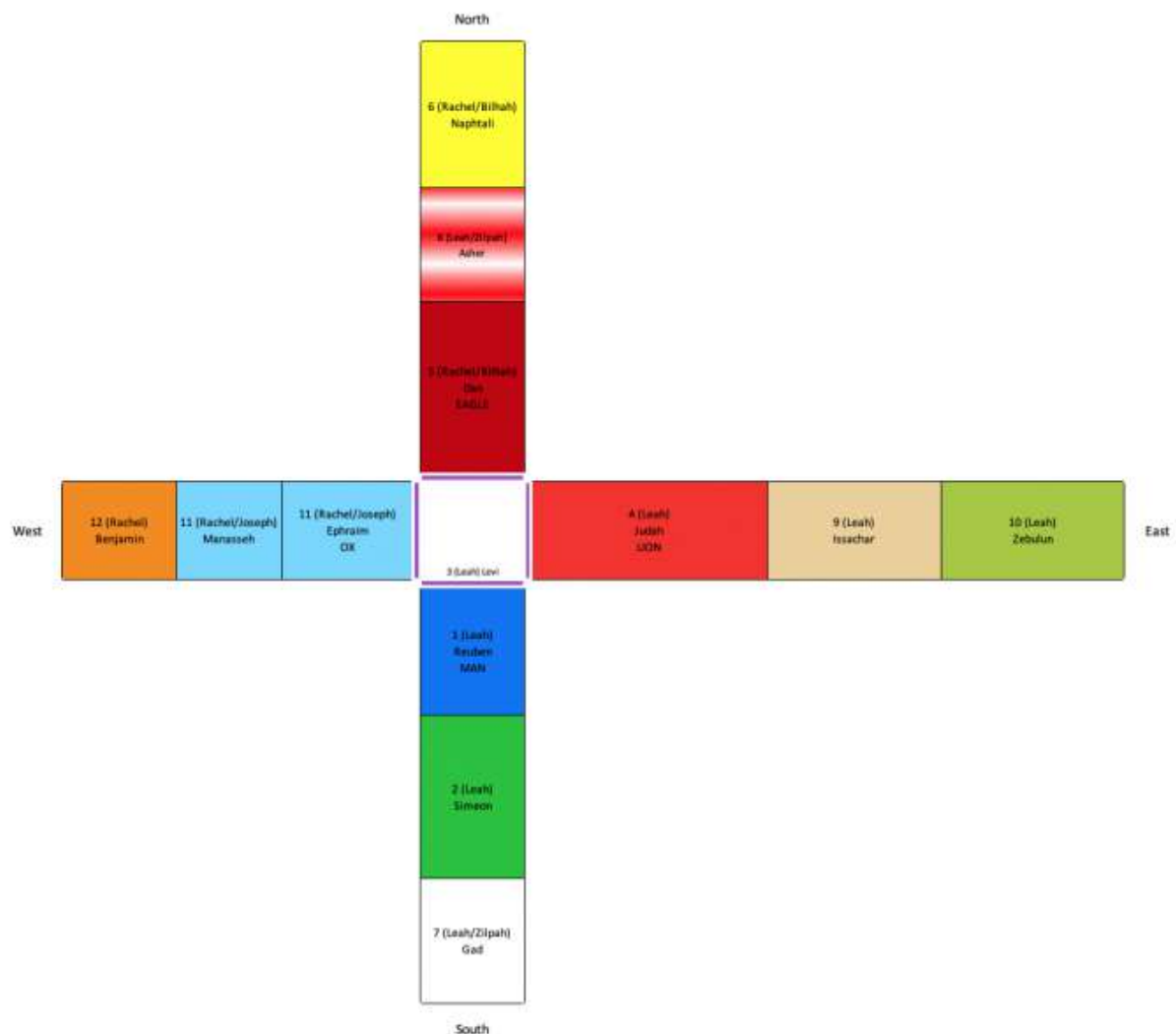
There are other possibilities also of what the types of stones were, and their order. Listed below is a few of them.

NKJV	Temple Inst	Josephus	Birth-Order
1. <i>Sardius Ruby</i>	Sardonyx	Ruby	Ruby
2. <i>Topaz</i>	Jade	Topaz	Jade
3. <i>Emerald</i>	Topaz/Agate	Emerald	Agate
4. <i>Turquoise</i>	Carbuncle	Carbuncle	Carbuncle
5. <i>Sapphire</i>	Sapphire	Jasper	Turquoise
6. <i>Diamond</i>	Quartz Crystal	Sapphire	Amethyst
7. <i>Jacinth</i>	Jacinth Ligure	Agate	Turquoise
8. <i>Agate</i>	Agate	Amethyst	Aquamarine
9. <i>Amethyst</i>	Amethyst	Agate	Lapis-Lazuli
10. <i>Beryl</i>	Chrysolite	Chrysolite	Quartz
11. <i>Onyx</i>	Onyx	Onyx	Onyx
12. <i>Jasper</i>	Opal	Beryl	Opal

Below is a colour determination of the Breastplate Stones. The names of the stones are not indicated, since some of the names have changed over time (Exodus 28:17-21; Exodus 39:10-14). The birth mother of each tribe is indicated, and also the birth order (Genesis 29:31-35; Genesis 30:1-24; Genesis 35:16-19).

3	2	1
10 (Leah) Zebulun	9 (Leah) Issachar	4 (Leah) Judah
12 (Rachel) Benjamin	11 (Rachel) Joseph	5 (Rachel/Bilhah) Dan
3 (Leah) Levi	2 (Leah) Simeon	1 (Leah) Reuben
8 (Leah/Zilpah) Asher	7 (Leah/Zilpah) Gad	6 (Rachel/Bilhah) Naphtali
12	11	10

The figure below graphically depicts how Israel was instructed to camp (Numbers 2:1-34) with the width (East and West) or height (North and South) of each tribe, corresponding to its population. This arrangement of the tribes formed a cross, with its base towards the East. There was some deviation from the breastplate order as the tribe of Levi was in the middle of the camp around the Tabernacle, and the tribe of Joseph was replaced by his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, effectively giving the tribe of Joseph a double portion in the Promised Land.



Spiritual Significance

The precious stones with the names of the tribes represented that all of God's special treasures (His people) are carried on His heart (Deuteronomy 7:6; Titus 2:14). The names were not merely written on the stones, but engraved, meaning they can never be removed. This means that we are eternally secure in Jesus. Hallelujah! Precious stones are typically located deep within the earth. They have to be diligently searched for with great determination, excavated, washed, and finally cut and polished by the master jeweller to release their true beauty (Matthew 13:44).

When God, who is Light, looks upon us, the living stones in Christ, His perfect light is reflected to Him. This light does not expose our blemishes because of sin, but rather reflects the righteousness of Jesus, who is a forever brilliant, beautiful, shining, priceless, precious, and secure person! He is not disappointed or angry at us, but rather well pleased since we are holy and perfect in Jesus Christ (1 John 1:5; 1 Peter 2:4,5; Hebrews 12:23).

Because we are hidden in Christ, the perfect light only reflects the perfect work of Jesus, because our sins have been removed. That is, God the Father looks at Jesus to judge believers. Again, He assesses us in the light of His unique Son, Jesus. What He is, is what we are in the sight of God. Consequently, it is NOT all about us, but about Jesus Christ, and we are hidden in Him, the PRECIOUS Son of God the Father (2 Peter 2:6), who makes us precious to Him (1 Peter 2:9). These are the same precious stones that were found in the Garden of God, called Eden (Ezekiel 28:13), symbolising man's state when he was still free from sin.

The preciousness of Jesus in the eyes of God the Father has been imputed to us, even as His righteousness has been imputed to us (1 Peter 2:9; 2 Corinthians 5:21). That is, God, our Father, looks upon us with all the favour with which He looks upon His own unique Son, Jesus, whom He loves infinitely.

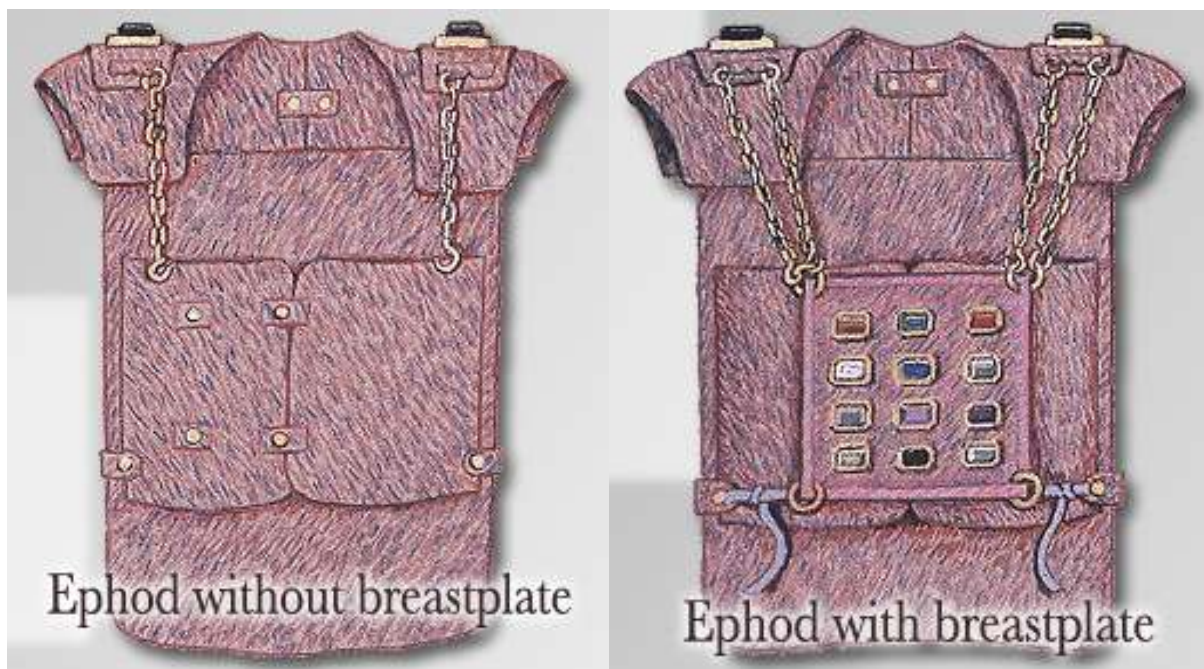
Furthermore, the Lord clothes us with His own beauty, having imputed to us His sanctification (1 Corinthians 1:30). The Father sees us in His Son, not apart from Him, with the glorious radiance of the One who is Altogether Lovely (totally desirable), shining upon us (Song of Songs 5:16). We have been brought by Jesus, our Great High Priest, to the place where we have entered into the presence of God the Father. It is a place of unlimited grace (unlimited favour). No demand made upon that grace can ever delete it. For all time and eternity, we are the objects of the Father's supreme affection, the recipients of His unlimited mercies (unlimited ability to meet all our needs, wants, and desires). (Romans 5:1,2; Hebrews 4:16).

The breastplate was attached to the ephod by two solid gold chains on each side, which were braided and twisted for double strength, meaning we, as believers, are securely attached to our Great High Priest. One of the chains represents that we will never be snatched from God the Father's hand, and the second chain represents that we will never be snatched from our God, Jesus', hand (John 10:28,29). Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:38,39).

The breastplate was also attached to the ephod by one piece of blue wool yarn on each lower side. When Jesus cried out on the cross, He only said one word in Aramaic: "**KŪLĀH**", which means "Finished" or "fulfilled"

(John 19:30). It is the verb form of the word “Complete”. This is the root word for “**Tekhelet**”, pronounced “te-KAY-let,” which was the blue tunic worn by the high priest. The word means “blue”. Consequently, the blue thread is another picture of God, who came from Heaven, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, whose completed work is what holds us close to God the Father’s heart.

2. EPHOD



Memorial Stones were placed on the shoulders of the ephod (Exodus 28:9-12; Exodus 39:6,7). Engraved on them were the names of the twelve tribes of Israel, which were also the names of the twelve sons of Israel (Jacob), according to their birth order.



Spiritual Significance of the Stones

These stones represent that all the names of God's special treasure (His people), and their needs, are carried on His shoulders, which represents being upheld by His strength (Isaiah 9:6). They demonstrate that all believers, from the latest convert to the most mature believer, are equally precious and complete in His sight. Also, the names were not simply written on the stones but rather engraved, meaning they could never be removed. This means that we are eternally secure in Jesus.

Blue, purple, and scarlet wool yarn, along with white linen thread, were woven together with the pure gold thread of the ephod.



The most important garment worn by the high priest was the ephod. Its appearance could be likened to an apron. It was worn over his other garments and was fastened by a girdle/belt in the front, opposite his heart. This girdle was woven into the entire length of the ephod's upper hem. Two shoulder straps were sewn onto the girdle. These straps went behind, up, and slightly over the garment's upper corners, over the priest's shoulders. The settings for the two sardonyx stones (memorial or remembrance stones) were attached at the ends of these straps, on the shoulders. According to Josephus, the engraved onyx stones on the shoulders were designed so that the six eldest sons' names were engraved on the stone on the right shoulder and those of the six younger sons on the stone on the left shoulder. The ephod covered the back of the priest's body. It was extended from just below his elbows, all the way to his heels. It was slightly wider than a man's back since it was to cover his back and extend a little to the front on both sides as well, covering a portion of his belly from either side.

For the golden thread, gold was beaten, pressed, and hammered into paper-thin sheets, then cut into tiny strips. These were then rolled and hammered some more until each piece was the tiniest, finest pure gold thread.

They are to make the ephod of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twisted linen, the work of an artistic designer. It is to have two

shoulder pieces attached to two of its corners, so it can be joined together. The artistically woven waistband of the ephod that is on it is to be like it, of one piece with the ephod, of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twisted linen. "You are to take two onyx stones and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel, six of their names on one stone, and the six remaining names on the second stone, according to the order of their birth. You are to engrave the two stones with the names of the sons of Israel with the work of an engraver in stone, like the engravings of a seal; you are to have them set in gold filigree settings. You are to put the two stones on the shoulders of the ephod, stones of memorial for the sons of Israel, and Aaron will bear their names before the LORD on his two shoulders for a memorial. You are to make filigree settings of gold and two braided chains of pure gold, like a cord, and attach the chains to the settings. Exodus 28:6-14 NET

He made the ephod of gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twisted linen. They hammered the gold into thin sheets and cut it into narrow strips to weave them into the blue, purple, and scarlet yarn, and into the fine linen, the work of an artistic designer. They made shoulder pieces for it, attached to two of its corners, so it could be joined together. The artistically woven waistband of the ephod that was on it was like it, of one piece with it, of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet yarn and fine twisted linen, just as the LORD had commanded Moses. They set the onyx stones in gold filigree settings, engraved as with the engravings of a seal with the names of the sons of Israel. He put them on the shoulder pieces of the ephod as stones of memorial for the Israelites, just as the LORD had commanded Moses. Exodus 39:2-7 NET

While the priestly garments were allowed to have a combination of wool and linen, those of the laity (ordinary people) were not. Likely, this had to do with the sacredness of the priesthood's garments and what these materials and colours represented typologically.

You must not wear clothing made with wool and linen meshed together. Deuteronomy 22:11 NET

Spiritual Significance of the Colours

The making of the **gold** thread provides a glimpse into what Jesus endured for our sakes when He was beaten, pressed, hammered, cut, bruised, and battered for our redemption. He took a merciless beating so we would not have to take it (Isaiah 53:5; 1 Peter 2:24).

Blue speaks of Jesus' Divinity as the Very God, having come down from Heaven, the abode of God. It is also the colour of grace. Before He was born of Mary, Jesus was "All God" or "All Blue". I believe God made the sky blue to reflect the glory of His Son!

Scarlet, or red, is the last colour mentioned. In Hebrew, the word for red is "Adam" or "Edom". Adam, one of the words for "man", literally means "red-blooded man". It is derived from the root word in Hebrew for blood, which is "**Dam**". Red speaks of Jesus' shed blood. Jesus was the One who became the second and last "Adam", or "red" or "red-blooded man". Both the first Adam and the last Adam resemble blood.

White represents Jesus' purity and righteousness, which is the legal foundation for our redemption.

Notice that there are five components: Gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and linen. Five is the number of GRACE! Jesus, the One full of Grace and Truth! Blue, purple and scarlet, in this specific order, tell the redemptive story of Jesus Christ.

- **Blue** – Jesus, who is God, came from heaven.
- **Red** – Jesus was born of a “red-blooded” human virgin to become the Son of Man.
- **Purple** – the God-Man (Blue + Red = Purple) is Jesus, who is the Last Adam! No need for another Adam, as this One finished the work! That is, God became something He was not before. He used to be only “All God”, but now He is also “All man,” making Him the Perfect Man! That means today there is a real, living, beating human heart in Heaven, representing you and me at the right hand of the Father. Our Great High Priest has human emotions, human understanding, and human compassion (Hebrews 2:17; 4:15). He does not simply understand what we feel, He FEELS what we feel! When we accept Jesus as personal Saviour, we, the “red” of humanity, accept the “blue” of Christ’s divinity, and we become “purple,” too! We become like Him, with the difference that we started as all red and He started as all blue (all God). Once we become purple, we can never become red again! That is, we cannot lose our salvation, because the work of the Last Adam was greater than the work of the First Adam (John 10:28,29).

3. ROBE (TEKHELET)



The robe was sky-blue (the colour of the sky at noon). This robe or “**tekhelet**” (Hebrew) was a closed garment, seamlessly woven from one piece of fabric and slipped on over the head. It was worn over the tunic. The tunic was longer than the robe by one handbreadth, so it was visible underneath the robe at the bottom. The garment hung down in front, and the back and its length extended down to the priest’s feet. The neck opening was round, with a hem that was doubled over and closed by weaving, not by a needle.

The neck of this garment was specifically fortified to prevent it from accidentally tearing. It was customary for Israel to tear their garments and put sackcloth and ashes on their heads upon the death of a relative, as a sign of mourning (Genesis 37:33,34). The high priest’s garment was holy and sacred and therefore not to be torn, not even for a relative’s death. (Leviticus 21:10; Leviticus 10:1-7) Furthermore, he could not go near any dead person or mourn them, not even his father or mother (Leviticus 21:11). That is, his emotions could not overrule his ministry to represent people to God. However, at Jesus’ trial before the Sanhedrin, the high priest, Caiaphas, whose name means rock, tore his clothes, even though this was forbidden (Matthew 26:62-65). We will discover the meaning of this under the next heading.

Spiritual Significance

As mentioned before, the Hebrew word “**tekhelet**” means “blue,” with its root word meaning “complete”. When Jesus cried out on the cross, He said one Aramaic word - “kulah,” translated as “**Teleostei**” in Greek, with both words meaning “finished”. Consequently, the blue robe represented that the finished work of grace, completed by Jesus, our Great High Priest, will never end (not be undone or torn). In Jesus’ statement, “It is finished”, we have a declaration of salvation that is both in a particular moment in time and eternity. Hallelujah!

The robe is put on from above, over the head, meaning the priest is not self-appointed, but rather a God-appointed office and authority (John 19:11). Caiaphas’ tearing of the priestly garments represented the abolishment of the Levitical Priesthood and its replacement by Jesus after the order of the Melchizedek Priesthood (Psalms 110:4). That is, Jesus was to become the eternal High Priest, our Great High Priest. Hallelujah! (Hebrews 5:6,10; Hebrews 6:20). Even as the Levites were priests of the Old Covenant, all believers are priests and kings after the order of Melchizedek and ministers of the New Covenant. Melchizedek’s name is a combination of two Hebrew words, “**Melchi**”, meaning “King”, and “**Zedek**”, meaning “Righteousness”. He was also the King of “**Salem**”, which means “peace” (Genesis 14:18,20; Hebrews 7:1-17). Therefore, He is the King of Righteousness and Peace and the giver of righteousness, which leads to peace with God the Father (Romans 5:1,2).



Decorative pomegranates, made of sky-blue, purple, and crimson-dyed wool, were attached to the robe's lower hem. These pomegranates were hollow spheres of fabric in the shape of pomegranates.

Some believe that the bells and pomegranates were interspersed alternatively, however, others hold that the bells were placed inside the pomegranates (the author of this article believes the latter). The robe's hem was woven over double to prevent it from ripping due to the weight of the pomegranates and bells. Again, no sewing was used, simply weaving. Its threads were twelve plies.

