

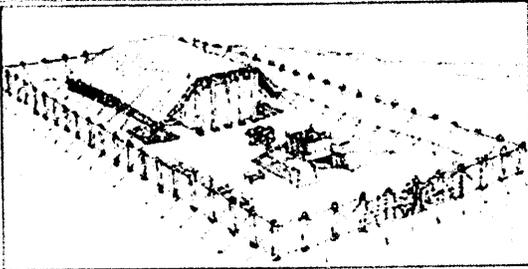
Sunday School Class – HPC
September 11, 2022

John Spencer

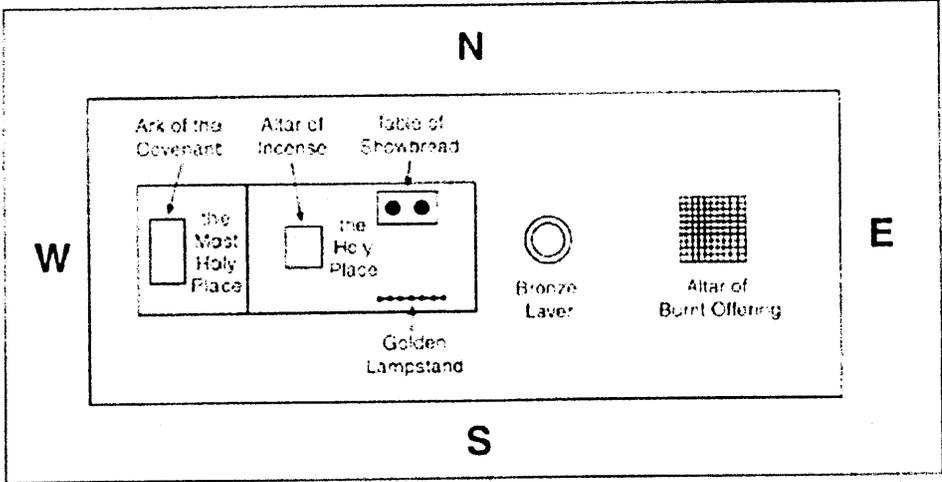
THE ACCOUTREMENTS OF WORSHIP –

THE WILDERNESS (“SINAITIC”) TABERNACLE

The Plan of the Tabernacle



The tabernacle was to provide a place where God might dwell among His people. The term tabernacle sometimes refers to the tent, including the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place, which was covered with embroidered curtains. But in other places it refers to the entire complex, including the curtained court in which the tent stood.



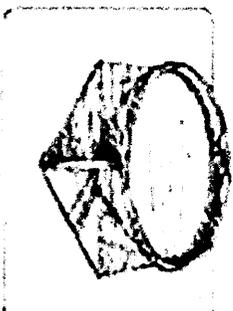
This illustration shows relative positions of the tabernacle furniture used in Israelite worship. The tabernacle is enlarged for clarity.

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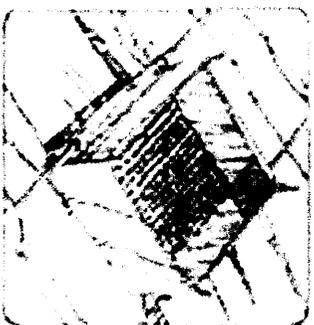
Ark of the Covenant

Ex. 25:10-22
The ark was made of gold and silver and was covered with precious stones. It was the symbol of God's presence among the people of Israel.



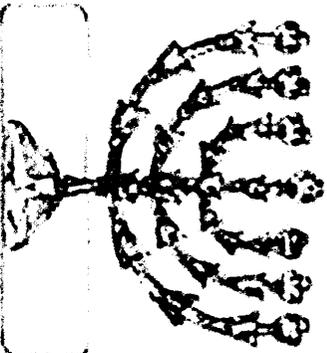
Golden Lamp

Ex. 25:31-39
The golden lamp was made of pure gold and was used to light the tabernacle. It was the symbol of God's presence among the people of Israel.



Ark of Burial

Ex. 25:10-22
The ark was made of gold and silver and was covered with precious stones. It was the symbol of God's presence among the people of Israel.



Golden Lamp

Ex. 25:31-39
The golden lamp was made of pure gold and was used to light the tabernacle. It was the symbol of God's presence among the people of Israel.