You are to make the robe of the ephod completely blue.³² There is to be an opening in its top in the center of it, with an edge all around the opening, the work of a weaver, like the opening of a collar, so that it cannot be torn.³³ You are to make pomegranates of blue, purple, and scarlet all around its hem and bells of gold between them all around.³⁴ The pattern is to be a gold bell and a pomegranate, a gold bell and a pomegranate, all around the hem of the robe.³⁵ The robe is to be on Aaron as he ministers, and his sound will be heard when he enters the Holy Place before the LORD and when he leaves, so that he does not die. Exodus 28:31-35 NET

He made the robe of the ephod completely blue, the work of a weaver.²³ There was an opening in the center of the robe, like the opening of a collar, with an edge all around the opening so that it could not be

torn. ²⁴ They made pomegranates of blue, purple, and scarlet yarn and twisted linen around the hem of the robe. ²⁵ They made bells of pure gold and attached the bells between the pomegranates around the hem of the robe between the pomegranates. ²⁶ There was a bell and a pomegranate, a bell and a pomegranate, all around the hem of the robe, to be used in ministering, just as the LORD had commanded Moses. Exodus 39:22-26 NET

Spiritual Significance of the Pomegranates

Pomegranates are a reminder that man's (the First Adam's) disobedience, by partaking of the forbidden fruit (symbolically a pomegranate) from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, resulted in spiritual death (separation from God), thus requiring God to come from heaven, as a man born of a virgin (Jesus the Last Adam), to shed His Royal Blood to pay the price for our redemption (1 Corinthians 15:45,47). Golden bells are ringing out the good news that Jesus, the Last Adam, has paid the price for our sin of eating the forbidden fruit! We can now approach God and see His face without dying (Exodus 28:35). We are no longer restricted to seeing only God's back, like Moses, under the law. We are now at peace with God because Jesus has borne the full judgment of God's wrath for us! (Exodus 33:20-23; Romans 5:1; Romans 10:15; Ephesians 2:13-18; 1 John 3:2)

4. PLATE

The diadem, crown, or headband, was constructed out of one solid piece



of pure gold, engraved with the simple message, “Holy to the Lord”. Unlike the crown worn by royalty on top of the head, this was worn across the forehead and extended from ear to ear. It was thin enough to

bend as an arch across the forehead, like a bow. Its width was approximately 4 cm (approximately 1.5 inches). It was worn at all times while the high priest was in the Temple. The crown had three small holes, two on each end and one in the centre, located along the upper edge. Threads, dyed in sky-blue colour, were run through these holes, and the ends of these threads were connected at the back of the priest’s head. In this manner, the crown, itself a thin plate, was kept tied and in place on the high priest’s forehead.

You are to make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it the way a seal is engraved: "Holiness to the LORD." ³⁷ You are to attach to it a blue cord so that it will be on the turban; it is to be on the front of the turban, ³⁸ It will be on Aaron's forehead, and Aaron will bear the iniquity of the holy things, which the Israelites are to sanctify by all their holy gifts; it will always be on his forehead, for their acceptance before the LORD. Exodus 28:36-38 NET

They made a plate, the holy diadem, of pure gold and wrote on it an inscription, as on the engravings of a seal, "Holiness to the

LORD." ³¹ *They attached to it a blue cord, to attach it to the turban above, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.*
Exodus 39:30-31 NET

Spiritual Significance

The high priest was also a king of Israel. As long as he wore the crown, his thoughts were considered pure.

5. TUNIC

All the priests, including the high priest, wore a white linen tunic or “**kethoneth**” (Hebrew). It was a long-sleeved, ankle-length garment. The tunic was first invented by God for Adam and Eve after they had sinned. He made them tunics from the skin of an animal, which I believe was a ram (Genesis 3:21).



However, for the high priest, the tunic was made of very fine linen. Each garment was individually made from the finest white flax linen in Israel. It was made by “fine weaving”, in which there was no sewing, except to sew on the arm sleeves. This “skilful weaving” was not the routine cross-weave pattern found in most linen garments made from Israel’s looms. Rather, it was made into a weaving pattern of small boxes or cells, diamond-shaped, giving it an appearance of a white-on-white honeycomb. Linen is a unique fabric that keeps the wearer cool in hot weather and warm when cold, which were efficient qualities for living in an arid climate with hot days and cold nights. The wearer of such linen, made from

breathable flax fibres, would not sweat. Jesus' tunic was also made of the finest linen and was completely seamless. It was this very expensive garment that the Roman soldiers gambled for at the foot of His cross (John 19:23,24).

You are to weave the tunic of fine linen... Exodus 28:39 a NET

They made tunics of fine linen – the work of a weaver, for Aaron and for his sons. Exodus 39:27 NET

When they enter the gates of the inner court, they must wear linen garments; they must not have any wool on them when they minister in the inner gates of the court and in the temple. ¹⁸Linen turbans will be on their heads and linen undergarments will be around their waists; they must not bind themselves with anything that causes sweat. Ezekiel 44:17-18 NET

Spiritual Significance

White typifies righteousness and purity. Long sleeves were worn by privileged people, meaning they did not have to perform manual labour. That is, we have the righteousness of Jesus imputed to us, based on His finished work, and we are now free from the impossible task of attempting to earn righteousness through our dead works (Colossians 3:9,10; 2 Timothy 1:9; Titus 3:5; Ephesians 2:8,9; Romans 11:6).

Sweat was part of the curse and it represents human works, effort, reasoning, strive, worry, fear, etc. (Genesis 3:19). God redeemed our sweat when Jesus' great drops of sinless blood mixed with the great drops of sweat of the second and last Adam, Jesus, in the second garden

(Gethsemane) (Luke 22:44). That is, He redeemed us from sweat produced from human works, effort, strive, worry, fear, etc., and gave us His rest and peace (John 14:27)! We are to rest in Jesus' completed work, as we are now seated with Him (resting) in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 2:4-6). This does not mean we are to sit around and do nothing, though (2 Thessalonians 3:10). Rather, while we are busy with our daily lives, we are to rest in Jesus, not worrying about what we shall eat, or drink, or wear, etc. (Matthew 6:25-34).

6. TURBINE

The turbine was also made of fine linen. As mentioned, linen is a unique



fabric that keeps the wearer cool in hot weather and warm when it is cold - very practical qualities for living in an arid climate with hot days and cold nights. The wearer of such linen would not sweat.

...make the turban of fine linen... Exodus 28:39(b) NET

...and the turban of fine linen, the headbands of fine linen, and the undergarments of fine twisted linen. Exodus 39:28 NET

You are to attach to it a blue cord so that it will be on the turban; it is to be on the front of the turban. Exodus 28:37 NET

They attached to it a blue cord, to attach it to the turban above, just as the LORD had commanded Moses. Exodus 39:31 NET

Spiritual Significance

God desires His ministers to be even-tempered (cool-headed). The blue cord represents that Jesus' mind is our mind. We have the mind of Christ. His thoughts are about us. God does not inspect my thoughts to judge me, but He focuses on the thoughts of the High Priest. What Jesus is, is what we are in the sight of God! God the Father takes the holy and righteous thoughts of Jesus and imputes them to us.

7. SASH



The ephod's front and back were made to be as one garment by a sash or girdle, which was tied about the priest's waist. This belt was made of a mixture of blue, purple, and scarlet wool yarn and white linen thread.

...make the sash the work of an embroiderer. Exodus 28:39(c) NET

The sash was of fine twisted linen and blue, purple, and scarlet yarn, the work of an embroiderer, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.
Exodus 39:29 NET

8. UNDERGARMENTS



The undergarments were also made of the same unique linen that keeps the wearer cool in hot weather and warm when cold. (God invented boxer shorts!) God is concerned about covering our nakedness or private parts (Exodus 20:26; 1 Corinthians 12:20-24). Satan seeks to display them in a shameful, exploitative way, leading to a sense of vulnerability that approximates a fear of evil (Genesis 3:7).

Make for them linen undergarments to cover their naked bodies; they must cover from the waist to the thighs. ⁴³ These must be on Aaron and his sons when they enter to the tent of meeting, or when they approach the altar to minister in the Holy Place, so that they bear no iniquity and die. It is to be a perpetual ordinance for him and for his descendants after him.
Exodus 28:42-43 NET

Spiritual Significance

God desires His ministers to have cool passions.

For this is God's will: that you become holy, that you keep away from sexual immorality, ⁴ that each of you know how to possess his own body in holiness and honor, ⁵ not in lustful passion like the Gentiles who do not know God. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 NET

The High Priest's Uniform for the Day of Atonement



Once a year, the high priest had to wear the white garments. That day was the highest and most holy day of the year, the Day of Atonement, a day also called the Day of Judgment. These garments were made from white flax, hence their designation “the white garments”. They had to be woven, and each thread used had to be six-ply, meaning it was woven from six individual strands of fabric.

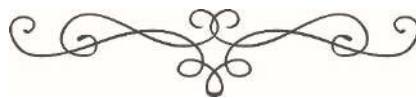
The uniform consisted of four “White Garments”.

- Tunic (Long Shirt – Inner Garment)
- Turban (Hat or Mitre)
- Sash (Linen Belt or Girdle)
- Linen Leggings (Short Pants – Undergarments)

In this way Aaron is to enter into the sanctuary– with a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. ⁴ He must put on a holy linen tunic, linen leggings are to cover his body, and he is to wrap himself with a linen sash and wrap his head with a linen turban. They are holy garments, so he must bathe his body in water and put them on. Leviticus 16:3-4 NET

Spiritual Significance

The white garments revealed Jesus as the Son of Man, the Last Adam, who stepped down from Heaven to become a servant and shed His Blood for the original sin of the First Adam and everyone's subsequent sins.



**THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES:
GOD'S HEAVENLY PATTERN FOR
OUR SPIRITUAL
TRANSFORMATION**

**PART VII: OUR GREAT HIGH
PRIEST**

With His mission to show us God the Father and to make a New Covenant with us, Jesus, the God-Man, was then revealed for who He is – our Mediator, Great High Priest of Priests, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords (1 Timothy 2:5; Revelation 1:10-18). He is robed in the garment of the Great High Priest, as God was described in the Old Covenant (Ezekiel 1:27;8:2). That is, in the fiery beauty of Holiness!

Therefore since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession.

Hebrews 4:14 NET

THE OLD COVENANT

There are two different orders of Priesthoods in the Old Covenant (Old Testament).

The first order of priesthood was of Melchizedek.

Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (Now he was the priest of the Most High God.)¹⁹ He blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by the Most High God, Creator of heaven and earth.²⁰ Worthy of praise is the Most High God, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of everything.

Genesis 14:18-20 NET

Now this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, met Abraham as he was returning from defeating the kings and blessed him. ² To him also Abraham apportioned a tithe of everything. His name first means king of righteousness, then king of Salem, that is, king of peace. Hebrews 7:1-2 NET

Melchizedek, which means king of righteousness, appeared to Abraham, blessed him and revealed himself as the king of Salem. “**Salem**” means “peace” and is believed to be the ancient Jerusalem (Psalms 76:2). Melchizedek was the priest of the Highest God. He was a Priestly King of Righteousness and Peace, and resembled Jesus, the giver of righteousness that leads to peace with God the Father (Romans 5:1,2)!

Without father, without mother, without genealogy, he has neither beginning of days nor end of life but is like the son of God, and he remains a priest for all time. But see how great he must be, if Abraham the patriarch gave him a tithe of his plunder. And those of the sons of Levi who receive the priestly office have authorization according to the law to collect a tithe from the people, that is, from their fellow countrymen, although they too are descendants of Abraham. But Melchizedek who does not share their ancestry collected a tithe from Abraham and blessed the one who possessed the promise. Now without dispute the inferior is blessed by the superior, and in one case tithes are received by mortal men, while in the other by him who is affirmed to be alive. And it could be said that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid a tithe through Abraham. For he was still in his ancestor Abraham's loins when Melchizedek met him. Hebrews 7:3-10 NET

No genealogy was revealed for Melchizedek in the Old Covenant. Nevertheless, Melchizedek's importance was revealed by Abraham, the father of faith (Romans 4:16), who gave him the tithe and received a blessing.

The second order of priesthood was of Aaron.

And you, bring near to you your brother Aaron and his sons with him from among the Israelites, so that they may minister as my priests—Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons. ² You must make holy garments for your brother Aaron, for glory and for beauty. Exodus 28:1-2 NET

You are to present Aaron and his sons at the entrance of the tent of meeting. You are to wash them with water and take the garments and clothe Aaron with the tunic, the robe of the ephod, the ephod, and the breastpiece; you are to fasten the ephod on him by using the skillfully woven waistband. You are to put the turban on his head and put the holy diadem on the turban. You are to take the anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him. You are to present his sons and clothe them with tunics and wrap the sashes around Aaron and his sons and put headbands on them, and so the ministry of priesthood will belong to them by a perpetual ordinance. Thus you are to consecrate Aaron and his sons. Exodus 29:4-9 NET

Aaron, the older brother of Moses (Exodus 6:20), was chosen by God to be the first high priest of this second order of the priesthood. Aaron's sons were to wear holy garments, as priests unto God, with Aaron wearing holy garments for "glory and beauty", as the high priest.

The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. ² The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel. ³ The children of Amram: Aaron, Moses, and Miriam. The sons of Aaron: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. 1 Chronicles 6:1-3 NET

Aaron descended from Levi (Exodus 6:16,18,20) and was thus a Levite by birth.

The sons of Amram: Aaron and Moses. Aaron and his descendants were chosen on a permanent basis to consecrate the most holy items, to offer sacrifices before the Lord, to serve him, and to praise his name. ¹⁴ The descendants of Moses the man of God were considered Levites. 1 Chronicles 23:13-14 NET

However, the descendants of Aaron were given the priesthood, and the descendants of Moses were considered the Levites who supported the priests in the daily operation and maintenance of the Tabernacle.

THE NEW COVENANT

There is one order of priesthood in the New Covenant (New Testament). It is the order of Melchizedek, with Jesus as our Great High Priest over believers, who are now the priests unto God! (Revelations 1:6; 5:10; 1 Peter 2:5)

So if perfection had in fact been possible through the Levitical priesthood– for on that basis the people received the law– what further need would there have been for another priest to arise, said to be in the order of Melchizedek and not in Aaron's order? For when the priesthood changes, a change in the law must come as well. Yet the one these things are spoken about belongs to a different tribe, and no one from that tribe has ever officiated at the altar. For it is clear that our Lord is descended from Judah, yet Moses said nothing about priests in connection with that tribe. Hebrews 7:11-14 NET

So, what happened to the priesthood of the order of Aaron? The priesthood of Aaron, a priesthood under the law, that could not make lost humanity righteous, ended as the way to righteousness at the trial of Jesus and at the end of the Law, which happened at the crucifixion.

The purpose of the priesthood was to remove the obstacle of sin (Isaiah 59:2), which kept man from God, and to make a way of access for man to God. The Levitical priesthood and sacrifices could not do this in actuality, but rather provided it figuratively, pointing to the Messiah and His substitutionary death on the cross. That is, the blood of animals could not pay for sin. However, the Blood of Jesus the Messiah did!

Since the Levitical priesthood brought nothing to completion, not only was another priest needed, but another priest of a different kind!

That is, it could not be another priest in the line of Aaron, but one of a different and superior order of priesthood!

A new priest had to be instituted - Jesus the Messiah, after the order of Melchizedek. Consequently, the priesthood after the order of Melchizedek replaced the priesthood after the order of Aaron. The New Covenant both supplanted and subsumed parts of the Old Covenant, and Jesus' Blood (the reality) replaced animal blood (the type).

Since the Mosaic law required that the priests come from the tribe of Levi, a new priesthood, not of the order of Aaron, must set aside that law. The Messiah comes from the tribe of Judah, which is a tribe that was not specifically set apart for priestly service.

However, if a change to a new and different order of priesthood was to be made, it had to be because of a change to a new legal basis. The law governing the priesthood, as found in the Mosaic system, had to be repealed in favour of another, which would provide an order of priesthood that would function successfully, where the Aaronic priesthood had failed. The New Covenant is superior to and takes the place of the Old Covenant since the Old Covenant could not offer a sacrifice that paid for sin, whereas the New Covenant has paid once and for all!

And this is even clearer if another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, ¹⁶ who has become a priest not by a legal regulation about physical descent but by the power of an indestructible life. ¹⁷ For here is the testimony about him: "You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek." [Psalms 110:4] ¹⁸ On the one hand a former command is set aside because it is weak and useless, ¹⁹ for the law made nothing perfect. On the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

Hebrews 7:15-19 NET

In the case of the Levitical priests, they had to come from a certain family, the Aaronic. Fitness for office among the male members of this family was predominantly determined by physical qualifications, e.g., without bodily blemish and ceremonially pure. However, no matter how ill-suited he was or reluctant to take office, the law made him a priest because of his Levitical pedigree. He did what he had to do, as far as official duties were concerned, because of an outside compulsion.

However, in the case of our High Priest, after the order of Melchizedek, He performed His duties as High Priest not because any official necessity was laid upon Him, but by the power in His own nature compelling and

enabling Him (John 3:16; Luke 22:42; Hebrews 10:17; John 15:13). That was the power of a life that even death could not dissolve, for He raised Himself from the dead (John 10:17).

The life of the new High Priest is indissoluble and indestructible, not as eternally existing in the pre-incarnate Son, but as existing in Him while incarnate and fulfilling His priestly duties. Here, the term “indestructible” is applied, for He died on the cross as the High Priest offering atonement. Still, He needed to rise from the dead to complete His priestly duties, thus manifesting the power and nature of His indestructible and indissoluble life.

The Levitical system was perfect for the purpose for which it was instituted - pointing to the Great High Priest, Jesus the Messiah. But when it came to the place where a sacrifice would be demanded of it that would pay for sin, it was found to be weak and unprofitable. The Mosaic system could not offer a sacrifice that would pay for sin, therefore, it could not save anyone, so they could draw near to God. Consequently, it was set aside, and in its place, there was brought in a better hope, through which we can draw near to God.

*And since this was not done without a sworn affirmation— for the others have become priests without a sworn affirmation, ²¹ but Jesus did so with a sworn affirmation by the one who said to him, "The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, 'You are a priest forever'"—
²² accordingly Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.*

Hebrews 7:20-22 NET

The inferiority of the Aaronic priesthood to that of Melchizedek is understood because when the Levitical priests were inducted into office, God the Father did not take an oath. However, when Jesus the Messiah

was made a High Priest, God the Father took an oath, guaranteeing the unending character of His High Priesthood.

Consequently, Jesus is the surety of a better covenant, because God the Father took an oath that His priesthood would be an everlasting one. That is, since God the Father took an oath that Jesus would eternally be our Great High Priest, Jesus has become the guarantee of an eternal better covenant. God, taking an oath, means that there are no conditions to be fulfilled by humanity for Him to fulfil a promise. In this case, Jesus will be a Great High Priest independent of mankind's actions or inactions.

And the others who became priests were numerous, because death prevented them from continuing in office, ²⁴ but he holds his priesthood permanently since he lives forever. ²⁵ So he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. ²⁶ For it is indeed fitting for us to have such a high priest: holy, innocent, undefiled, separate from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Hebrews 7:23-26 NET

The Aaronic high priests were hindered from continual intercession for the people by their own deaths, requiring the transfer of their ministry to the next high priest in succession. However, Jesus, our Great High Priest, will exist forever, so there is no need or provision for another Great High Priest to succeed Him. Consequently, Jesus can make intervening intercession for the believer forever and is thus able to save believers completely! That is, saved completely via justification in the new birth to glorification in the future. (Romans 8:29; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 12:2).

Furthermore, the Aaronic high priest was also a sinner, living amongst sinners and actually in need of Jesus, the Great High Priest, to mediate

salvation for themselves as well. However, we, as sinners being sinful, are dependent upon the mediation of a sinless High Priest. We find this need met in Jesus, who is sinless (2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:22; 1 John 3:5; Hebrews 4:15) and, serving as Great High Priest, is seated in His glorified state and body at the right hand of God the Father in the Heavenly Holy of Holies, far removed from defilement from sinners and their sins (Hebrews 12:2).

He has no need to do every day what those priests do, to offer sacrifices first for their own sins and then for the sins of the people, since he did this in offering himself once for all. ²⁸ For the law appoints as high priests men subject to weakness [Hebrews 5:2], but the word of solemn affirmation that came after the law appoints a son made perfect forever. Hebrews 7:27-28 NET

The Aaronic priests had to offer repeated sacrifices because the blood of animals could not pay for sin, but rather only covered it year by year when the high priest interceded for the sins of the nation of Israel (Hebrews 9:6,7). While Jesus the Messiah's intercession is continuous, He does not day by day need to renew His sacrifice as the Lamb of God (Isaiah 53:7; John 1:29,36; 1 Peter 1:19), because His Blood did not merely cover our debt of sin, but rather paid for our sin, thus eliminating the debt (Colossians 2:14). Furthermore, Jesus the Messiah did not have to offer first an offering for His own sins, since He is, and always has been and always will be, sin-free!

For every high priest is taken from among the people and appointed to represent them before God, to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. ² He is able to deal compassionately with those who are ignorant and erring, since he also is subject to weakness, ³ and for this reason

he is obligated to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people.⁴ And no one assumes this honor on his own initiative, but only when called to it by God, as in fact Aaron was. Hebrews 5:1-4 NET

A high priest must be called by God and must partake of the nature of the person for whom he officiates. For a high priest to officiate on behalf of mankind, he must be called by God from among mankind. The high priest's work is to minister to mankind in things that involve mankind's relation to God, which he does by offering gifts and blood sacrifices for his own sins and the sins of the people. Furthermore, if the high priest is to do this effectively, he must have genuine compassion for the sinful, without being too severe with those who sin intentionally or too tolerant of those who sin ignorantly. The Aaronic high priest was called by God from among men. Hence, he was able to have compassion for his fellow sinners, but being a sinner himself, had to effectively resist his own sinful nature's desire to control (Genesis 4:7). Jesus the Messiah is superior to Aaron in that He, as High Priest, is not taken from among men, but from among the members of the Godhead. Jesus was foreordained to be God's sacrifice for our sins (1 Peter 1:18-20), for which He willingly obeyed (Hebrews 10:6,7).

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming high priest, but the one who glorified him was God, who said to him, "You are my Son! Today I have fathered you," [Psalms 2:7]⁶ as also in another place God says, "You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek." [Psalms 110:4]⁷ During his earthly life Christ offered both requests and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death and he was heard because of his devotion. Hebrews 5:5-7 NET

Jesus the Messiah did not ambitiously seek the eternal office of the Great High Priest but rather was glorified by God the Father with this high honour, not due to being a man, but rather because He is the resurrected Son of God. The same Son of God who, while on the cross (not in Gethsemane), asked God the Father by praying Psalm 22 to save Him, not from dying, not to be saved out from among the dead like Lazarus (John 11:38-44), but rather to be saved out from within the dominion or grip of death (out of death or figuratively “**the mouth of the lion**”) (Psalms 22:19-21; 1 Peter 5:8; 1 Timothy 4:17). That is, Jesus prayed on the cross to be resurrected and by that to destroy Satan and his works including sin and death, etc. (Hebrews 2:14; 1 John 3:8).

Although he was a son, he learned obedience through the things he suffered. ⁹ And by being perfected in this way, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, ¹⁰ and he was designated by God as high priest in the order of Melchizedek [Psalms 110:4].

Hebrews 5:8-10 NET

Jesus, the Word, the omniscient God, knew what obedience was, but He never experienced it until He came to Earth in human flesh. Before His incarnation, He owed obedience to no one, as there was no one greater than Himself to whom He could have given obedience. However, via the incarnation, God, the Son, became obedient to God the Father. It was not that He had to learn to obey, as He always did those things that pleased His Father (John 8:29). Rather, He required the special discipline of suffering in severe human experiences as training for His office as a high priest, who could be easily touched by human infirmities. That is, Jesus did not need to be disciplined out of any inclination to disobedience, but through practising obedience in His new role as a Son submitted to a Father. He acquired the understanding of obedience, thus perfecting Him

as our Great High Priest. This was similar to Jesus, (who is and always has been the wisdom of God) (1 Corinthians 1:24), growing in wisdom as a human (Luke 2:52). Growing in obedience and wisdom learned experientially as a human was an essential part of Jesus' humanity.

Therefore since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession.

Hebrews 4:14 NET

Jesus the Messiah is a Great High Priest, greater than Aaron since He has passed through the heavens and is in Heaven. Aaron, on the Day of Atonement, would pass through the outer court of the Tabernacle, through the Holy Place, and into the Holy of Holies, which were all types of realities in Heaven (Hebrews 8:5). In the Old Covenant, the atonement was not completed at the Brazen Altar, but rather the high priest had to carry the atoning animal's blood into the Holy of Holies, where it was sprinkled on the Mercy Seat, thus completing the atonement for another year.

However, Jesus the Messiah, as High Priest of the New Testament, passed through the first heaven (Earth's atmosphere), the second heaven (outer space), and into the third heaven (God's spiritual planet, Heaven) (2 Corinthians 12:12). Consequentially, Jesus the Messiah ascended from the borrowed tomb to the third heaven on Resurrection morning as High Priest, having made atonement for sin at the cross with His body being both the earthly Temple of God (John 1:14;2:19,21; Mark 14:58; 1 Corinthians 6:19; Colossians 2:9) and the Mercy Seat (Romans 3:25).

Furthermore, not only was Aaron unable to offer a sacrifice that would pay for sin, but he could not have passed through the heavens to mediate the New Covenant. This was not only due to the force of gravity that would have prevented Aaron from passing through the heavens, but also the

power of Satan and his demons that would have opposed his progress through the atmosphere of this earth.

Note that the only time in the account of the six days of re-creation that God did NOT say "it was good" was when He created the atmosphere of the planet (Genesis 1:6,7). I believe this was when Lucifer moved back to Earth and took up residence in the atmosphere (Ephesians 6:12; Ephesians 2:2; Daniel 10:1-21). The atmosphere has since been the location where Satan has his kingdom of fallen angels and from where he coordinates them and his demons in an attempt to isolate and insulate the human race from God. This evil authority opposed the progress of the resurrected Jesus as He left the tomb and passed through the heavens to present Himself as the High Priest who had made eternal atonement for sin at the Cross of Calvary via His blood. He went to Heaven along with the Old Testament saints (including Aaron), who had been held captive in Paradise.

But now Christ has come as the high priest of the good things to come. He passed through the greater and more perfect tent not made with hands, that is, not of this creation, and he entered once for all into the most holy place not by the blood of goats and calves but by his own blood, and so he himself secured eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a young cow sprinkled on those who are defiled consecrated them and provided ritual purity, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our consciences from dead works to worship the living God. Hebrews 9:11-14 NET

Although our Lord's atonement was completed at the cross, Jesus was still required to enter Heaven as our mediatorial High Priest, after having

made an everlasting and eternal atonement for sin. Consequently, Jesus presented Himself at the throne of God to His Father and our Father in His glorified flesh and bone (Luke 24:29), yet bloodless body. This was the evidence that mankind's sin debt had been paid and the bill of debt obliterated through His Blood, which was freely and completely poured out (Hebrews 9:12; Colossians 2:14; Acts 3:19; John 19:24). Jesus did not need to take His physical blood into the Tabernacle of Heaven, since it had already been poured out on Himself as the living Tabernacle and Mercy Seat of God during His Passion.

A TESTAMENT DEMANDS DEATH

And so he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the eternal inheritance he has promised, since he died to set them free from the violations committed under the first covenant. ¹⁶For where there is a will, the death of the one who made it must be proven. ¹⁷For a will takes effect only at death, since it carries no force while the one who made it is alive.

Hebrews 9:15-17 NET

Nevertheless, Jesus, the God-Man, entered Heaven to take His rightful place at the right hand of the throne of God the Father. He is the only One in the universe who is uniquely qualified to be the mediator (Isaiah 42:6,7) between God and man. In addition, He is the executor who probates His own last will (New Covenant/Testament), which became effective upon His death on the cross.

A testament, by its very nature, requires **the death** of the testator. **Covenant**, or testament, comes from the Greek "*diathēkē*", the basic meaning of which corresponds closely to that of our

present-day *will*. A will does not take effect until the one who made it dies. Until that time, its benefits and provisions are only promises and necessarily of the future.

FORGIVENESS DEMANDS BLOOD

So even the first covenant was inaugurated with blood. For when Moses had spoken every command to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats with water and scarlet wool and hyssop and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant that God has commanded you to keep." And both the tabernacle and all the utensils of worship he likewise sprinkled with blood. Indeed according to the law almost everything was purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. So it was necessary for the sketches of the things in heaven to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves required better sacrifices than these. For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with hands—the representation of the true sanctuary—but into heaven itself, and he appears now in God's presence for us. And he did not enter to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the sanctuary year after year with blood that is not his own, for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But now he has appeared once for all at the consummation of the ages to put away sin by his sacrifice. Hebrews 9:18–26 NET

It was not Jesus' physical blood that saved us, but His dying on our behalf, which is symbolised by the shedding of His physical blood. If we could be saved by blood, without death, the animals would have been bled, not

killed, and it would have been the same with Jesus. Thus, bloodshed was the symbol of death when Moses ratified the covenant on Sinai. Likewise, when the Tabernacle was inaugurated, Moses sprinkled the Tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry with the blood, again picturing the price to be paid for sin. The central lesson of the covenant was thus illustrated by the sprinkling of blood in the Tabernacle and Temple as long as that covenant stood. The purpose of the blood was to symbolise sacrifice for sin, which brought cleansing from sin. Therefore, without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.

Again, however, we need to keep in mind that the blood was a symbol. If Christ's physical blood in itself does not cleanse from sin, how much less did the physical blood of animals! It is not surprising, then, that the Old Covenant allowed a symbol for a symbol. A Jew who was too poor to bring even a small animal for a sacrifice, was allowed to bring one-tenth of an ephah (about two quarts) of fine flour instead (Leviticus 5:11). His sins were covered just as surely as those of the person who could afford to offer a lamb or goat or turtledove or pigeon (Leviticus 5:6–7). This exception is clear proof that the cleansing was symbolic.

Just as the animal blood symbolised Christ's true atoning blood, the ephah of flour symbolised and represented the animal blood. This non-blood offering for sin was acceptable because the old sacrifice was entirely symbolic anyway. Yet this was the only exception, and even the exception represented a blood sacrifice. The basic symbol could not be changed, because what it symbolised could not be changed.

For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood because of the life that makes atonement. Leviticus 17:11

Since the penalty for sin is death, nothing but death, symbolised by the shedding of blood, can atone for sin. We cannot enter into God's presence by our self-effort to become righteous. If we, on our own, could be good, we would not need atonement. Nor can we enter His presence by being model citizens or even by being religious. We cannot enter His presence by reading the Bible, going to church, giving generously to the Lord's work, or even praying. We cannot enter His presence by thinking good thoughts about Him. The only way we can enter into God's presence, the only way we can participate in the New Covenant, is through the atoning death of Jesus Christ, made effective for us, when we trust in Him as the saving Lord.

God set the rules. The soul that sins will die. The soul that is saved will be saved through the sacrifice of God's Son. For this sacrifice, there is no exception, no substitute, for this is the real thing. Because they were symbols, God provided a limited and strictly qualified exception (flour) to the old sacrifices. But there can be no exception for the real sacrifice because it is the only way to God."

In addition, Jesus' Blood also cleansed Heaven from defilement by the sin of Adam, who had access to Heaven, and this access allowed Satan to re-enter Heaven after being cast out. Nevertheless, after this cleansing, Satan can no longer enter Heaven as all authority in Heaven and on Earth has been given to Jesus (Matthew 28:18). Unfortunately, Satan still has authority in this world system (Acts 26:18) for a little while longer until he is thrown into the Lake of Fire.

JUDGMENT DEMANDS A SUBSTITUTE

And just as people are appointed to die once, and then to face judgment,²⁸ so also, after Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many, to those who eagerly await him he will appear a second time, not to bear sin but to bring salvation. Hebrews 9:27–28 NET

After death comes **judgment**, which is also appointed by God. Since men are not able to atone for their own sins, God's justice demands that they pay or have a substitute pay for them. Like all men, Jesus Christ was divinely appointed to die once. But unlike all other men, He will never face judgment. Because He took our sins upon Himself, He took our judgment upon Himself. But the judgment was for our sins, not for His, for He had none. Jesus died the one death that judgment demanded.

God "hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 2 Corinthians 5:21 KJV

Furthermore, all humans are appointed to die at least once (Hebrews 9:27), which means that those who have not died yet will have that opportunity before or during His second appearance when the Lord returns for His Church.

Now the main point of what we are saying is this: We have such a high priest, one who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tabernacle that the Lord, not man, set up. For every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices. So this one too had to have something to offer. Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest, since there are already priests who offer the gifts prescribed by the law. The place where they serve is a sketch and shadow of the

heavenly sanctuary, just as Moses was warned by God as he was about to complete the tabernacle. For he says, "See that you make everything according to the design shown to you on the mountain."

Hebrews 8:1-5 NET (Also Exodus 25:40 NET)

Jesus, our High Priest, is seated at the right hand of God the Father in the heavens, a place that Aaron could never occupy, indicating that His work of offering a sacrifice for sin was forever finished at the cross. There, Jesus, in His Great High Priest role, ministers to or serves both God the Father and humanity (Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45). Jesus could not be a priest offering gifts as prescribed by the law, since He is not of the tribe of Levi and the order of Aaron, but of the tribe of Judah. Consequently, Jesus the Messiah ministers in the genuine holy places of the heavenly sanctuary where He offers our gifts and sacrifices (Hebrews 13:15) and not in an imperfect representation of the heavenly, like Aaron. Nevertheless, the fact that there is a representation of the Heavenly Tabernacle on Earth provides evidence that there is a real one in Heaven.

But now Jesus has obtained a superior ministry, since the covenant that he mediates is also better and is enacted on better promises.

Hebrews 8:6 NET

Jesus is superior to Aaron since He serves in a superior sanctuary. Because He is superior to Aaron, the New Testament, which He inaugurated, is superior to the First or Old Testament under which Aaron served. The Letter of Hebrews was written to prove that the New Covenant (New Testament), ratified by Jesus' Blood, is superior to and takes the place of the First or Old Covenant (First or Old Testament) ratified by animal blood. The logical argument utilised for this proof was that a superior artisan produces a superior product. Jesus the Messiah,

the Founder of the New Testament, is better than the founders of the First Testament (the Prophets, Holy Angels, Moses, Joshua, and Aaron). Consequently, the New Testament, which Jesus brought in, is superior to and takes the place of the Old Testament.

*For if that first covenant had been faultless, no one would have looked for a second one. But showing its fault, God says to them, "Look, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will complete a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. "It will not be like the covenant that I made with their fathers, on the day when I **took them by the hand** to lead them out of Egypt, because they did not continue in my covenant and I had no regard for them, says the Lord. "For this is the covenant that I will establish with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and I will inscribe them on their hearts. And I will be their God and they will be my people. "And there will be no need at all for each one to teach his countryman or each one to teach his brother saying, 'Know the Lord,' since they will all know me, from the least to the greatest. "For I will be merciful toward their evil deeds, and their sins I will remember no longer." When he speaks of a new covenant, he makes the first obsolete. Now what is growing obsolete and aging is about to disappear. Hebrews 8:7-13 NET*

Since God instituted the First Testament, it was perfect for the purpose for which it was planned, and that was to point to Jesus the Messiah and His substitutionary atonement. However, the First Testament was faulty when it came to providing an atonement for sin, and that is the reason for the need for a new or second testament.

The actual cause of its failure resided in the people's character and not the law, which is indeed perfect (Psalms 19:7-8; Psalm 119:159-160; Romans 7:7-12). The Old Covenant was faulty because it did not provide enablement for the people to overcome their inherent faultiness and live up to its terms and conditions. Again, the need for a New Testament would not have been necessary if the First Testament had been flawless.

"Indeed, a time is coming," says the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. It will not be like the old covenant that I made with their ancestors when I delivered them from Egypt. For they violated that covenant, even though I was like a faithful husband to them," says the Lord. "But I will make a new covenant with the whole nation of Israel after I plant them back in the land," says the Lord. "I will put my law within them and write it on their hearts and minds. I will be their God and they will be my people. "People will no longer need to teach their neighbors and relatives to know me. For all of them, from the least important to the most important, will know me," says the Lord. "For I will forgive their sin and will no longer call to mind the wrong they have done."

Jeremiah 31:31-34 NET

I will make a lasting covenant with them that I will never stop doing good to them. I will fill their hearts and minds with respect for me so that they will never again turn away from me. Jeremiah 32:40 NET

Furthermore, the Old Testament prophet, Jeremiah, prophesied that there would be a new covenant made with Israel and Judah because the first one was faulty. The two names, Israel and Judah, refer here to the two parts of the divided nation - Israel, the northern kingdom, and Judah, the southern. The First Testament was a covenant made with Israel, and the

New Testament is also a covenant made with Israel. God makes no covenants with the Gentiles, as Israel is the chosen channel through which He brings salvation to the human race (John 4:22-26; Romans 9:3,4). The First Testament consisted of a system of symbolic sacrifices in their meaning, whereas the New Testament needs only one actual sacrifice, the Lord Jesus at the cross. The First Testament began with the shedding of animal blood to make a covering for Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:21) and ended at the cross. The New Testament began at the cross and is an everlasting one (Hebrews 13:20).

The phrase “took them by the hand” speaks of the fact that the First Testament was given to the people of Israel, who were treated as minors. God put her under laws and regulations, and if Israel behaved herself, she was rewarded, but if she misbehaved, she was punished.

Furthermore, Israel was taught by object lessons, as one would teach a child, for instance, the Tabernacle, priesthood, offerings and the gorgeous vestments of the high priest. In the case of the First Testament, God wrote His laws on tablets of stone to be obeyed by the regenerated Israelites. In the case of the New Testament, He writes them on our minds and hearts, in the sense that He not only regenerates the individual, but He provides for the personal indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the believer in whose ministry are added resources of grace, which gives the believer both the desire and the ability or power to do God’s will (Philippians 2:12-13). The inward acceptance of God’s will involves the knowledge of God.

In the New Covenant, all are to be ‘taught of God’ (Isaiah 54:13; John 6:45), independent of the instruction of a privileged class. Under the Old Covenant, none but the educated scribe could understand the

minutiae of the law with which religion was identified. The elaborate ritual made it impossible for the private individual to know whether a ram or a pigeon was the appropriate sacrifice for his sin or whether his sin was mortal or venial, without consulting a priest.

Under the New Covenant, intermediates were to be abolished, as the knowledge of God was to lie in the heart alongside the love of a parent or friend. The New Covenant does not demand its expression any more by the external instructions of those primal, instinctive, and home-grown affections.

Under the First Testament, sins were brought to mind every year because of the constant repetition of the sacrifices. Under the New Testament, sins are forgotten, for the reason that they have been paid for in full. God remembers them no more. In using the word “new”, through the prophet Jeremiah, God had, even at that time, made the First Testament old. That is, even in Jeremiah’s time, the insufficiency of the First Testament was recognised, and the need for a new one was proclaimed.

For we do not have a high priest incapable of sympathizing with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way just as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Therefore let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and find grace whenever we need help. Hebrews 4:15,16 NET

Jesus the Messiah is our exalted and victorious High Priest (Hebrews 4:14) who is both God and Glorified Man. Furthermore, He is approachable and compassionate, with an empathetic nature to the extent of entering into our experience and personally feeling our heartache and suffering. That is, our Lord’s understanding of our

weaknesses is an experiential one, because, during His ministry on Earth, He was tempted like we are, but never sinned.

Those who had only given intellectual assent to the New Testament truth, specifically the Hebrews at the time this letter to them was written, were encouraged to obtain salvation at the throne of grace (unmerited favour) since they had not yet obtained mercy (any and everything needed for saving humanity). Mercy was offered based on Jesus the Messiah's atonement, and God, our Father, patiently waits for people to come in faith and appropriate it before it is forever too late!



**THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES:
GOD'S HEAVENLY PATTERN FOR
OUR SPIRITUAL
TRANSFORMATION**

**PART VIII: THE WOMEN OF THE
TABERNACLE**

After the Tent of Meeting was built, women were designated to serve at its entrance. There had been minimal mention made of these Tabernacle Women in scripture, save for a couple of verses.

THE FIRST BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE

Bronze Laver



He made the large basin of bronze and its pedestal of bronze from the mirrors of the women who served at the entrance of the tent of meeting.
Exodus 38:8 NET

And he made the laver of brass, and the base thereof of brass, of the mirrors of the serving women that did service at the door of the tent of meeting. Exodus 38:8 OJPS

How were these women chosen, and what did they do? It was common knowledge that Moses and his audience shared what was misplaced over the years. It can be inferred from the text that the first group of women was chosen from those who donated their mirrors for constructing the Bronze Laver. Others may have volunteered or were paid a portion of the sacrifices. Also, others were conscripted into Tabernacle Service from people that the nation of Israel had conquered.

The people [virgin girls (Numbers 31:7;31:14-18)] were 16 000, of which the Lord's tribute was 32 people [virgin girls]. So Moses gave the tribute, which was the Lord's raised offering, to Eleazar, the priest, as the Lord had commanded Moses. From the Israelites' half-share that Moses had separated from the fighting men, there were 337 500 sheep from the portion belonging to the community, 36 000 cattle, 30 500 donkeys, and 16 000 people [virgin girls]. From the Israelites' share, Moses took one of every fifty people [virgin girls] and animals and gave them to the Levites, who were responsible for the care of the Lord's Tabernacle, just as the Lord commanded Moses (Numbers 31:40-47 NET).

Doing the calculation: $32 + 16,000/50 = 352$ virgin girls were drafted into service as Women of the Tabernacle from this one raid!

Perhaps these Tabernacle Women could have been a cadre of "Wonder Women" that guarded the Tabernacle?

It may also be part of the straightforward meaning of the text to say that it was a vast "army" of women who gathered at the tent to give their mirrors voluntarily. The bronze of the mirrors was burnished and quite lovely, which was why it was specially set aside right from the start for the laver and its stand. When the women saw this, they trooped in army after army, so that all of them could have their mirrors made into the laver and the stand. It is also correct to say that they understood right from the start that this laver would be used to test the women who were suspected of adultery. They accepted this joyfully and volunteered to bring all of their mirrors for this purpose.

It is from the water in this laver that a woman had to drink to prove her innocence when she was suspected by her jealous husband because she had been alone with another man (Numbers 5:11–31). The implication is that the women came in armies to bring these mirrors as their special contribution.

However, more likely, they were an “army of women” (a large number in the 100 thousands) who initially brought their mirrors and then a smaller number of Tabernacle Women (in the 100s), who assisted the Levites with utensil clean-up, general courtyard clean-up, water resupply, ancillary food preparation, guiding, and helping other women worshipers, washing and replacing priests’ clothes, polishing the Bronze Laver, etc.

In addition:

The Women of the Tabernacle crowded at the entrance to pray and hear the priests and Levites praise the Holy One (Hizkuni). Exodus 33:7 says that “whoever sought the Lord would go out to the Tent of Meeting that was outside the camp” (Sforino). It may have been the Tabernacle Women who were responsible for spreading messages from the Lord, delivered at the Tabernacle, throughout the Israelite camp.

The Lord speaks; many, many women spread the good news.

Psalm 68:11 NET

It was possibly the Tabernacle Women who played the tambourines in a military campaign and the resulting victory celebration.