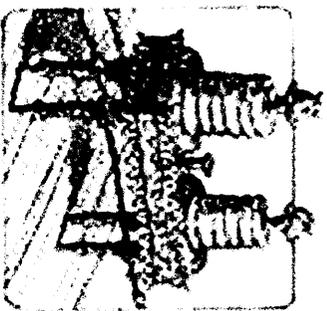
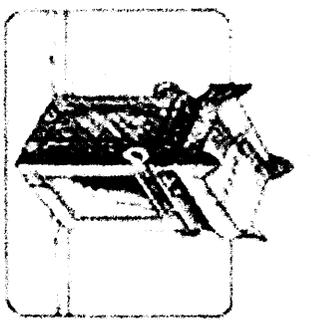


Table of Showbread

Ex. 25:23-30
The table of showbread was made of gold and silver and was used to hold the twelve loaves of bread. It was the symbol of God's presence among the people of Israel.



Ark of Presence

Ex. 25:10-22
The ark was made of gold and silver and was covered with precious stones. It was the symbol of God's presence among the people of Israel.

I. INTRODUCTION - TWO KEY TERMS (In title).

Worship – Hebrew “shahah” (to bow down), to prostrate oneself before God in order to do Him honor and reverence. Recall, our English word worship comes from the old English word “worthship”.

It is as natural to worship as it is to live. The feeling and expression of high adoration, reverence, trust, love, loyalty, and dependence upon God is a necessity to man. “Worship” is as old as humanity. It has its root in a necessity of the human soul, as native to it, as consciousness of God Himself, which impels it to testify by word and act its love its love and gratitude to the Author of life and the Giver of all good

Accoutrements – “furnishings” – “Equipment”.

II. THE TABERNACLE

A. Eight names and synonyms of the tabernacle

1. DWELLING PLACE – Heb. “miskin” from “shakan”, (to lie Down, dwelling. In its application to the tabernacle it denotes (a) the ten colored curtains: (b) the forty-eight planks supporting them; (c) the whole building including the roof.
 2. A TENT – Heb. “ahel” (1 Kgs 1:39), in its application to To the tabernacle the term means. (a) the tent of goat’s hair: (b) the whole building.
 3. HOUSE - (Heb. “bayeth” (Exod 23:19, 34:26; Josh 6:24) This conveys the idea of a fixed, settled habitation; and was therefore more fitted to the Israelites when they were settled in Caanan.
 4. PLACE OF SANCTITY – Heb. “miqdash”, Gk. “hagiasma” The holy, consecrated place.
 5. TEMPLE – Heb. “hekal” a stately building or place of Jehovah (1 Chron 29: 1, 19), the word is more often applied to the Temple.
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6. THE TABERNACLE OF THE CONGREGATION - (Exod 29:42, 44).
7. THE TABERNACLE OF TESTIMONY – (Num 9:15).
8. THE TABERNACLE OF WITNESS - (Num 17:7; 18:2).

Note: Three Tabernacles and mentioned in the O.T.

1. The provisional tabernacle established by Moses after The sin of the golden calf (Exod 33:7). It was pitched outside of the camp.
2. The wilderness (Sinaitic) tabernacle erected in accordance with the instructions given Moses by Jehovah (Exod 25-27).
3. The Davidic tabernacle – erected in Jerusalem by David For the reception of the Ark. (2 Sam 6:12).

In all special facts connected with the tabernacle the the original thought reappears. It is the place where man meets with God.

B. THE CREATION AND THE TABERNACLE-

The Creation and the Tabernacle

Creation	Tabernacle
Seven Acts Marked by Divine Speech "And God said..." Gn 1:1, 6, 9, 11, 20, 24, 26	Seven Acts Marked by Divine Speech "And the Lord said..." Ex 25:1, 10, 11, 17, 22, 45, 31:1, 12
The Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters Gn 1:2	I have filled him, Bezalel, with the Spirit of God Ex 31:3, 43:31
God saw everything and it was very good Gn 1:31	Moses saw all the work... so had they done it Ex 39:43
the heavens and the earth were finished Gn 2:1	As the work of the tabernacle was finished Ex 39:32
God finished His work Gn 2:2	Moses finished the work Ex 40:33
So God blessed the seventh day Gn 2:3	And Moses blessed them Ex 39:33
God rested on the seventh day and sanctified it Gn 2:2-3	God commanded Israel to rest on the seventh day and to sanctify it Ex 31:12-18
The garden of Eden had pure gold and precious jewels Gn 2:7-12a	The tabernacle had pure gold and precious jewels Ex 25:3, 18
The garden of Eden had the tree of knowledge of good and evil in the midst of it Gn 2:3, 9b	The tabernacle had the law in the ark of tables Ex 25:16, 31:18, 26: Pr 1:18
The Lord walked about the garden Gn 3:8	The Lord walked in the midst of the tent Ex 26:12, 31:23, 34
humanity was "to worship and obey" God in the garden Gn 2:15	Levites to "serve," worship and "attend," obey in the tabernacle Nm 3:7, 8, 18, 5, 6
The fall - humanity broke God's command regarding the tree Gn 3:1-7	The Is-ls-trael broke God's command regarding idolatry Ex 32
cherubs guarded the garden Gn 3:24	Cherubim guard the mercy seat Ex 25:18

C. THE TABERNACLE AND HEAVENLY CORRESPONDENCE

Basically the tabernacle is God's picture of Christ, the Word who became flesh and "tabernacle" among us (John 1:14 Greek). It can be used as picturing God's way of Salvation and the subsequent life and ministry of the believer. Although it pictures the way of salvation, it was given to a people who were already in covenant relationship with God. Rather than providing a way of salvation,

tabernacle and the services connected to it were copies of the things in the heavens. This does not mean that there must be structural or architectural likeness in heaven, but the tabernacle pictures spiritual realities in heaven.

The earthly sanctuary (Heb. 9:1-5)	The heavenly sanctuary (Heb. 8:2; 9:11-15)
The Holiest of all (Heb. 9:3b)	The Holiest, God's presence (Heb. 10:19)
The veil (Heb. 9:3a)	The veil, Christ's body (Heb. 10:20)
The blood of animals (Heb. 9:13)	The blood of Christ (Heb. 9:14)
The altar (Heb. 7:13; Ex. 27:1-8)	Christ, our altar (Heb. 13:10)
The high priest (Heb. 5:1-4)	Christ our Great High Priest (Heb. 4:14, 15; 5:5-10; 7:20-28; 8:1; 10:21)
The sacrifices (Heb. 10:1-4, 11)	Christ, our sacrifice (Heb. 9:23-28; 10:12)
The ark (Heb. 9:4)	The throne of grace (Heb. 4:16)
The altar of incense (Heb. 9:4, KJV)	The altar of incense in heaven (Rev. 8:3)

D. A WORD ON TYPOLOGY

TYPE – WEBSTER – “A person or thing (as in the O.T.) believed to fore-shadow another (as in the N.T.). “Two warnings are necessary (1) nothing may be dogmatically asserted as a type without explicit N.T. authority, and (2) All types not so authenticated must be recognized as having the authority of analogy or spiritual congruity. “The tabernacle speaking comprehensively is explained in the N.T. as typical in three ways: (1) of the Church as a habitation of God through the Spirit (Exod 25:8; Eph 2:

19-22; (2) of the individual believer (2 Cor 6:16); (3) As a figure of things in heaven (Heb. 9: 23,24).
In detail all speaks of Christ.” (Scofield).

The typical meaning of the materials and colors in the tabernacle are widely believed to be:

Gold – Deity in manifestation – Divine Glory

Wood – Christ’s humanity

Silver – Redemption (Exod 30:12-16; 38:27).

Brass – Symbol of judgment, as in the brazen altar and
Serpent of Brass (Num 21: 6-9)

Fine embroidered linen – The Righteousness and Beauty of Christ.

Goats Hair – The atonement if Christ becomes our scapegoat (Lev. 16).

Rams skin died red – The consecration of Christ (cf. the Ram of consecration (Exod 29:19-22).

Badger skins – These are also termed porpoise skins, dolphin skins and hides of sea cows. They protected the tabernacle from the elements suggesting Christ’s guarding His people from outward evil.

COLORS – The white curtains were embroidered with purple, scarlet and blue. These have been seen as typifying Christ as presented in the four gospels:

Purple - Matthew - The King (Mt.2:2)

Scarlet - Mark -The lowly servant suffering for sins
that are likened to Scarlet-Isa 1:18

White - Luke -The perfect man (Luke 3:22).

Blue - John -The Heavenly One (John 3:13)

EXCURSUS: THE TABERNACLE – FOCUS OF THE NATION

The tabernacle was to be the focus of the nation, both in a physical/literal sense and in a figurative/spiritual sense. The directions for the tabernacle came from the LORD Himself (25:1; 30-11,22,36; 31: 1,12). This was meant to drive home the significance of the structure for:

- (1) The relationship between the nation and the LORD,
- (2) The nations proper and acceptable worship of the LORD,
- (3) The nations overall devotion to the LORD.

To emphasize the importance of the tabernacle EXODUS devotes approximately two chapters to narrating the actual exodus from Egypt, two thirds of one chapter to the Decalogue, but thirteen chapters to the tabernacle... that is about one-third of the entire book. Moreover, fully fifty chapters in the Bible are devoted to the tabernacle.

It indicates that GOD desires the nation's priorities to center on worship and devotion to Him. A contemporary lesson for a nation today. Scripture says, "Blessed is that nation whose God is the LORD" (Psa. 32:12).