They see your processions, O God— the processions of my God, my king, who marches along in holy splendor. Singers walk in front;

musicians follow playing their stringed instruments, in the midst of young women playing tambourines. Psalm 68:25 NET

Furthermore, these Tabernacle Women lived a celibate life, as indicated by the initial women renouncing all vanities (relinquishing their mirrors) to dedicate themselves to a life of service to our God.

But a married man is concerned about the things of the world, how to please his wife, ³⁴ and he is divided. An unmarried woman or a virgin is concerned about the things of the Lord, to be holy both in body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the things of the world, how to please her husband. 1 Corinthians 7:33-34 NET

Ancient Bronze Mirror



Will you, with him, spread out the clouds, solid as a mirror of molten metal? Job 37:18 NET

THE SECOND BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE

Now Eli was very old when he heard about everything that his sons used to do to all the people of Israel and how they used to have sex with the women who were stationed at the entrance to the tent of

meeting. He said to them, "Why do you behave in this way? For I hear about these evil things from all these people. This ought not to be, my sons! For the report that I hear circulating among the Lord's people is not good. If a man sins against a man, one may appeal to God on his behalf. But if a man sins against the Lord, who then will intercede for him?" But Eli's sons would not listen to their father, for the Lord had decided to kill them. Now the boy Samuel was growing up and finding favor both with the Lord and with people.

1 Samuel 2:22-26 NET

Eli's two sons, who were priests, were having sex with the Women of the Tabernacle. Was it consensual? I think not, for three reasons.

1. God had decided to kill both sons (1 Samuel 2:25), based on their many sins, including stealing intimacy from the Tabernacle Women, who had dedicated their lives to Him by living a life of celibacy.
2. There is no mention of punishment for the Tabernacle Women. However, the wife of Phineas died the same day as her husband. Perhaps she was assisting her husband in his sin (cf. Acts 5:1-11). Furthermore, who would the Women of the Tabernacle complain to other than to God, since it was two priests who raped them, and the high priest and judge (1 Samuel 4:18) was their father, who did very little to discipline them.
3. The sons also "raped" the sacrifices, taking their share of meat, even before God was given His prescribed share.

The sons of Eli were wicked men. They did not recognize the Lord's authority. Now the priests would always treat the people in the

following way: Whenever anyone was making a sacrifice, while the meat was boiling, the priest's attendant would come with a three-pronged fork in his hand. He would jab it into the basin, kettle, caldron, or pot, and everything that the fork brought up the priest would take for himself. This is what they used to do to all the Israelites when they came there to Shiloh. Even before they burned the fat, the priest's attendant would come and say to the person who was making the sacrifice, "Hand over some meat for the priest to roast! He won't take boiled meat from you, but only raw." If the individual said to him, "First let the fat be burned away, and then take for yourself whatever you wish," he would say, "No! Hand it over right now! If you don't, I will take it forcibly!" The sin of these young men was very great in the Lord's sight, for they treated the Lord's offering with contempt. 1 Samuel 2:12-17 NET

Then the Lord said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever." 1 Samuel 3:11-14 NET

The consequences of these sins were:

- The loss of both sons (1 Samuel 4:11),
- The loss of their father, Eli, via a broken neck, like an unredeemed, unclean animal (1 Samuel 4:12-18; Exodus 13:13),
- The loss of a daughter-in-law (1 Samuel 4:19,20),

- The removal of the priesthood from Eli's family line for perpetuity (1 Samuel 2:27-36; 1 Samuel 3:10-21; 1 Kings 2:27,35),
- The loss of the Ark of God (Ark of the Covenant) (1 Samuel 4:11, 1 Samuel 4:21-22),
- The rejection of Shiloh as the place where God would cause His name to dwell and His glory to manifest, which included the abandonment of the Tent of Meeting (Psalms 78:60), and
- The destruction of Shiloh (1 Samuel 4:4-11; Jeremiah 7:12 and 14; Jeremiah 26:6)

Do not be deceived. God will not be made a fool. For a person will reap what he sows, ⁸ because the person who sows to his own flesh will reap corruption from the flesh, but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit. Galatians 6:7-8 NET

For many years, I wondered how, in good conscience, Hanna could turn over Samuel to be raised by Eli. Indeed, she did it out of obedience and faith in God, but how could any mother give her son to such a powerful, yet evil family?

The possible answer

The Tabernacle Women were there to raise him! These celibate women would have the joy of raising a son, and Samuel would have the blessing of many mothers, including his own, periodically, to look after him! God is good!

The Lord is good to those who trust in him, to the one who seeks him.
Lamentations 3:25 NET

THE THIRD BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE

The Lord's spirit empowered Jephthah. He passed through Gilead and Manasseh and went to Mizpah in Gilead. From there he approached the Ammonites. Jephthah made a vow to the Lord, saying, "If you really do hand the Ammonites over to me, then whoever is the first to come through the doors of my house to meet me when I return safely from fighting the Ammonites—he will belong to the Lord and I will offer him up as a burnt sacrifice." Jephthah approached the Ammonites to fight with them, and the Lord handed them over to him. He defeated them from Aroer all the way to Minnith—twenty cities in all, even as far as Abel Keramim! He wiped them out! The Israelites humiliated the Ammonites. When Jephthah came home to Mizpah, there was his daughter hurrying out to meet him, dancing to the rhythm of tambourines. She was his only child; except for her he had no son or daughter. When he saw her, he ripped his clothes and said, "Oh no! My daughter! You have completely ruined me! You have brought me disaster! I made an oath to the Lord, and I cannot break it." She said to him, "My father, since you made an oath to the Lord, do to me as you promised. After all, the Lord vindicated you before your enemies, the Ammonites." She then said to her father, "Please grant me this one wish. For two months allow me to walk through the hills with my friends and mourn my virginity." He said, "You may go." He permitted her to leave for two months. She went with her friends and mourned her virginity as she walked through the hills. After two months she returned to her father, and he did to her as he had vowed. She died a virgin. Her tragic death gave rise to a custom

in Israel. Every year Israelite women commemorate the daughter of Jephthah the Gileadite for four days. Judges 11:29–40 NET

Jephthah made a rash vow to the Lord to obtain the Lord's favour in destroying the Ammonites. He promised to offer up as a burnt sacrifice whoever first came to meet him when he came home after the battle. In God's providence, his only child, a daughter, was the first to greet him. Consequently, the rash vow would now cost him his lineage – brokenness will have its perfect work!

Note that the daughter did not mourn her death, but rather her virginity. When she died, she died without children, which is a tragic death for any woman and particularly in that period.

The leech has two daughters: "Give! Give!" There are three things that are never satisfied, four that never say, "Enough"—¹⁶ the grave, the barren womb, land that is not satisfied with water, and fire that never says, "Enough!" Proverbs 30:15-16 NET

Furthermore, the Levitical burnt offering was not an offering for sin, but rather to express total dedication to God since it was a consecration offering (Exodus 18:11-12; Numbers 15:3). This was especially its meaning under the Mosaic Covenant. When the burnt sacrifice was offered, the Priests and Levites accompanied it with joyful singing and the playing of musical instruments used for praising the Lord, e.g., stringed instruments, tambourines, trumpets, and cymbals. (1 Chronicles 13:8; 1 Chronicles 25:1)

There must never be found among you anyone who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, anyone who practices divination, an omen reader, a soothsayer, a sorcerer, one who casts spells, one who

conjures up spirits, a practitioner of the occult, or a necromancer. Whoever does these things is abhorrent to the Lord and because of these detestable things the Lord your God is about to drive them out from before you. You must be blameless before the Lord your God.
Deuteronomy 18:10-13 NET

They have also built places of worship in a place called Topheth in the Valley of Ben Hinnom so that they can sacrifice their sons and daughters by fire. That is something I never commanded them to do! Indeed, it never even entered my mind to command such a thing!
Jeremiah 7:31 NET

THE FOURTH BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE

Anna lived a celibate and consecrated life in the temple after the early death of her husband. She was blessed with the honour of confirming to Mary and Joseph that the Lord of the Temple, their baby, Jesus, was at long last in the temple! She continued to proclaim the arrival of the Redeemer to those in the temple who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

There was also a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old, having been married to her husband for seven years until his death. ³⁷ She had lived as a widow since then for eighty-four years. She never left the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ At that moment, she came up to them and began to give thanks to God and to speak about the child

[Jesus] to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Luke 2:36-38 NET

THE FIFTH BIBLICAL REFERENCE TO THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE

These are the people of the province who returned from the captivity of the exiles, whom King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had forced into exile. They returned to Jerusalem and to Judah, each to his own city.

Nehemiah 7:6 NET

When the nation of Israel returned from Babylon, they recorded those who returned and their lineage to prove they were indeed Jews. Under the list of Temple servants, there are female servants and female singers.

The temple servants: the descendants of Ziha, the descendants of Hasupha, the descendants of Tabbaoth, the descendants of Keros, the descendants of Sia, the descendants of Padon, the descendants of Lebanah, the descendants of Hagabah, the descendants of Shalmi, the descendants of Hanan, the descendants of Giddel, the descendants of Gahar, the descendants of Reaiah, the descendants of Rezin, the descendants of Nekoda, the descendants of Gazzam, the descendants of Uzzah, the descendants of Paseah, the descendants of Besai, the descendants of Meunim, the descendants of Nephussim, the descendants of Bakbuk, the descendants of Hakupha, the descendants of Harhur, the descendants of Bazluth, the descendants of Mehida, the descendants of Harsha, the descendants of Barkos, the descendants of Sisera, the descendants of Temah, the descendants of

Neziah, the descendants of Hatipha. The descendants of the servants of Solomon: the descendants of Sotai, the descendants of Sophereth, the descendants of Perida, the descendants of Jaala, the descendants of Darkon, the descendants of Giddel, the descendants of Shephatiah, the descendants of Hattil, the descendants of Pokereth-Hazzebaim, and the descendants of Amon. All the temple servants and the descendants of the servants of Solomon, 392. These are the ones who came up from Tel Melah, Tel Harsha, Kerub, Addon, and Immer (although they were unable to certify their family connection or their ancestry, as to whether they were really from Israel): the descendants of Delaiah, the descendants of Tobiah, and the descendants of Nekoda, 642. And from among the priests: the descendants of Hobaiah, the descendants of Hakkoz, and the descendants of Barzillai (who had married a woman from the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite and was called by that name). They searched for their records in the genealogical materials, but none were found. They were therefore excluded from the priesthood. The governor instructed them not to eat any of the sacred food until there was a priest who could consult the Urim and Thummim. The entire group numbered 42,360, not counting their 7,337 male and female servants. They also had 245 male and female singers.

Nehemiah 7:46-67 NET

TYPOLOGICAL MEANING OF THE WOMEN OF THE TABERNACLE

There are three noteworthy things about the Tabernacle Women.

1. The Sacrifice of the Tabernacle Women

Mirrors are essential for women (and men) to make sure they look their very best. Therefore, in the sacrifice of the mirrors, these women discarded vanity for the honour of God. They gave up their glory so that the work of the Lord could be accomplished.

Likewise the women are to dress in suitable apparel, with modesty and self-control. Their adornment must not be with braided hair and gold or pearls or expensive clothing, ¹⁰ but with good deeds, as is proper for women who profess reverence for God.

1 Timothy 2:9-10 NET

You have to realise, if you want to serve God well, you will have to give up your glory.

Not to us, O Lord, not to us! But to your name bring honor, for the sake of your loyal love and faithfulness. Psalm 115:1 NET

Nevertheless, some in the Lord's service seem very anxious to get honoured and praised. They do not evidence their desire to let God have all the honour and glory. They have kept their "mirrors". Those who seek self-glory are not serving God but themselves.

I am the Lord! That is my name! I will not share my glory with anyone else, or the praise due me with idols. Isaiah 42:8 NET

2. The Saviour portrayed in the Tabernacle Women

The Tabernacle Women were a beautiful type of Jesus Christ in that they gave up their glory to provide cleansing at the Bronze Laver. Likewise, Jesus our Lord and Saviour, gave up His glory so that we may be cleansed from our sins.

You should have the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had, ⁶ who though he existed in the form of God did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself by taking on the form of a slave, by looking like other men, and by sharing in human nature. ⁸ He humbled himself, by becoming obedient to the point of death —even death on a cross!
Philippians 2:5–8 NET

Let the example of the Women of the Tabernacle inspire us to serve the Lord without seeking personal glory!

3. The Devotion of the Tabernacle Women

These women who gave up their mirrors were special women, earnestly devoted to the Lord. Their dedication to the Lord is seen in their assembling at the door of the place of worship. It takes that kind of dedication to sacrifice your glory. Those who want glory (recognition, fame, fortune, etc.) in their service expose the fact that they are not very devoted to the Lord. As a result, they do not assemble themselves at the door of the Tabernacle for Worship. When a person is interested in spiritual things, they will not be interested in their own glory, but in God's glory, and they will sacrifice their own glory for God's glory.



**THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES:
GOD'S HEAVENLY PATTERN FOR
OUR SPIRITUAL
TRANSFORMATION**

**PART IX: GOD'S TABERNACLE IN
THE HUMAN BODY**

By: The Most Holy Place - Website
<http://www.mostholypplace.com/index.html>

THE HUMAN BODY

The Outer Court, the Holy Place, and the Holy of Holies of the Tabernacle are also representations of the human being. The **Outer Court** is a representation of the **human body**. It is a place where light and darkness still exist, even though you have already decided to follow Jesus. The **Holy Place** represents the **human soul**. The soul is born from corruptible seed, and this is the place where conflict with the spirit of humanity lies. In the soul we find carnality, that is the old Adam nature that needs repentance and a renewing of the mind (Romans 12:2). A renewed mind can only take place when we eat from the Table of Showbread until we are satisfied, and then receive revelation light from the Menorah. The **human spirit** is represented by the **Holy of Holies**. It is our spirit that is born from above, and it knows everything that comes from heaven. The conflict between the spirit and the soul lies between the corruptible and incorruptible seed. In the corruptible seed, we find unforgiveness, resentment, strife, envy, stubbornness, pride, idolatry, adultery and all the fruit of the flesh. But much more is found in the human spirit - the fruit of the spirit, the mind of Christ, etc.

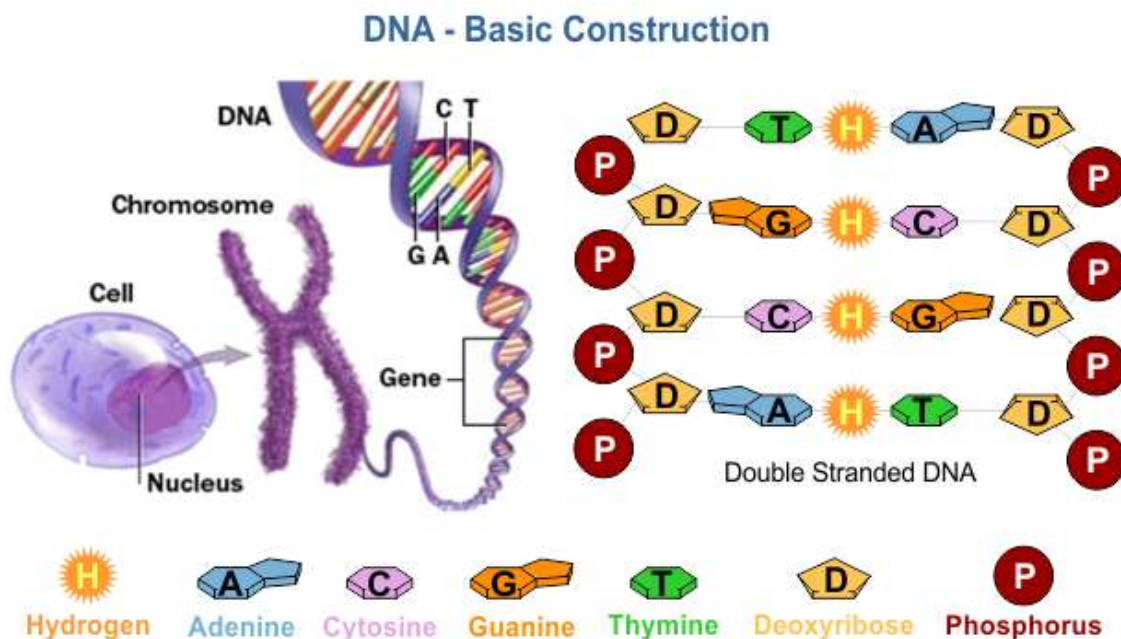
What a revelation that God's Tabernacle is in the human body! Berashith Online Journey (www.berashith-oj.co.za) offers a video entitled: "God eternal within the human body". In this video, scientists discovered a message, a code embedded within the human DNA, which stated: "**The message in the first layers of the human DNA says, 'God eternal within the human body'**".

When I discovered this information many years ago, it was almost unreal and hard to understand. How the elements of the Tabernacle could be

found within the human body was beyond my mind. After meditating on this and as knowledge increased over time, the Holy Spirit revealed these Biblical truths within my spirit. Let us discover these elements of the Tabernacle that Adonai embedded within the human body.

Relating DNA to Bible Construction

The following chart explains the basic construction of human DNA.



First, we'll link the DNA elements shown in the chart to their respective keywords. Hydrogen in the human body refers to Heaven. Hydrogen is Element number 1 on the Periodic Table of Elements and points us to the Chief Cornerstone, Yashuah HaMashiach. He is the Number One in our lives. The Sun consists mostly of Hydrogen. Jesus is often compared to the Sun throughout Scripture.

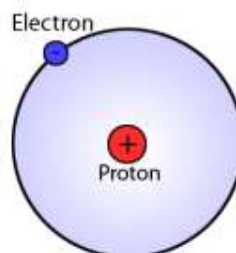
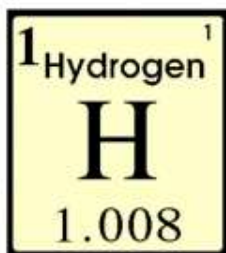
Who is Number 1?

Colossians 3:11

"Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but **Christ is all, and in all**"

Galatians 3:28

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for **ye are all one in Christ Jesus**"



Hydrogen 'floats' or 'ascends' into the heavens - something most believers would like to do one day! If you've ever seen photos from the Hubble Telescope, then you have most likely seen Hydrogen Clouds. Scripture tells us that Jesus will return "in the clouds".

Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven. Matthew 26:64 KJV

Later on, we will learn about the "Pillar of Cloud" that hovered over the Tabernacle.

In the human DNA, we find Phosphorus, which points us to the earth. Phosphorus is Element number 15 on the Periodic Table of Elements.

- It is likened to our sinful, worldly, earthly nature.
- It is a heavy element that acts like an anchor, in a sense, preventing us from 'ascending'.

Phosphorus is a 'fiery' element used for making matches. When the Bible speaks of our flesh as being corrupt, it might have to do with this element, as you will soon see. Matches were even once called Lucifers!



Note that the element next to Phosphorus (Element 15) is Sulphur (Element 16). In Scripture, Sulphur is called Brimstone. The idea here is to get away from "Fire and Brimstone" and move towards Hydrogen, or Jesus/Heaven.

Now then, what is between Heaven/Hydrogen and Earth/Phosphorus? The Sky, of course! We know this from Genesis 1.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1 NET

Then he created a space between Heaven and Earth.

God called the expanse "sky". There was evening, and there was morning, a second day. Genesis 1:8 NET

- The Sky mainly consists of Nitrogen.
- Nitrogen is Element 7.
- Seven is a very special number indeed, pointing to God's number of perfection.

We breathe air. Air is often associated with spirits, like the Seven Spirits in Revelation and Isaiah 11. Thus, the Sky portion of the Bible Genetic Code would relate to the Nitrogenous Bases of:

- Adenine
- Cytosine
- Guanine
- Thymine

Since these elements exist between Heaven and Earth, we can relate them to their respective section of the Bible as well. We can link these four elements to the four Gospels.

Our final element is more of a 'component' of DNA and is not found on the Periodic Table, namely Deoxyribose.

- Deoxyribose is basically a Sugar, and it can be compared to the 'Forbidden Fruit' found on the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.
- Later, we will compare it to Manna - the 'Food of Angels'.

DNA - Chemical Analysis

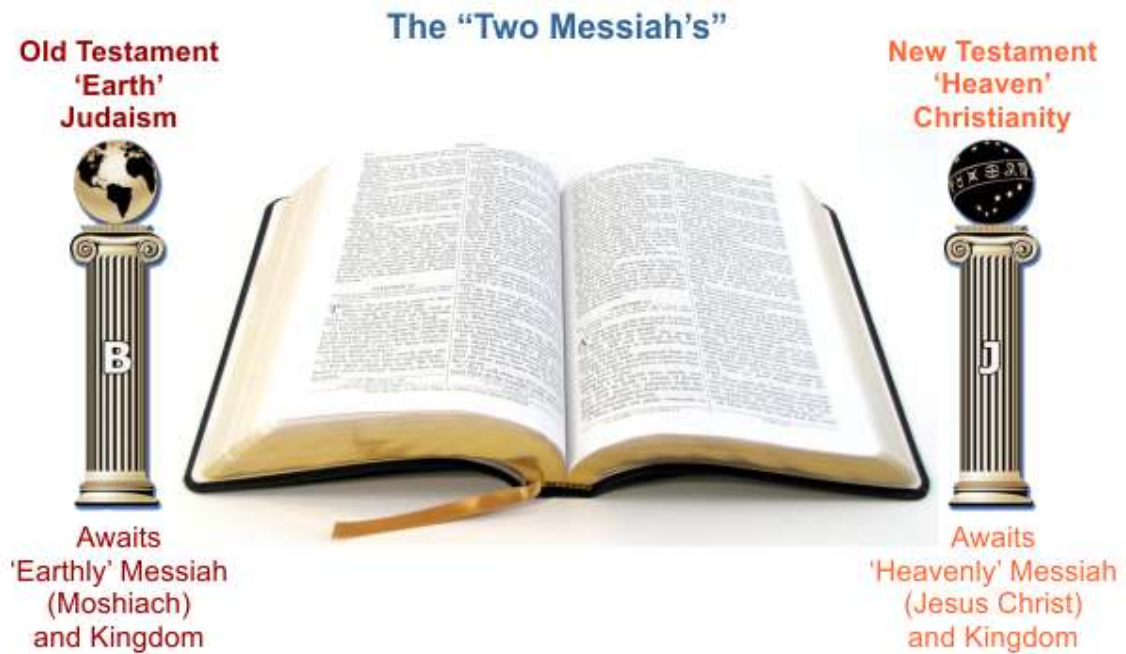
 Hydrogen		The Sun is mostly Hydrogen, as well as Hydrogen Clouds throughout the Universe. Christ is often compared with the Sun. The various DNA chemicals revolve around the Hydrogen Bonds, just like planets revolve around our Sun!
 Adenine		Earth's atmosphere is Nitrogen based. A. C. G. & T. are also Nitrogen based. The Four Gospels are often compared to 'The Four Living Creatures' and 'The Four Winds' mentioned in Scripture.
 Cytosine		Deoxyribose is Sugar. Honey is often used in scripture to describe something sweet. In Revelation 10:10, honey is even used to describe DNA! <i>"And I took the little book (DNA) out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey"</i>
 Guanine		
 Thymine		
 Deoxyribose		
 Phosphorus		Phosphorus is used to make matches. The name literally means "Light Bearer", or "Lucifer"! Phosphorus is often likened to Venus, (which has a Sulphur atmosphere) as well as the goddess Isis.

Finally, we can place these elements onto our Bible graphic.

Heaven and Earth as a DNA Nucleotide



Now, the last graphic outlay shown depicts what is known in the scientific community as a 'Nucleotide'. Here is another 'Heaven and Earth' comparison between the two sections of the Bible...



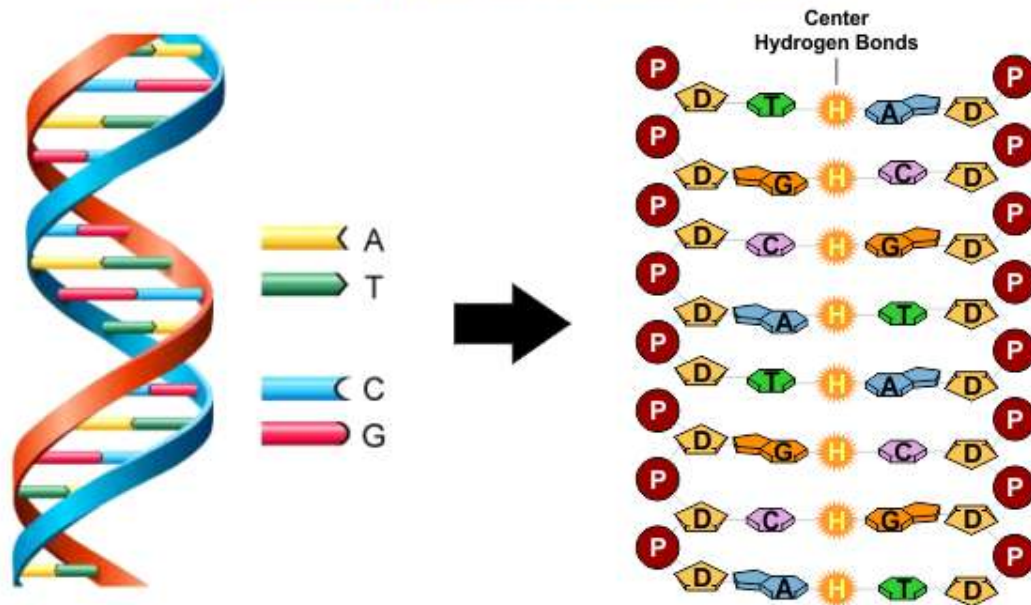
Judaism is in line with Old Testament teachings and awaits the 'earthly' Messiah and the Kingdom of Mashiach. Christianity, on the other hand, is more in line with New Testament teachings and awaits the 'heavenly' Messiah and Kingdom of Jesus.

The Nucleotide

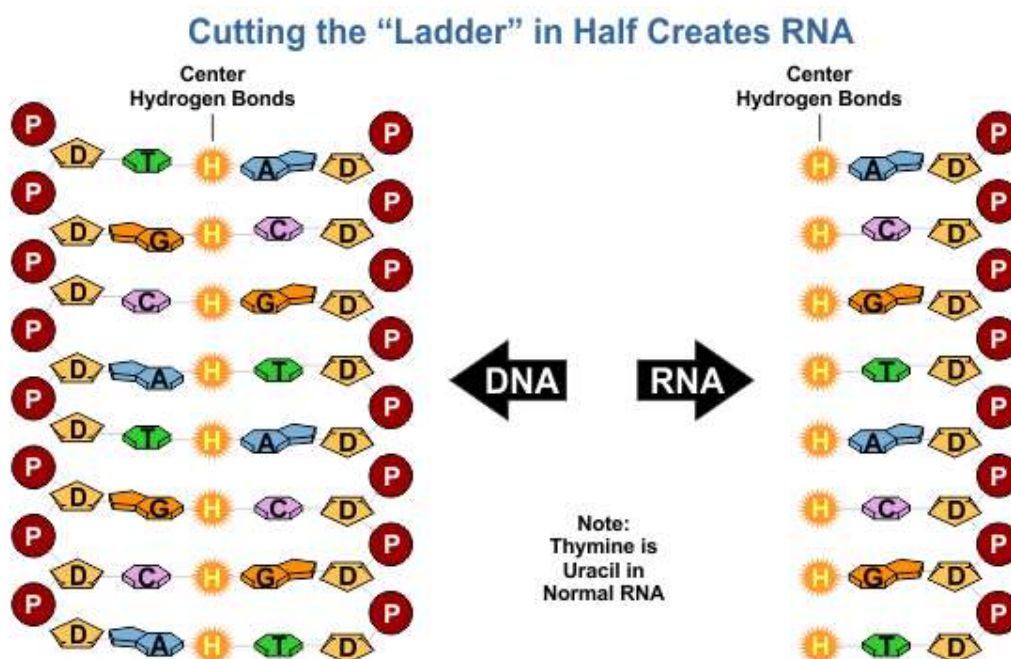
A nucleotide is the basic building block of DNA. If one were to take the spiral or 'whirlwind' shape of DNA, untwist it, and then lay it down flat, one would see that it resembles a ladder. Think of Jacob's ladder.

And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it. Genesis 28:12 KJV

Flattening DNA Into a “Ladder” Shape

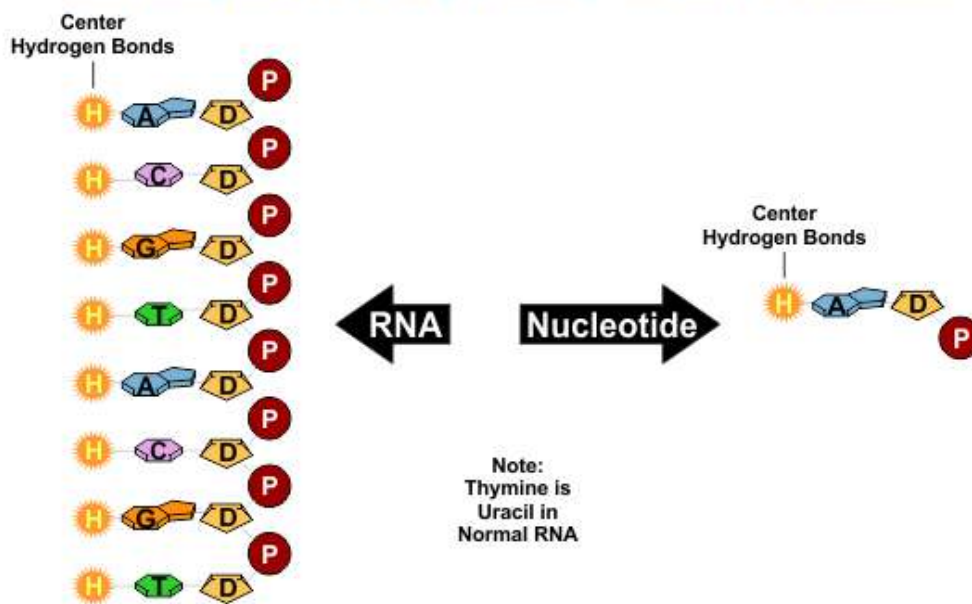


Now, if we were to cut the ladder down the middle, we would have “half a ladder”, otherwise known as the RNA. Note that we are keeping the Hydrogen Bonds visible so as not to reject our Chief Cornerstone.



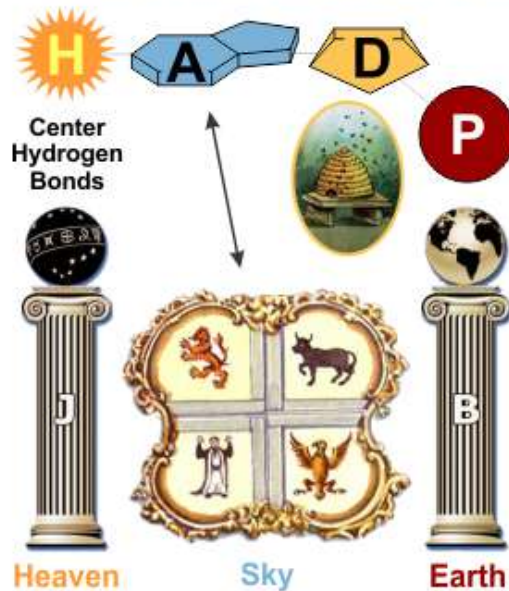
Finally, if we were to narrow the RNA strand to a single ‘rung’, one would have a Nucleotide.

Narrowing RNA to a Single “Rung” Creates a Nucleotide



A DNA Nucleotide is a perfect representation of the physical construction of the Bible and vice versa.

“Heaven Meets Earth” in the Form of a Nucleotide

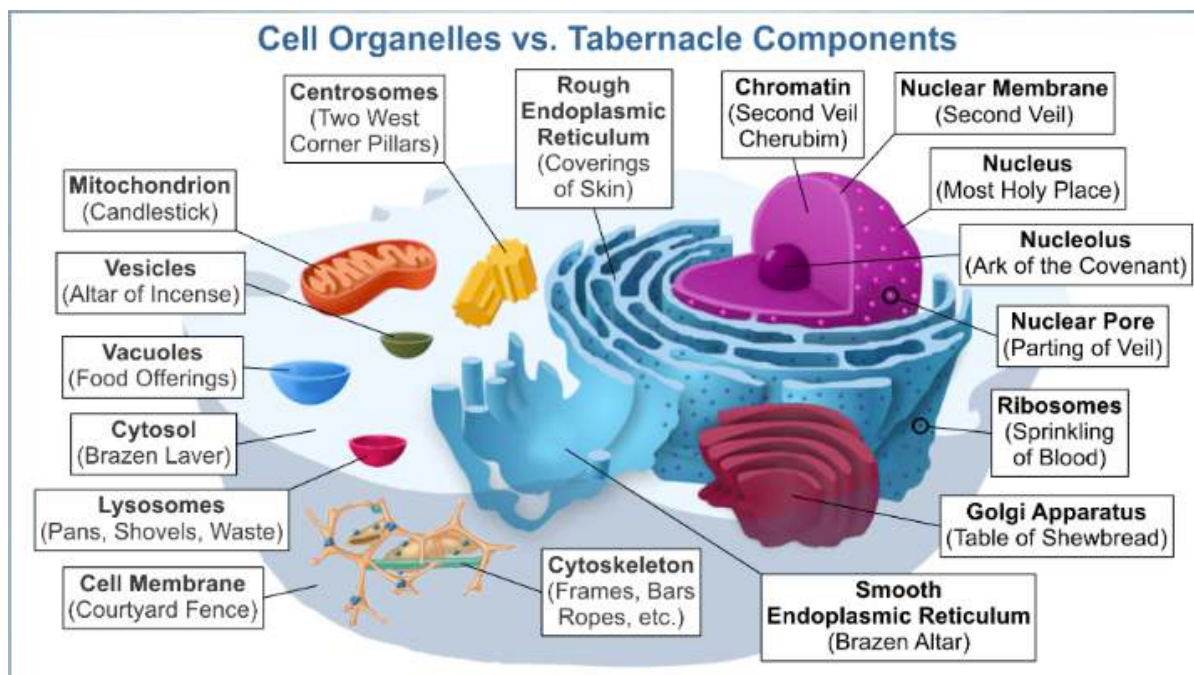


Gospel Symbols
 A = Matthew = Man
 T = Mark = Lion
 G = Luke = Ox
 C = John = Eagle

Note that the Four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are assigned to symbolic beings.

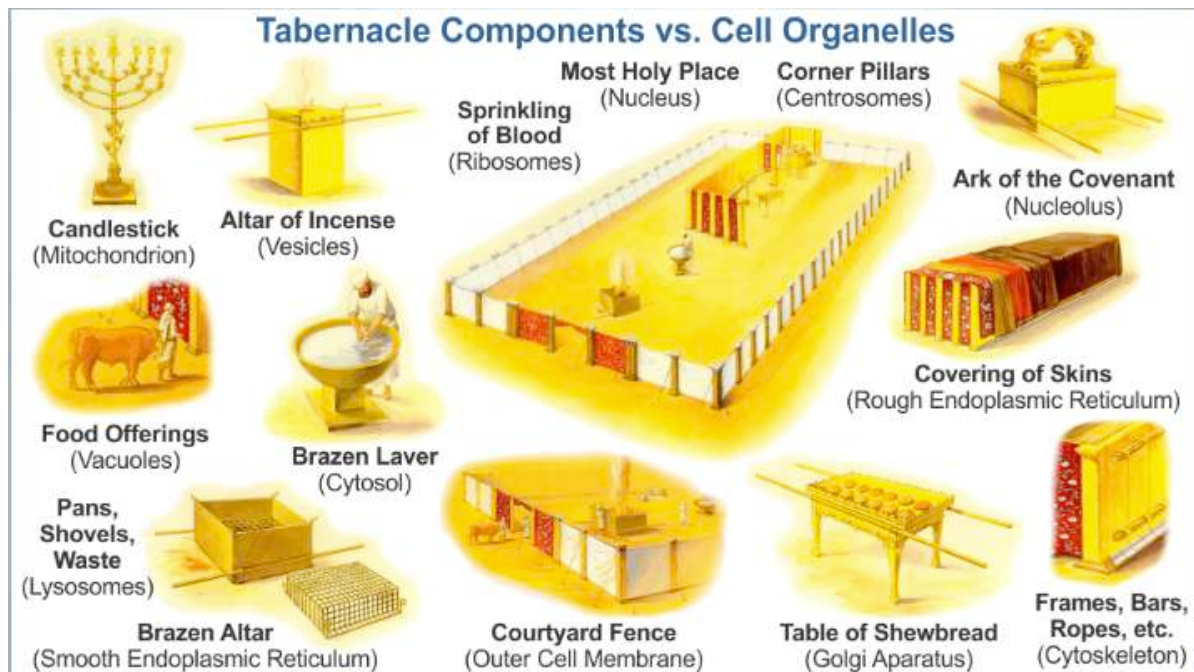
THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

In this section of the Tabernacle, we begin our Organelle journey within the heart of it all - the Ark of the Covenant. The Ark of the Covenant can be found inside the Most Holy Place and represents the Nucleolus in the human body.



The Nucleolus is found inside the Cell Nucleus (the round purple area in the Generic Cell Diagram). Something worth mentioning here is that the Ark consists of two parts, namely:

- The square 'box' where Holy Items are stored, and
- the Mercy Seat or 'lid', so to speak, on which the two cherubim are.



Inside the Ark, we find three items, namely:

- Two Tablets of the Testimony (Ten Commandments).
- The Golden Pot of Manna.
- Aaron's Rod that budded.

How these compare with a Nucleolus is so spot-on that it quickly becomes apparent that this is not just a mere coincidence. All of the Tabernacle furniture matches up with Cell Organelles in ways that are so obvious, one has to wonder why this isn't mainstream teaching in church sermons all across the globe.

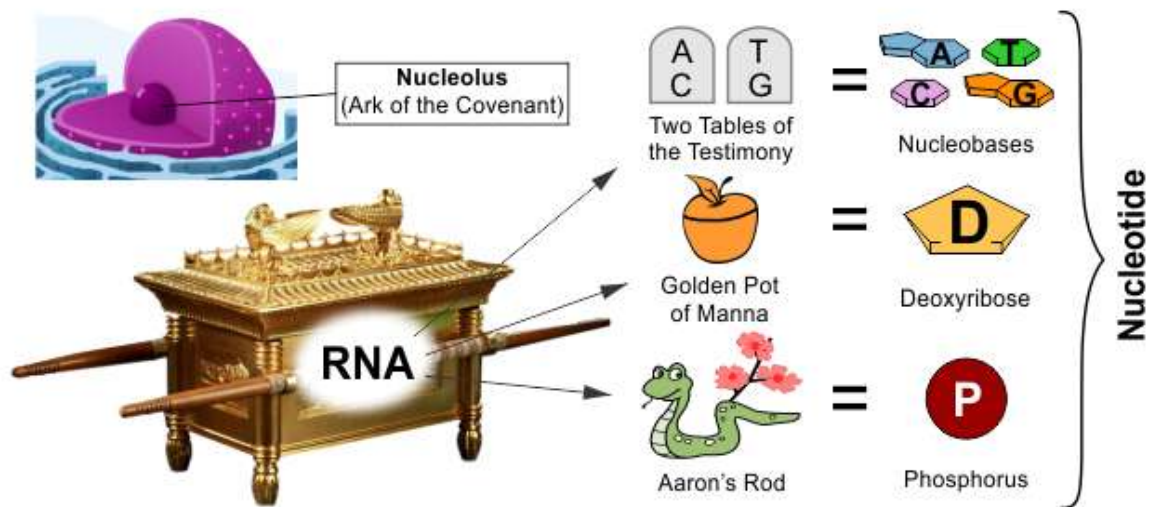
Let's start with the contents of the Ark of the Covenant.

The following picture outlines the similarities between the elements in the Ark of the Covenant and the nucleolus in the human body.

Tabernacle Organelles: The Ark of the Covenant/Nucleolus

Hebrews 9:4

"Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant"



The nucleolus is the most conspicuous domain in the eukaryotic cell nucleus, whose main function is ribosomal RNA (rRNA) synthesis and ribosome biogenesis. However, there is growing evidence that the nucleolus is also implicated in many other aspects of cell biology, such as regulation of the cell cycle, growth and development, senescence, telomerase activity, gene silencing, and responses to biotic and abiotic stresses.

The nucleus serves several important functions in the cell. The three major functions of the nucleus include:

- It contains the genetic information of the cell in the form of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) or chromosomes, and thus, controls cell growth and multiplication. It is also the site of DNA replication (formation of an identical copy of DNA).
- It regulates cell metabolism by synthesising various enzymes.
- It is the site for the synthesis of ribonucleic acid or RNA that acts as a template for the synthesis of various proteins in the cell. It is also

the site for the synthesis of the protein factories of the cell, called the ribosomes.

The structure of the nucleus can be divided into four main parts:

- **The nuclear envelope:** The nucleus is bound by a double membrane layer that forms the capsule or the envelope. The two layers of this envelope stay separated from each other by a space known as the perinuclear space. The nuclear envelope separates the inner contents of the nucleus from the rest of the cell. The outer layer of the nuclear envelope is rough because of the presence of ribosomes on its surface. The outer membrane may be continuous with other organelles, such as the Golgi apparatus and the endoplasmic reticulum. The nuclear membrane has tiny gaps, called pores. These pores allow the selective passage of substances between the nucleus and the cytoplasm (the matrix containing various organelles in the cell).
- **The chromatin:** The DNA is organised in the nucleus to form chromatin. The chromatin also contains proteins, the main proteins being histones. The chromatin further condenses to form the chromosomes. The human cell has 23 pairs of chromosomes.
- **The nucleoplasm:** The nucleoplasm is also called the karyoplasm or the nuclear sap. It is a semi-solid, granular substance that contains many proteins. The protein fibres form a crisscross matrix within the nucleus. This helps maintain the shape and structure of the nucleus. The nucleoplasm is the main site for enzyme activity within the nucleus. The appearance of nucleoplasm may vary during the different phases of the cell cycle. Besides proteins, the

nucleoplasm also contains other substances, such as DNA, RNA, and minerals.