II. THE COLLECTION OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS (25:1-9)

A. GOD instructed Moses to ask for the contributions before He gave them the plans for the tabernacle, with only one motivation, "*that I may dwell among them*" (25:8). The LORD made it clear to Moses that He desired only those gifts that were given willingly, "*whoever is of a willing heart*" (35: 21, 22, 28). The LORD defined what they were to bring (25:3-7). There was a list of fourteen components and materials needed to build the tabernacle.

B. The people's response – Joyful Givers.

The people's response was out of a joyful heart, so much so they had to be "*restrained from bring any more*" (36: 3,7). A similar spirit was witnessed in David's time when preparations for the construction of the Temple were undertaken (cf. 1 Ch 29: 1-9).

III. THE LORD'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION

(25:8) The tabernacle was both a self-contained compound and the tabernacle proper within the court and compound. The tabernacle was a rectangle placed inside an oblong compound of two perfect squares (27: 9-12, 18). There was only one opening on the East end. The structure was always setup with the entrance on the East and The Holy of Holies on the Western end of the compound. (photo).

MEASUREMENTS: The court was approx. 172' long by 86' wide. The tabernacle was 45' long, 15' wide and 15' high with outside spaces being equal. The curtain forming the the outside court were 7 ½' high.

IV. THE ACCOUTREMENTS OF THE TABERNACLE

1. THE ARK OF THE COVENANT (photo)

The center (both in a literal and figuratively sense) of the Tabernacle was the Ark of the Covenant, "clearly the most Sacred of all the pieces of furniture in the tabernacle" (Hamilton, Exodus, 459). Kaiser notes the Ark is mentioned 180 times, thereby stressing its importance". The Ark was a wooden box ('aron, "chest") overlaid with gold and it had transcendent significance.

The Ark was about 3' 9" long and about 2'3" wide and about 2'3" high. It had four posts with one on each corner and

rings on the posts through which poles of Acacia wood overlaid with gold were installed to carry the Ark. In the case of the Ark (unlike other furniture with rings and poles) these poles were never to be removed (25: 15).

On the top of the Ark, (sometimes referred to as the lid) was Placed the "Mercy Seat". The mercy seat was solid gold and featured two Cherubims on each end, facing each other with wings extended and touching. The Ark was the only object in the Holy of Holies. The Cherubim are a class of angels associated with the transcendent, glorious presence of GOD (Ezek. 10:1-22). The images of the cherubim were woven into the decorations of the curtains of the Holy place. The term mercy seat comes from the Hebrew term "to cover" and conveys the idea of "Atonement. The Day of Atonement was the only day of the year when the High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies. On that day the High Priest sprinkled the blood on the Mercy seat and accomplished the "covering of sin for the nation for one year. The symbolism was clear: Above was the Shekinah Glory of God (cf. 40:34 ff.), in the Ark was the law (*the testimony*), And between on the mercy seat was the atoning blood.

Inside the Ark was two stone tablets referred to as *The Testimony, i.e., Ten Commandments*. Though given under the Law the New Testament applies them to believers today:

Later the Ark contained the Manna (Christ as the bread of Life), and Aaron's rod that budded (*Resurrection*). (cf. Heb. 9: 4,5). The Ark was to be covered when transported (Num. 4:5,6). No doubt protection but also from being seen (Lev 16).

Finally, the central meaning of human existence on the planet Earth was to have a relationship with God that brings Him glory; this tabernacle was a symbol of how that relationship might be made viable. I brought God near. In Romans 3:25 Jesus Himself is referred to as "the mercy seat".

Blessings.

The Ten Commandments

Commandment	O.T. Statement	O.T. Death Penalty	N.T. Restatement
1st Polytheism	Ex. 20:3	Ex. 22:20; Deut. 6:13-15	Acts 14:15
2nd Graven Images	Ex. 20:4	Deut. 27:15	1 John 5:21
3rd Swearing	Ex. 20:7	Lev. 24:15,16	James 5:12
4th Sabbath	Ex. 20:8	Num. 15:32-36	Col. 2:16 nullifies
5th Obedience to Parents	Ex. 20:12	Ex. 21:15-17	Eph. 6:1
6th Murder	Ex. 20:13	Ex. 21:12	1 John 3:15
7th Adultery	Ex. 20:14	Lev. 20:10	1 Cor. 6:9,10
8th Theft	Ex. 20:15	Ex. 21:16	Eph. 4:28
9th False Witness	Ex. 20:16	Deut. 18:16-21	Col. 3:9,10
10th Coveting	Ex. 20:17	_____	Eph. 5:3

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