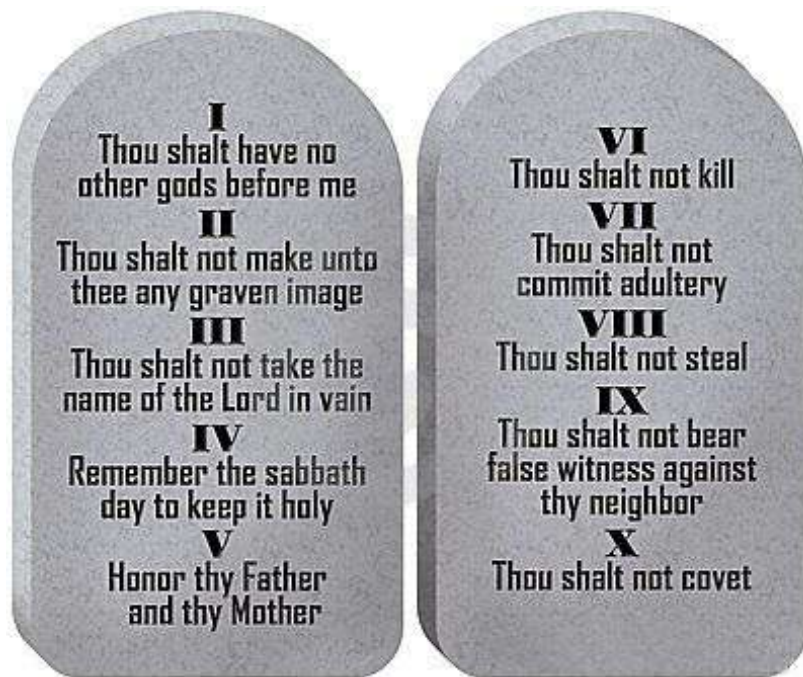
- **The nucleolus:** The nucleolus is a well-defined spherical structure within the nucleus. It is the site for the synthesis and assembly of ribosomes. The ribosomes act as the site of protein synthesis within the cell.

In the picture above, we see that:

- The two Tablets of the Testimony, or Ten Commandments, match up with Nucleobases.
- The Golden Pot of Manna matches up with Deoxyribose.
- Aaron's Rod that budded matches up with the Phosphorus Backbone or the "Serpent" Strands we see in a typical representation of DNA.

We will study each of these components in more detail to have a good understanding of what they are and how they relate to one another. Just about everyone knows of Moses and the Ten Commandments, so the first item on our list is one of the most easily recognisable.

And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God. Exodus 31:18 KJV



The Ten Commandments were engraved onto the Two Tablets by God Himself. They are the Word of God.

**Every single living cell contains something similar, called
'Nucleobases'.**

Nucleobases are the 'Words' that form all life, as we know it.

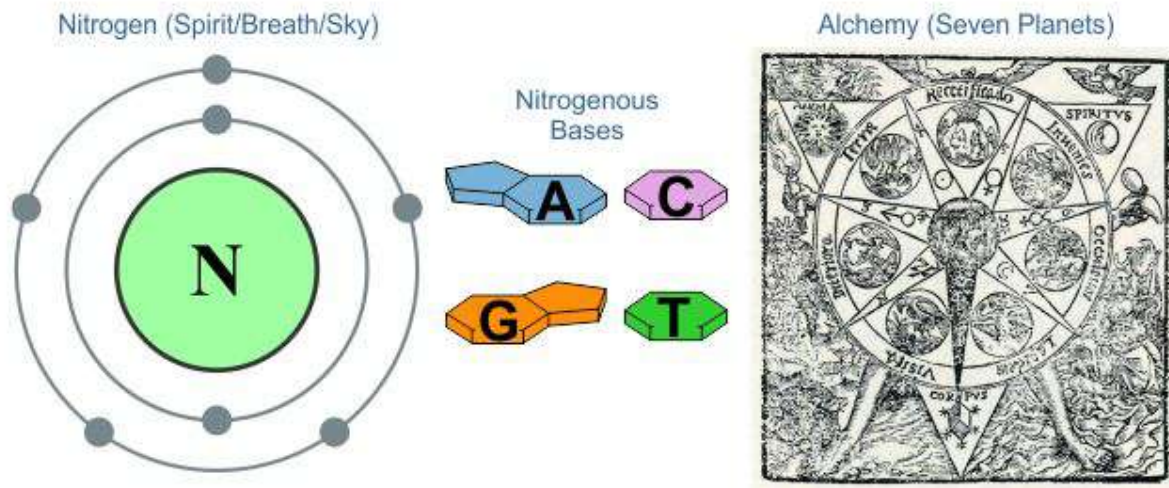
*And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld
his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace
and truth. John 1:14 KJV*

They are also called 'Nitrogenous Bases' because Nitrogen is the primary element they are made of. Thus, the "Stone with Seven Eyes" or Seven Electrons (mentioned in Zechariah 3:9), is the Chemical Element Nitrogen...

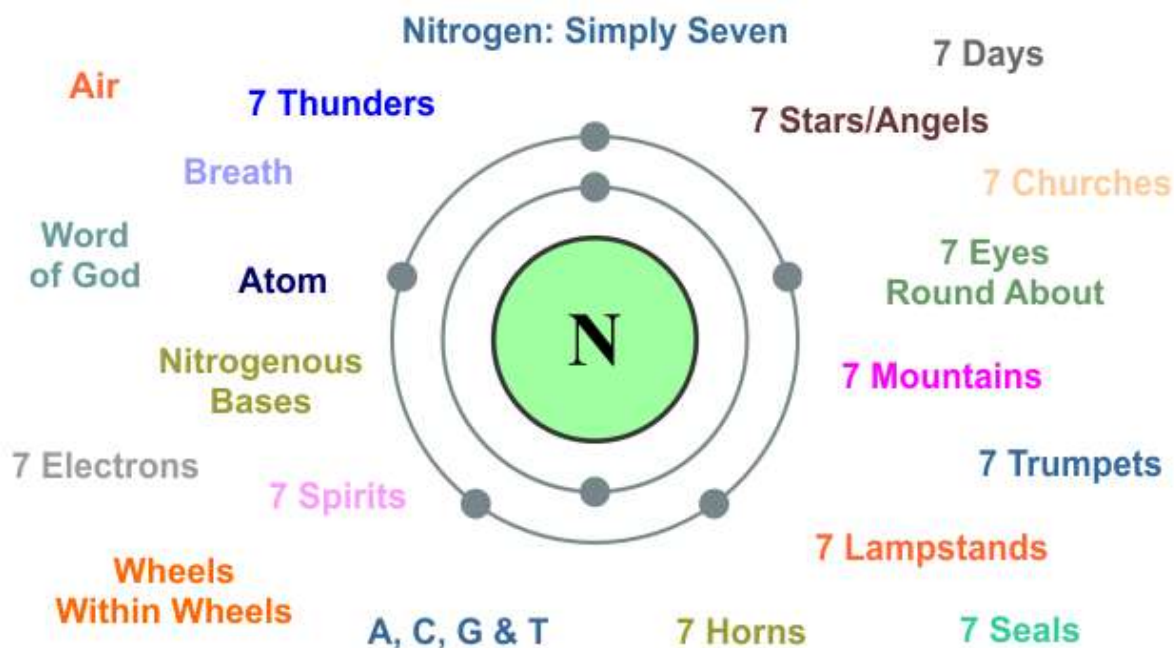
Stone with Seven "Eyes"

Zechariah 3:9

"For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone shall be seven eyes: behold, I will engrave the graving thereof, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day"



Nitrogen is **Element 7** in the Periodic Garden of Elements.



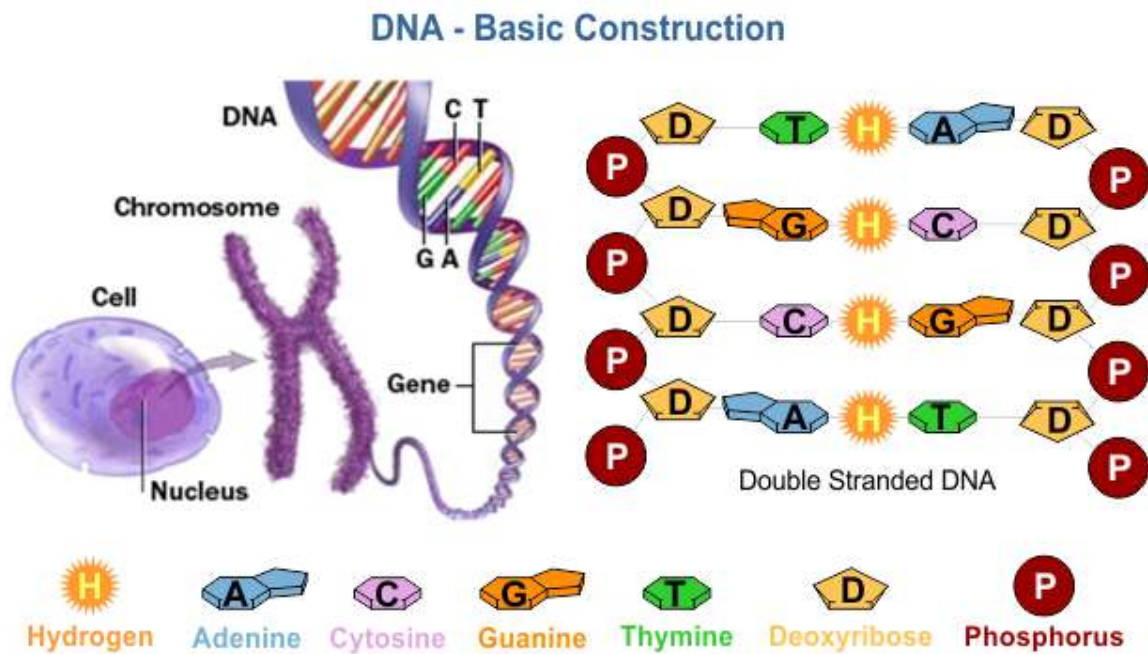
We know that the number seven is God's number of perfection! Once the Stone with Seven Eyes (the seven spirits of the Lord) has been engraved onto our hearts, it now becomes a Nucleobase. We can speak of an

‘upgrade’ of sorts. Sin will be removed when our Base Pairs are engraved with the new Code.

Note that Zerubbabel, who is mentioned in Zechariah, may have been one of God's Top Bio-engineers, as he was privy to much of this highly advanced information. As fully discussed in the teaching, “The Signet Ring”, note that Zerubbabel was commanded by God to restore the Temple.

For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth. Zechariah 4:10 KJV

These Words or Nucleobases eventually combine to form something called RNA. That brings us to Aaron's Rod that budded. In the Ark of the Covenant/Nucleolus slide, we see that Aaron's Rod that budded matches up with Phosphorus, or more specifically, the Phosphate Backbone of RNA and DNA.



Aaron was the very first high priest in the Bible. His position was determined by God when He allowed Aaron's Rod to produce almond blossoms.

And it came to pass, that on the morrow Moses went into the tabernacle of witness; and, behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi was budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds. Numbers 17:8 KJV

Note that almonds and their blossoms are what the Candlestick (Menorah) represented. It is a representation of Mitochondrial DNA!

So why is there a serpent pictured in the Ark of the Covenant / Nucleolus slide? When Moses and Aaron were in Egypt, confronting Pharaoh, both Aaron and the Magicians of Pharaoh laid down their rods. All of the rods turned into serpents. However, Aaron's serpent swallowed the others.



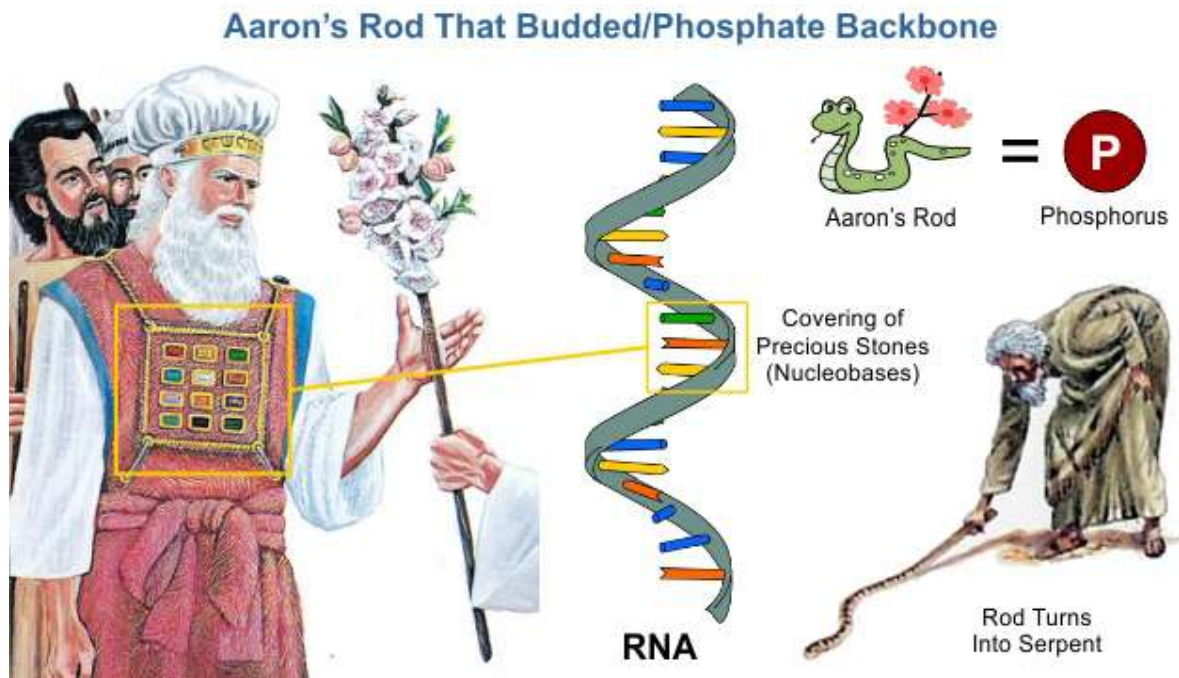
*For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents:
but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods. Exodus 7:12 KJV*

It is assumed by Bible researchers that this is the same rod that was in the Ark.

Remember that Lucifer, in Greek mythology, means "light-bearer" (Latin Lucifer), referring to the "Morning Star", the planet Venus (or Mercury). At the Atomic Scale, Lucifer is a representation of Phosphorus, hence the serpent.

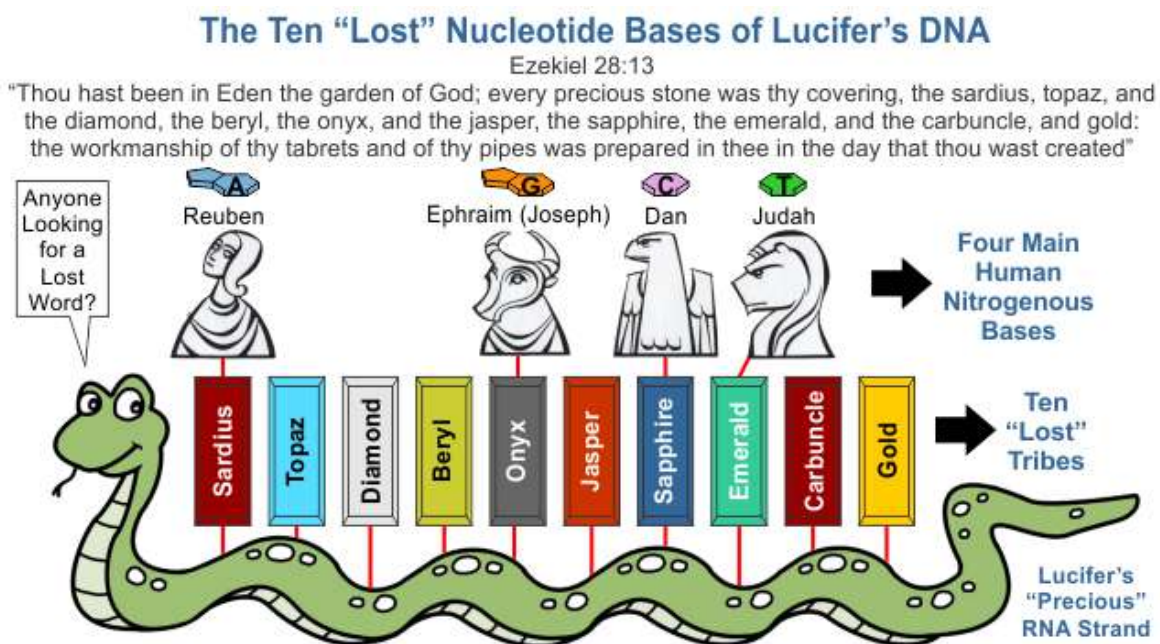
Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Ezekiel 28:13 KJV

Thus, Lucifer's 'Covering' of Precious Stones represent Nucleobases.



Note that Lucifer has more than the four Nucleobases that we Humans are stuck with. He has ten nucleobases, namely:

- Sardius
- Topaz
- Diamond
- Beryl
- Onyx
- Jasper
- Sapphire
- Emerald
- Carbuncle
- Gold



It is these extra unique Nucleobases that most likely made Lucifer "perfect in Beauty and Wisdom", as the Bible says. Remember that Lucifer was the number one angel in heaven, the leader of music, the most beautiful one, perfectly created by God.

Many years ago, I read a book by Andrew Wommack, explaining how this knowledge of Lucifer brings confusion to the Body of Christ.

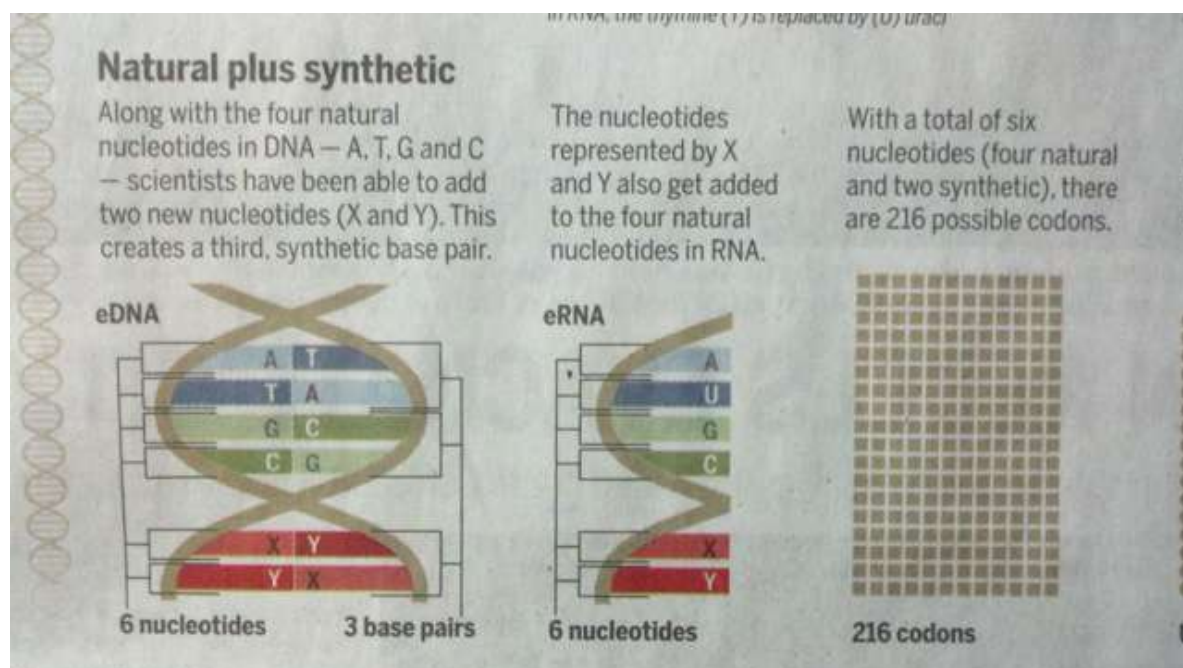
In short, Andrew said that God created Lucifer (a perfect angel), but man created satan, by giving him a place where God was supposed to be.

In this article on the website (<http://www.mostholypplace.com/book-01.html>), it states: "Who put all those Nucleobases on him?"

"Most Christians believe it was God, however, the evidence seems to point to Mankind itself creating Lucy as a Genetically Enhanced Humanoid."

Bioengineers have made headlines recently as they announced that new, never-before-seen 'Alien' DNA has been created.





The pieces of the puzzle are all coming together - man without God is the beast (666).

Every man is a beast by his own knowledge: every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his melting is but falsehood, and there is no breath therein. Jeremiah 10:14 GNV

Furthermore, Russell Stendell indicated in his book, “The Correction Factor”, that man needs a transformation process from being number 6 to being number 7. When man walks in man’s light (the number one), in man’s law (the number ten) and man’s plan (the number 100), man is the beast ($6 \times 1 + 6 \times 10 + 6 \times 100 = 666$). Therefore man needs a transformation process to a higher order, and when man now walks in God’s light (the number one), in God’s law (the number ten) and in God’s plan (the number 100) man has been transformed back into the image and likeness of God ($1 \times 7 + 7 \times 10 + 7 \times 100 = 777$). With intense Bible study, this process will take you 42 months, as $6 \times 7 = 42$.

We see in the above newspaper clip the number 666 of the corruptible seed. When we multiply these three sixes, it equals the number 216 ($6 \times 6 \times 6 = 216$). So basically, instead of the normal four letters (A, C, G, T) that all life has, we now have six. In this next verse, we see that Lucifer / Phosphorus is either one of, or both of, the cherubim that sit on top of the Ark on the Mercy Seat.

Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Ezekiel 28:14 KJV

As we will soon see, the two cherubim are a representation of DNA. Did you catch the last part of that verse?

'Stones of Fire' is a perfect description of Phosphorus!

Jacob's Ladder and "Stones of Fire" (Lucifer / Phosphorus)
Ezekiel 28:14 - "...thou hast walked up and down in the midst of **the stones of fire**"
Ezekiel 28:16 - "...I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of **the stones of fire**"



Pyramid Shaped White Phosphorus Tetrahedron

Genesis 28:12 - "And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it."

Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Jeremiah, what seest thou? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree. Jeremiah 1:11 KJV

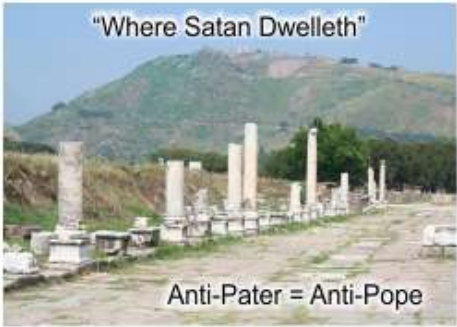
Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it. Jeremiah 1:12 KJV

When Moses constructed the serpent on a pole (Rod of Asclepius), he was showing us a picture of RNA.

Pergamos, the Seat of Satan, DNA and the Rod of Asclepius

Revelation 2:12-13
 "And to the angel of the **church in Pergamos** write;
 These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges..."

"I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where **Satan's seat** is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, **where Satan dwelleth**"



"Where Satan Dwelleth"

Anti-Pater = Anti-Pope

Sanctuary of Asclepion in Pergamos



Sharp sWORD with Two Edges



Rod of Asclepius



John 3:14

Colossians 2:15
 "And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it"

Pergamos means **'Inappropriate Wedding'**, by the way. Pergamos was the place of satan's throne on Earth. It was a place of much defilement and sexual immorality. We can think of "Sons of God" and "Daughters of Men". This is how defilement is taking place.

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts. 2 Peter 1:19 KJV

The Day Star in Strong's 5459 is Phósphoros. By definition (lit: light-bearing), radiant, the morning star. The Bible confirms that Phosphorus is the 'Light Bearer'. Aaron also means Light Bringer!

H0175

0175 אַהֲרֹן 'Aharown {a-har-one'}

of uncertain derivation; TWOT - 35; n pr m

Hebrew Word Study (Transliteration-Pronunciation Etymology & Grammar)

Aaron = "light bringer"

1) Brother of Moses, a Levite and the first high priest

Now then, if the Light that shines in a dark place is the Candlestick, what do you suppose that "More Sure Word of Prophecy" is?

DNA – A more sure word of Prophecy

We have also a more sure word of prophecy... 2 Peter 1:19 KJV

Although we've covered a lot of ground here, we have only scratched the surface of the abundance of evidence for the Rod / DNA connection in Scripture.

The final object inside the Ark is the Golden Pot of Manna or Deoxyribose.

Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'HE GAVE THEM BREAD OUT OF HEAVEN TO EAT'. John 6:31 ASV

When we eat bread, it turns into Carbohydrates or Sugar. The term is most common in biochemistry, where it is a synonym of saccharide, a group that includes sugars, starch, and cellulose.

Manna is also sweet, like Honey...

And the house of Israel called the name thereof Manna: and it was like coriander seed, white; and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey. Exodus 16:31 KJV



Think of those almond blossoms producing honey. The Golden Pot of Manna is a perfect fit for the Sugar in the Sugar Phosphate Backbone of RNA and DNA. When we add these elements together, we have DNA.

DNA - Chemical Analysis

H Hydrogen



The Sun is mostly Hydrogen, as well as Hydrogen Clouds throughout the Universe. Christ is often compared with the Sun. The various DNA chemicals revolve around the Hydrogen Bonds, just like planets revolve around our Sun!

A Adenine

C Cytosine

G Guanine

T Thymine

D Deoxyribose



Earth's atmosphere is Nitrogen based. A. C. G. & T. are also Nitrogen based. The Four Gospels are often compared to 'The Four Living Creatures' and 'The Four Winds' mentioned in Scripture.

Deoxyribose is Sugar. Honey is often used in scripture to describe something sweet. In Revelation 10:10, honey is even used to describe DNA! *"And I took the little book (DNA) out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey"*

P Phosphorus



Phosphorus is used to make matches. The name literally means "Light Bearer", or "Lucifer"! Phosphorus is often likened to Venus, (which has a Sulphur atmosphere) as well as the goddess Isis.

We still need to add the Chief Cornerstone of the Periodic Garden with Element number 1 - Hydrogen.

This brings us to the Mercy Seat ...

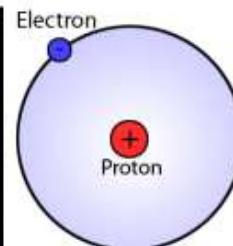
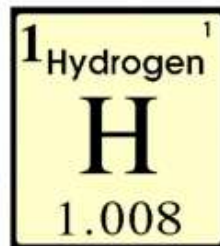
Who is Number 1?

Colossians 3:11

"Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but **Christ is all, and in all**"

Galatians 3:28

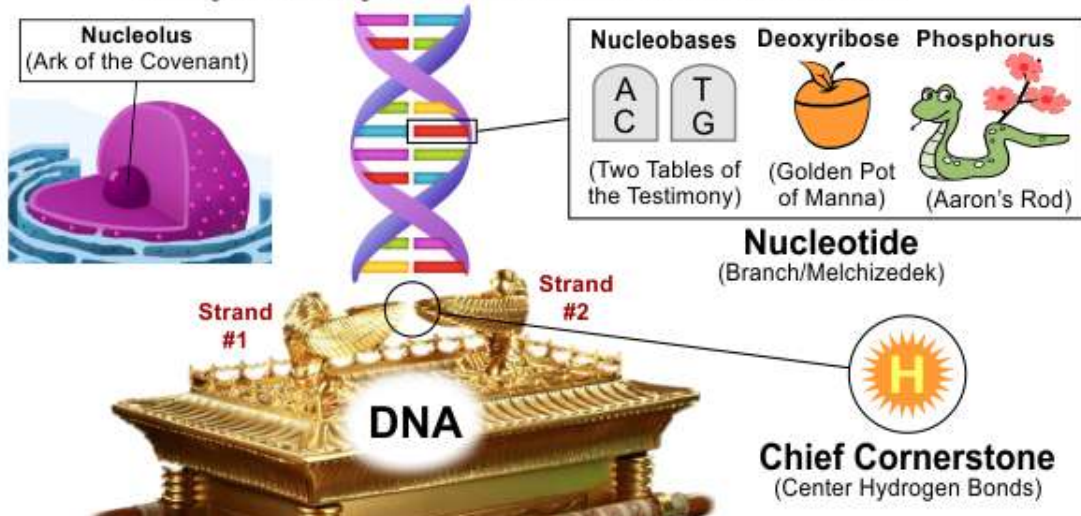
"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for **ye are all one in Christ Jesus**"



Tabernacle Organelles: The Mercy Seat/DNA

Exodus 25:22

"And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel"



Between the two cherubim is where we find the Centre Hydrogen Bonds that keep the two strands of DNA connected.

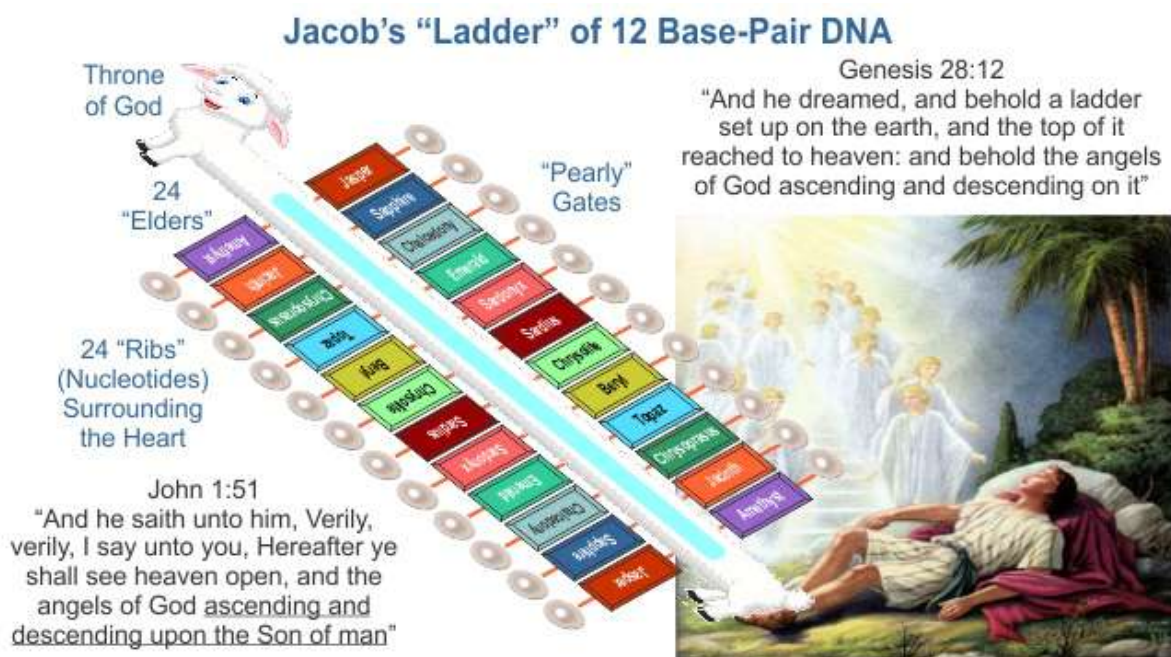
Think of Hydrogen as the 'Vine' and the Nucleobase Words as the 'Branches'.

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. John 15:5 KJV

The fruit would be the almond seed. Being 'gathered unto Him' is a picture of DNA. Each one of us is like a Nucleobase!

Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 1 Thessalonians 4:17 KJV

Our new DNA may look something like this - a unique Twelve Base-Pair construction.



THE MYSTERY OF THE TABERNACLE

PART X: MISHKAN

By: Rock Island Books: YouTube Channel

MISHKAN

The ancient prophetic Hebrew Scriptures paid much more attention to the Tabernacle and everything contained inside the Tabernacle. When we think of a Tabernacle, we think of a tent. But in this Hebrew word for Tabernacle - **“Mishkan”** - lies deep mysteries to be unlocked for our eternal life.

Studying the four-letter word **מִשְׁכָּן** (Mishkan) in Hebrew reveals the true and deeper meaning of the Tabernacle and all its elements. Although the Tabernacle was built on Earth, according to the pattern God showed Moses, it is a divine shadow type of something everlasting in the heavenlies.

Before the Tabernacle was built, God met with Moses outside the camp, at a distance from the people, in the Tent of Meeting. If anyone wanted to enquire anything from the Lord, they would have to go to the Tent of Meeting, outside of the camp. As Moses went into the tent, the pillar of cloud came and stood in front of the entrance, while the Lord spoke to Moses face-to-face (Exodus 33:7-9). The reason why this Tent of Meeting was outside the camp was because Israel broke the relationship with YHWH at Mount Sinai. This unbelief and faithlessness became a scandal that God could not ignore. God's wrath towards Israel also became a shadow type of God's wrath towards all mankind. This separation is not something to be ignored, as permanent separation from God will lead humanity to eternal death. Words cannot describe this condition, and left untreated, it is unaltered.

Man finds himself in a horrible condition. When not aware of this condition, it is a harbinger of hopelessness. Our Lord's intention is for humanity to realise this truth that we all are lost without God and for it to become the foundational truth of man's salvation. Sadly, many do not realise this, and sometimes it is too late to do anything about it.

By Moses's construction of the Tabernacle, God was making a way for man to restore this separation by transforming the Tent of Meeting outside the camp to the place of communion, the **Mercy Seat** in the Holy of Holies. The literal meaning of Mishkan is a "***dwelling place***". This became the place where God came down to dwell among His people.

The only glory that the Tabernacle could claim was not found in the items or elements of the Tabernacle, but only in the Lord Himself. In our previous discussions and outlays, we saw that the Tabernacle became the centre of Israel's life. For forty years, Israel took the Tabernacle with them as they wandered in the wilderness until they finally arrived in the Promised Land. After Israel had entered the Promised Land and conquered Canaan, King Solomon built the first permanent Temple in Jerusalem. This Temple was a replica of the Tabernacle. The Temple replaced the Tabernacle. The Temple became the permanent centre of worship for Israel in Jerusalem.

Letters of Mishkan



The first letter in the word Mishkan is “**Mem**”. It is a picture of water. The second letter “**Shin**” is a picture of teeth.

“**Khaf**” is a picture of the palm of a hand, and “**nun**” is a picture of a fish. To discover the deeper meaning of Mishkan, we first have to look into the meaning of each of these four Hebrew letters.

Mem-Nun

The Lord uses pictures for the letters of the Hebrew alphabet to reveal deep heavenly mysteries to men. The picture of Mem, water, can refer to rain that falls from heaven onto the earth, rivers flowing into each other and eventually into the sea. The true meaning of these letters is always found in the context in which it is used.

Remember that the instructions for building the Tabernacle came from above, directly from the heavens.

Who serve the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was warned of God when he was about to make the tabernacle. For, He says "See that you make all things according to the pattern shown to you in the mountain." Hebrews 8:5 MKJV

We need to remind ourselves that God instructed Moses to build the Tabernacle according to a precise heavenly pattern for Adonai to come

down and dwell in it. It was meant to be a place of meeting with Israel. Combining this with the meaning of the Hebrew letter Mem, we notice it has to do with something that came from above, just like rain. Just as the rain comes from above, from the heavens, likewise will Adonai come from above, from the heavenlies, to dwell with His people.

In the Holy of Holies, we found the Ark of the Covenant, covered by the Mercy Seat, as we have already explained in detail in previous sections. The three items inside the Ark of the Covenant witness man's rebellion against God. The manna inside reminds us how man rebelled against and rejected God's provision for Israel. This is still true in our lives today. The budding rod of Aaron was a reminder of man's rejection of God's leadership. Man usually chooses to follow himself or man's leadership, rather than submit and follow the leadership of YHWH. The stone tablets are a reminder of man's rejection of the laws of God. Notice how these elements were kept away from man's sight. It was put away in the Ark of the Covenant in secret and covered by the Mercy Seat.

Notice, when we take the two middle letters out of the Hebrew word Mishkan, the "sheen" and the "kha", the two letters, Mem and Nun, remain. Combining them, we find the word "**manna**". The mystery of this Hebrew word, Mishkan, is found in the first and the last letter, mem and nun.

The pictographic meaning of "manna" is "rain that brings life".

And it happened at evening, the quails came up and covered the camp. And in the morning the dew lay all around the host. ¹⁴ And

when the layer of dew had gone up, behold, there was a small round thing upon the face of the wilderness, small as the hoar-frost upon the ground. Exodus 16:13-14 MKJV

In John 6, we find the amazing testimony of the people, acknowledging that manna came down from heaven as food.

Our fathers ate the manna in the desert, as it is written, "He gave them bread from Heaven to eat." John 6:31 MKJV

But Jesus continued to emphasise that He is the true "Bread of Life", and that the manna in the wilderness could not give eternal life, because their fathers still died in the wilderness.

I am the Bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and died. John 6:48-49 MKJV

So Jesus declared that He was indeed the true Bread of Life and that He came down from Heaven. When we now eat His flesh (the true Bread of Life), we shall never die again.

Then Jesus said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Moses did not give you that bread from Heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from Heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is He who comes down from Heaven and gives life to the world. ³⁴ Then they said to him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. ³⁵ And Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes on Me shall never thirst. ³⁶ But I said to you that you also have seen Me and do not believe. John 6:32-36 MKJV

Manna is not only a picture of bread but also a picture of rain. So the first letter, the mem, shows that whatever is going on in the Tabernacle has to

do with something that came down from Heaven. The last letter brings it all together. Whatever came down from Heaven has to do with life.

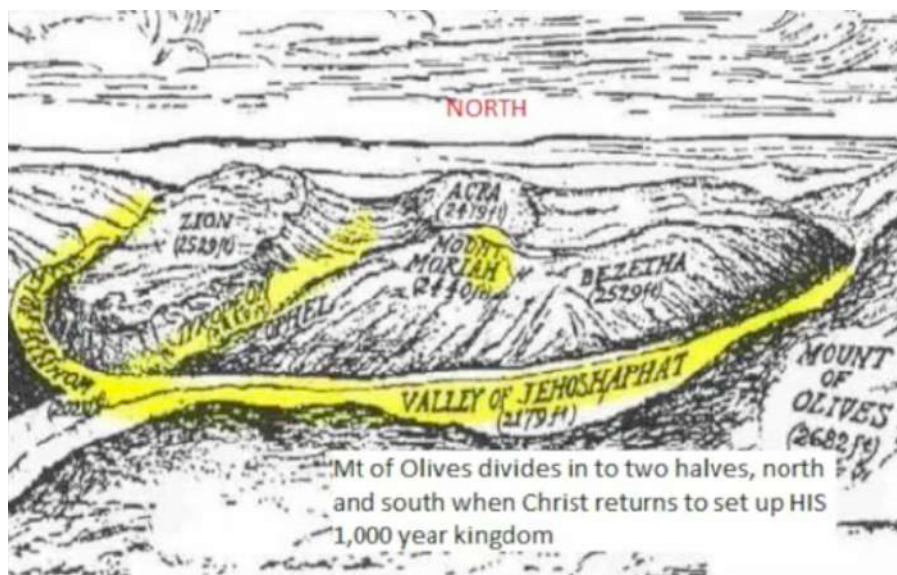
Shin

The shin is the one letter often used as the name of God. The pictograph for the letter shin is teeth. The letter contains three different concepts.

- God's name.
- To consume or destroy.
- To press against.

God's Name

Then there shall be a place which Jehovah your God shall choose to cause His name to dwell there. There you shall bring all that I command you, your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, your tithes, and the heave offering of your hand, and all your choice vows which you vow to Jehovah. Deuteronomy 12:11 MKJV



Adonai-Tzva'ot decided to engrave His name onto the earth at the exact spot and place where Solomon built the Temple (God's dwelling

place) in Jerusalem. It also foreshadows Jesus' second coming on Mount

Olives. The mountain will split into two halves when He establishes His everlasting Kingdom on Earth during the Millennium Reign.

The picture of teeth in the letter “shin” also means “to press”, and “sharp”. It foretells the end times. The letter “shin” is the 21st letter in the Hebrew alphabet, with a numeric value of 300. It speaks of El-Shaddai and His flame of fire, the power of the Holy Ghost, the outpouring, revival and His cleansing. Revival comes through persecution. On the other side of the same coin, we find God’s judgment for those who rejected His Word. The number “21” also speaks of great wickedness and rebellion. It points us to Israel in the wilderness. We are indeed entering a time when persecution will rise. God’s intention is our purification, but the anti-christ is out to destroy. He intends to change the laws and increase lawlessness.

Man was created on the 6th day of creation. This points to the number 666. This is man without God, man walking in man’s light, man’s plans and man’s laws. Man needs to be transformed into walking in God’s light, God’s plans and God’s laws. Then a total transformation has taken place, and man has finally moved from 666 to 777.

We currently find ourselves at the end of the prophetic 6th day of creation (the 6 000 years after creation), moving into the 7th day – the Millennium rest. It, therefore, speaks of Daniel’s 70th week, the seven-year Tribulation, when God will finally deal with Israel as a nation before they will accept the real and true Messiah, Yashuah HaMashiach. This is the reason for the current darkness before entering an everlasting Kingdom. Yashuah HaMashiach will establish this Kingdom, where we, as his bride,

will rule and reign with Him for the last 1 000 years on Earth before a new heaven and a new Earth will be established.

The number “21” also brings revelation of God and His Names. Jesus announced that Revelation is about the lifting of the veil – the revelation of who Jesus Christ is!

And to his son I will give one tribe, so that David My servant may have a light always before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen for Me, to put My name there. 1 Kings 11:36 MKJV

And he built altars in the house of Jehovah, of which Jehovah said, In Jerusalem I will put My name. 2 Kings 21:4 MKJV

But now I have chosen Jerusalem, so that My name might be there, and now I have chosen David to be over My people Israel. 2 Chronicles 6:6 MKJV

On the map above, we see the Tyropoeon Valley, the Hinnom Valley, and the Kidron Valley. God engraved His name into stone on the earth in Jerusalem in the shape of the letter “shin”, revealing Himself as the title holder of the land. There can be no doubt that God came down from Heaven to give life to man on Earth.

He first dwelt in the wilderness on the Mercy Seat in the Tabernacle, later in Jerusalem in the Temple of Solomon. Finally, He declared that He would return as the title holder of the land to establish His everlasting Kingdom on Earth in Jerusalem, where He will dwell among His people, to rule and reign for 1 000 years.

Let us now look at the last Hebrew letter in the word Mishkan. “Khaf” is spelt khaf-pey (a two-letter Hebrew word).

Khaf-Pey

Khaf is the palm of an open hand, and **pey** is a picture of the mouth. It represents a hand covering the mouth.

This is an illustration of atonement!

This is where “Kippur”, in Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, came from. “Kippur” literally asks the question: “Who is the one covering his mouth?” Without this mystery, there would be no purpose in the Tabernacle.

The Highest Judge, the Lord, is covering His own mouth!

Imagine a criminal found guilty of the death penalty, standing before a judge. All his charges are being read out loud in courts for everyone to hear. All the charges are indisputable. The Judge rises to read the final judgment, but then covers his mouth with his hand, preventing himself from pronouncing the judgment!

“Is this what the Tabernacle is all about – the dismissal of a death penalty?” Unfortunately, not! According to God’s word, no sin can be cancelled without full payment. Therefore, the sacrificial system embedded in the Tabernacle was a central system of this principle. For thousands of years, day and night, animals were offered on the altar to make atonement for the sin of Israel. The blood of these animals was sacrificed in exchange for the blood of man.

What a blessing that we can be forgiven of our sins and go to heaven, instead of to hell. The gospel proclaims that Jesus paid sin's penalty by His substitutionary death for sin. Jesus died, was buried, and rose again, proving that God accepted His payment for sin. Jesus was punished for our sins so we could be forgiven and escape sin's punishment. This is the true concept of salvation!

Salvation is a gift of grace and is received by believing the gospel. The gospel, when believed, "is the power of God to Salvation for everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16). When a sinner personally believes the gospel, he becomes justified as a completely righteous person before God (Romans 3:24, 5:1-9). God gives a believer Christ's righteousness and takes away sin's penalty and condemnation (2 Corinthians 5:21). This is the "GREATEST NEWS" God has ever shared with the world. **Theologically, this is called "Justification".**

The third Hebrew letter in the word Mishkan is, therefore, a picture of the Judge refusing to pronounce the final verdict against the criminal, facing the death penalty.

Nun

Nun is the final picture in the Tabernacle and is a representation of a fish. It has the meaning of life! This might be confusing, as the only One who can bring life is Jesus Christ, Yashuah HaMashiach, the Anointed One.

In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. John 1:4 MKJV

In John 6, Jesus said He had come down from Heaven like rain to give life to all. There is, therefore, a life that gives life and without that life, there is indeed NO LIFE. There is a life given for a life to be saved. In

this letter “nun” we find the substitute of a life, without spot and wrinkle, for the life of a criminal. You may think that God the Father was the Judge, but it was Yashuah.

Therefore I solemnly witness before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who is going to judge the living and the dead according to His appearance and His kingdom. 2 Timothy 4:1 MKJV

For the Father judges no man, but has committed all judgment to the Son. John 5:22 MKJV



Considering the last three Hebrew letters (shin, khaf and nun), we see that only the hand (khaf) that covers the mouth, could stop the wrath

of God (shin, that destroys) from destroying life (nun). It is the hand (khaf) that separates the shin (teeth that destroy) and the nun (that gives life) from each other. Nothing could make the final atonement for man’s soul, but the only final blood sacrifice of the Son, Yashuah!

“The Son of Man willingly destroyed himself on the cross” was the final sacrifice, when He cried out “Tetelestai!” It was indeed done and finished! The Hebrew letters in the word “Berashith” also mean “the Son of Man willingly destroyed Himself on the cross.”



**THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES:
GOD'S HEAVENLY PATTERN FOR
OUR SPIRITUAL
TRANSFORMATION**

**PART XI: HINTS FOR THE
BELIEVER'S LIFE**

A BRIEF SUMMARY

The Gate

The gate was the only entrance into the sanctuary.

Jesus said to him, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father but by Me. John 14:6 MKJV

The altar of burnt offering

Once we enter through the gate, we face the Altar of Burnt Offerings.

How much more shall the blood of Christ (who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God) purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? Hebrews 9:14 MKJV

The Laver

The next element is the Laver, a picture of our baptism (baptizō), and regeneration by the Holy Spirit.

Now you are clean through the Word which I have spoken to you. John 15:3 MKJV

The Tabernacle

Now we face the actual Tabernacle, a picture of the Body of Christ (His Church – the set-apart ones). We are ready to enter!

So, you are not foreigners or guests, but rather you are the children of the city of the holy ones, with all the rights as family members of the household of God.²⁰ You are rising like the perfectly fitted stones

of the temple; and your lives are being built up together upon the ideal foundation laid by the apostles and prophets, and best of all, you are connected to the Head Cornerstone of the building, the Anointed One, Jesus Christ himself! ²¹ This entire building is under construction and is continually growing under his supervision until it rises up completed as the holy temple of the Lord himself. ²² This means that God is transforming each one of you into the Holy of Holies, his dwelling place, through the power of the Holy Spirit living in you! Ephesians 2:19-22 TPT

Menorah

Behind the veil is the Holy of Holies, with the Menorah on the left side. This Lampstand represents the four Gospels of Jesus, and the oil represents the Holy Spirit.

Then Jesus said, "I am light to the world and those who embrace me will experience life-giving light, and they will never walk in darkness.

John 8:12 TPT

Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Matthew 5:14 KJV

Table of Showbread

To the right, we find the Table of Showbread – our spiritual food. It points to the Holy Supper.

Jesus said to them, "I am the Bread of Life. Come every day to me and you will never be hungry. Believe in me and you will never be thirsty.

John 6:35 TPT

Altar of Incense

Straight ahead, directly in front of the veil, we find the Altar of Incense – a picture of our prayers and intercession.

Let my prayer be as the evening sacrifice that burns like fragrant incense, rising as my offering to you as I lift up my hands in surrendered worship! Psalms 141:2 TPT

Pray without ceasing. ¹⁸ In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 MKJV

The Veil

Now we face the veil, which was torn as Jesus granted and provided access to the Father.

And, behold! The veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. And the earth quaked, and the rocks were sheared. Matthew 27:51 MKJV

Therefore, brothers, having boldness to enter into the Holy of Holies by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He has consecrated for us through the veil, that is to say, His flesh. Hebrews 10:19-20 MKJV

The Ark of the Covenant

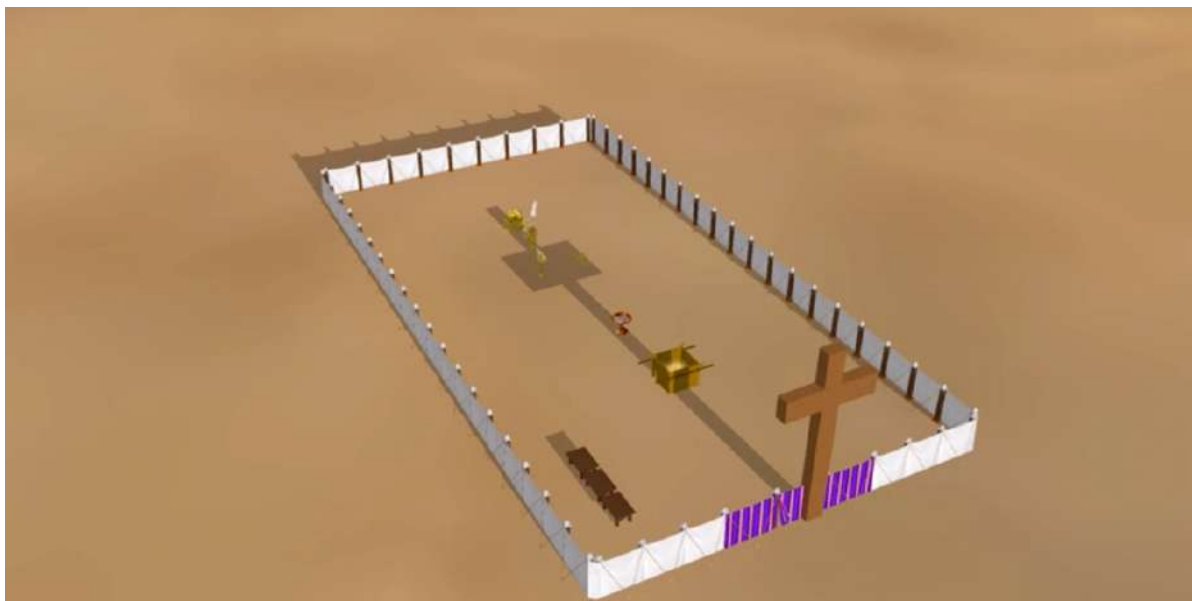
The Ark of the Covenant is behind the veil, the Throne of the presence of God.

*And David arose and went with all the people with him from beyond Baale of Judah, to bring up the ark of God from there, which is called by the Name, the **Name of Jehovah of Hosts who dwells above the cherubs**. 2 Samuel 6:2 MKJV*

General

From the beginning, it was ordained that the only way to the Father would be through Jesus Christ. This is indicated by the first veil to enter the sanctuary. It represents Jesus!

Jesus said to him, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father but by Me. John 14:6 MKJV



When we would put a cross at the gate and remove the Tabernacle, the shadow of the cross, at sunrise, would cover the furniture, positioned in the shape of a cross, as indicated in the picture on the left. For this to take place, two conditions must be met. The sun must be low enough so that the shadow can be elongated. This can only happen at sunrise or

sunset. As the gate points to the east, this shadow could only occur at sunrise, as the sun rises in the east. Sunrise in the exact east occurs only twice a year, in **March** and **September** on our Gregorian Calendar.

And God said, Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to divide between the day and the night. And let them be for signs, and for seasons (Hebrew Mo-ad), and for days and years.

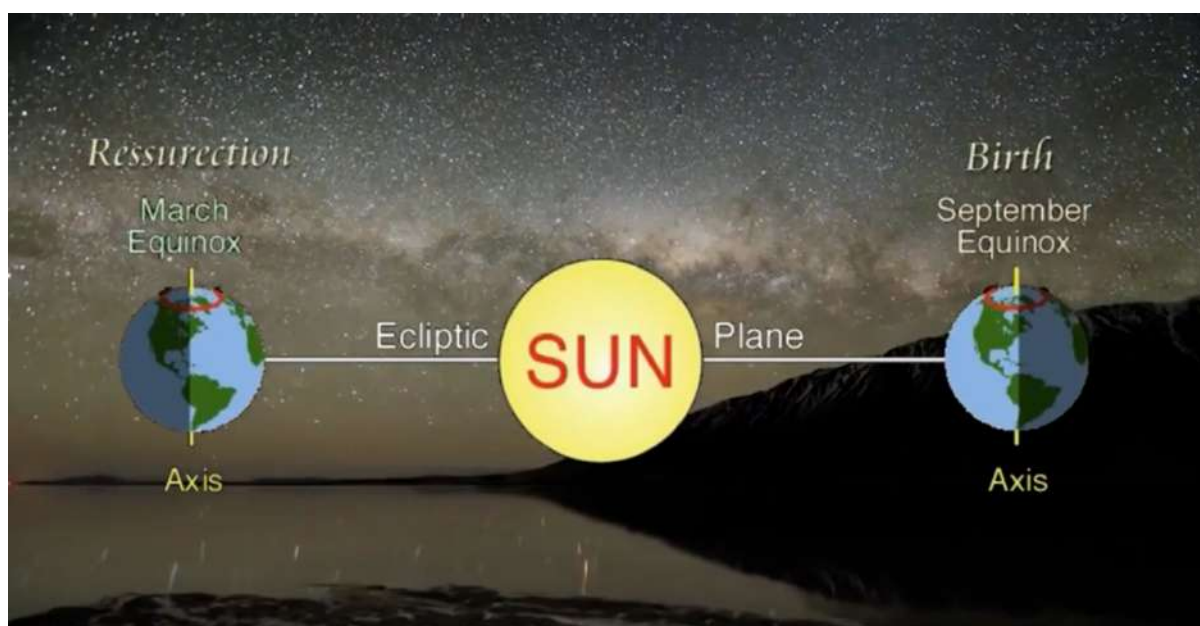
Genesis 1:14 MKJV

According to Bible scholars, our Messiah was born on September 11th, 3 BC (Gregorian Calendar), the first day of Rosh Hashanah, the Hebrew New Year, or the birthday of Creation. This means that circumcision took place on Yom Kippur, eight days later, on the day of Atonement (which was also on 20/21 September 2021). After five days of healing, the Feast of Tabernacles started on Sukkot.

The crucifixion took place 33 years later on Passover. Three days later, on March 22nd or Nissan 17th, the resurrection took place on the spring equinox. Here we see Jesus in the east, both in birth (September) and in His resurrection (March), at the same date and time, the shadow falls exactly on the furniture in the sanctuary.

Both events occurred on His Feasts, fulfilling the prophetic meaning of the Feasts.

- Birth – Rosh Hashanah
- Resurrection – First Fruits



Source: LastTrumpetBlast Channel: YouTube

The Hebrew word for seasons in Genesis 1 (H4150) is “mô'êd”. According to Strong’s Dictionary, it means a divine appointment, an appointed time or specifically a festival.

H4150 (Strong)

mô'êd mô'êd mô'âdâh

From H3259; properly an appointment, that is, a fixed time or season; specifically a festival; conventionally a year; by implication, an assembly (as convened for a definite purpose); technically the congregation; by extension, the place of meeting; also a signal (as appointed beforehand): - appointed (sign, time), (place of, solemn) assembly, congregation, (set, solemn) feast, (appointed, due) season, solemn (-ity), synagogue, (set) time (appointed).

Combining all, we see the fulfilment of these Feasts in the Menorah, Jesus’ birth on Rosh Hashanah, Circumcision on Yom Kippur and His recovery after circumcision on Sukkoth (Feast of Tabernacles), Jesus’

crucifixion on Pesach, His death on the Feast of Unleavened Bread and the resurrection on First Fruits. After Jesus's ascension into heaven, He told His disciples to not leave Jerusalem but to wait for the outpouring of the Holy Ghost.



Source: LastTrumpetBlast Channel: YouTube

And having met with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to await the promise of the Father which you heard from Me. ⁵ For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized in the Holy Spirit not many days from now. Acts 1:4-5 MKJV

The significance of “east” goes even deeper. On Palm Sunday, Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey from the east, through the Eastern Gate.

And when He had come near, even now at the descent of the Mount of Olives, all the multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works which they had seen. Luke 19:37 MKJV

According to the scriptures, Jesus will return again from the east, again through the Eastern Gate (which is currently closed and forbidden for anyone to enter through).

And His feet shall stand in that day on the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall divide from its middle, from the east and to the west, a very great valley. And half of the mountain shall move toward the north, and half of it toward the south. Zechariah 14:4 MKJV

This prophecy was released around 600 BC, even before the birth of Jesus. The Eastern Gate was closed, and a cemetery was built in front of the Gate to prevent the Messiah's return. Even this event was prophesied by Ezekiel.

And he brought me back by the way of the gate of the outer sanctuary which looks eastward. And it was shut. ² And Jehovah said to me, This gate shall be shut; it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it. Because Jehovah, the God of Israel, has entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut. ³ It is for the ruler; the ruler shall sit in it to eat bread before Jehovah. He shall enter by the way of the porch of that gate, and shall go out by the same way. Ezekiel 44:1-3 MKJV

This Gate will be opened again at the Messiah's return!

The King of Glory

A Psalm of David. The earth is Jehovah's, and the fullness of it; the world, and those who dwell in it. ² For He has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. ³ Who shall go up into the hill of

*Jehovah? Or who shall stand in His holy place? ⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure heart; who has not lifted up his soul to vanity, and has not sworn deceitfully. ⁵ He shall receive the blessing from Jehovah, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. ⁶ his is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek Your face, O God of Jacob. Selah. ⁷ Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, **O everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.** ⁸ **Who is this King of glory? Jehovah strong and mighty, Jehovah mighty in battle.** ⁹ Lift up your heads, O gates; even lift up, O everlasting doors; and **the King of glory shall come in.** ¹⁰ Who is this King of glory? Jehovah of Hosts, He is the King of glory. Selah.*
Psalms 24:1-10 MKJV

The gate of the Garden of Eden was also in the east!

And He drove out the man. And He placed cherubs at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life. Genesis 3:24 MKJV

Jesus announced that He would return from the East!

For as the lightning comes out of the east and shines even to the west, so also will be the coming of the Son of Man. Matthew 24:27 MKJV

All this has to do with sunrise and not sunset. It also points us to the Morning Star (or the Day Star), another reference to Jesus. The morning star arises in the east.

I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify these things to you over the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright and Morning Star. Revelation 22:16 MKJV

This Morning Star even arises in our hearts!

We also have a more sure Word of prophecy, to which you do well to take heed, as to a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the Daystar arises in your hearts. 2 Peter 1:19 MKJV

The wise men who saw this star knew it indicated the birth of the Messiah.

Where is He who is born king of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east and have come to worship Him. Matthew 2:2 MKJV

Our Messiah can be found in the details of everything around us. We are anticipating His long-awaited return! He will come again from the east to drive out darkness – this time as the Lion of Judah! Darkness will never return! He will be the Light of the world, when we, as His Bride, will rule and reign with Him during the Millennium Reign.

So wake up, you living gateways, and rejoice!

Fling wide, you eternal doors!

Here he comes; the King of Glory is ready to come in.

¹⁰ You ask, "Who is this King of Glory?"

He is Yahweh, armed and ready for battle,

the Mighty One,

the invincible commander of heaven's hosts!

Psalm 24:9-10 TPT

Outside the Tabernacle

The wilderness (desert) refers to the outside world, where people are living without God. The Outer Court is where there is still worldliness, but

here repentance and conversion can start. Here is still day and night, light and darkness.

Holy Place

Inside the Tabernacle, we find the Holy Place, which has the “light of the Gospel” and is lit by the Holy Spirit. It is the holy life, the true Christian life in the true larger Church (the Body of Christ).

Holy of Holies

The Most Holy Place is lit with supernatural light. It is the heavenly Kingdom. In our Christian life, we can move backwards and forwards between these stages, or in some cases, go in circles, without growth or progression.

While in or attached to the world, we are still unclean. Once we repent and accept Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins, the cleansing begins through the Word and the Spirit. We become clean in the sight of the Father, through the Son. Regeneration begins, and our lives change drastically. We become holy, which means we are separated from and no longer part of the world. This is clear in the picture before us, as we move now inside the Tabernacle, beyond the first veil which separates the inside from the outside.

Only after our earthly life, will we receive our glorified state in the Kingdom of Heaven, finally free from our sinful nature! Many believers are serving God from the Courtyard. They see the cross, have been baptised and may even have experienced the Holy Spirit or expressed the gifts, but they are full of worldliness and do not live a holy life.

In whatever stage we find ourselves in, we always find what we need to do by just looking at the object we are facing within the sanctuary. Maybe we currently need to either take a step back or move forward.

- When you are still unsaved, you need to focus on Jesus and enter the “Gate”. During this stage, you are still unclean, and confession and repentance of sins are of crucial importance so that you can be reconciled with Christ Jesus.
- Once you accept Jesus, you need to accept His sacrifice for your sins. Only then can you be justified (the cross, Altar of Sacrifice).
- Now, at the Laver, you need to cleanse yourself with the Word and prayer and baptism through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit, who regenerates, will do His work in you to bring a desire to serve God. You would desire to serve Him in private and also with your brethren. Regeneration and sanctification take place.
- Now that you have intimacy with Christ and live a holy life, you receive more and more spiritual enlightenment. The Gospel will burn inside of you, and you will become a light to others (Menorah).
- However, without food, your life will perish. At the Table of Showbread, you find spiritual food, the Written Word. Your engagement with Christ is reaffirmed over and over. This is the place where you will grow into maturity.
- God speaks in many ways to us, also through His Word, and we speak back to Him in our prayers. As Christ intercedes for us, we now intercede for others (Altar of Incense).
- Finally, when the veil is lifted, we will be glorified and enjoy God’s presence to eternity (Holy of Holies – Mercy Seat)!

It is fascinating how Adonai laid out His plan of salvation through His Son, Yashuah, more than 1 000 years before it even came to pass. All the elements, their details and layouts, are staggering confirmation that it could only have been designed by YHWH!

Remember former things from forever; for I am God, and no other is God, even none like Me, ¹⁰ declaring the end from the beginning, and from the past things which were not done, saying, My purpose shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure. Isaiah 46:9-10 MKJV

I have concluded that the Tabernacle is the Gospel of Jesus Christ! The Tabernacle proves what the Holy Scriptures say! The design of the Tabernacle and its furniture is a perfect model for our Christian life, an instruction for the Church (His set-apart ones) long before it came into existence!

Let us eagerly follow the set route, from the desert into the Courtyard, then into the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies, where we will commune with God and **never again look back** to our former lives!



There is no doubt that there are three dwelling places in the heaven, namely the Outer Courts, the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies. We do know this when God told Moses on Mount Sinai to build a dwelling place for him according to the pattern in the heavens (Hebrews 8:5; Exodus 25:8). Nobody could enter in, except through the Gate, which of course points to our Messiah. No wonder the Jewish Rabbis want to kill Jesus when He said that I am the way, the truth and the life, speaking of the gates of the Tabernacle. Only people from the 12 Tribes of Israel could enter the Outer Courts (which were forbidden for the Gentiles) and only the Levite Priests doing services could enter the Holy Place, but only the High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies. Likewise, only true born again believers will dwell in the Outer Courts in Heavens one day. Unfortunately, not all will excess the Holy Place, as this dwelling place is reserved for those ready for service. But, those who have a close relationship with their Messiah will enter the Holy of Holies and dwell at the Throne of Yehôvâh Elohim. The Hebrew word for Tabernacle is "Mishkan" and in this word we find new Biblical Truths of the deeper meaning of the Tabernacle. Something and / or someone has to come down from heavens like manna to give eternal life to humanity as Jesus declares: "I am the Bread of Live: he that come to me shall never hunger; and he that believe on me shall never thirst" (John 6:35).



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