

References

Please Stand

YouTube Song – ***When the Roll is Called Up Yonder***

The Tabernacle of the Lord (Hold Slide)

As a way of introduction into this evening's lesson, Moses was directed by God 3500 years ago to build the first portable sanctuary for worshiping the Lord. The Lord was very specific regarding the pattern that needed to be followed in order to construct the Tabernacle, and He was very clear that Moses should not deviate from this pattern, whatsoever. Why is it then that we as believers need to study this pattern today? Is it possible that it could have any relevance to the Lord's people in this day and age? Can it truly give us any insight into our own spiritual walk in the 21st Century by studying this ancient form of worship? My hope for today and the following series of lessons is to answer these questions and more as I introduce you to [Revealing Jesus in the Tabernacle](#).

Do you believe God took pleasure in creating all things in six days?

According to Gen. 1:31, "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."

God authored two relatively short chapters in the Book of Genesis (Gen 1 and 2) to record the creation of the Universe.

Notwithstanding, God included 50 chapters (13 in Exodus; 18 in Leviticus; 13 in Numbers; 2 in Deuteronomy; 4 in Hebrews) to explain the construction of the Tabernacle, its features, furniture, and the services to be held there. Based solely on this comparison, it is probable, even likely, that the construction of the Tabernacle was very important to God.

The Tabernacle points us to Jesus, the Messiah, the Anointed One. The foundation of faith in the Messiah is found in the foundation.

It is found in the former things. It is found in the beginning, even in the first five Books of the Hebrew Scriptures, what we refer to as the Old Testament.

Every piece, feature, and service of the Tabernacle teaches us something about Christ and His Church here on Earth. God showed Moses an exact pattern of the Tabernacle they were to build, giving precise dimensions and specific details. It is evident that every detail was important to God. Repeatedly, the Lord emphasized to Moses the importance of making all things according to His precise instructions. (Heb. 8:5; Ex 25:9, 40; 26:30; 27:8; Nu. 8:4; Acts 7:44)

Within the Tabernacle, and as described in the Book of Exodus, starting in chapter 25, we see the following:

The Ark of the Covenant, Ex. 25:10-22

The Table of Showbread, Ex. 25:23-30

The Menorah, Ex. 25:31-40

The Tabernacle, Ex. 26:1-37

The Brazen Altar, Ex. 27:1-8

The Outer Court, Ex. 27:9-19

The Lamp Oil, Ex. 27:20-21

The Priestly Garments, Ex. 28

The Altar of Incense, Ex. 30:1-10

The Laver, Ex. 30:17-21

The Anointed Oil, Ex. 30:22-33

The Incense, Ex. 30:34-38

The Craftsmen, Construction, Tools, Ex. 36-40

The Gate of the Tabernacle

I will begin with the Gate of the Courtyard.

The gate represents Christ, the way into which we can enter into the presence of God.

Ex. 27:16 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.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

John 10:7-9 So Jesus said to them again, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. "All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. "I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

The Gate, Door, and Veil are a threefold united emphasis that Jesus is truly the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and that no man ever comes to the Father but by Him. (John 14:6)

Each object has its own unique emphasis: the Gate is only half as high as the Door and the Veil, but it is twice as wide. The Altar, a type of Calvary, is just inside the Gate.

The invitation to Calvary's redemption is wide open to one and all, as suggested by the double width of the gate.

The hanging of the Gate – representing Christ – was distinctly different from the pure white hanging of the court. The white fine-twined linen was used exclusively for the four-colored, embroidered linen used at the three entrances: the Gate, the Door, and the Veil.

The Gate, the Door, and the Veil all bore the four prominent colors that portray various aspects and attributes of our Lord and Savior.

Blue declares His heavenly origin, purple His royalty, white His righteousness.

Phil 2:5-11 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

I Tim 6:15 Which in his times he shall shew, *who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;

Rev. 19:6 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

AND Scarlet is the color of blood and points to the sacrifice of Jesus.

Isa. 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Psalms 51:7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

I Pet 1:19-20 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

Anyone who tries to enter into the courtyard any other way except through the One Gate faces death.

Num. 3:38 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.

The 4 pillars of the gate testify of the 4 Gospels that point to and testify of Christ.

Ex 27:16 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.

The Gospel of Matthew represents royalty, symbolized by the Lion of Judah.

The Gospel of Mark represents the Faithful Servant, symbolized the Ox.

The Gospel of Luke portrays Jesus in brotherly sympathy as the Son of Man, symbolized by the Man.

The Gospel of John portrays Christ as the Son of God, symbolized by the Eagle.

We again see the 4 faces of the 4 living creature in Ezekiel as the chariot of God.

Ezek 1:10 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.

Also, in Revelation 4:7 we again see the faces of the 4 living creatures as a lion, ox, eagle, man. These too represent Jesus the Messiah.

Rev. 4:7 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.

The Book of Numbers gives us the number of men in each of the 12 Tribes and describes how these 12 tribes are to be divided into these 4 houses and where they are to be located around the Tabernacle. God's plan has always been to reveal the Messiah at all levels.

Interestingly enough, we find these same 4 figures surrounding each side of the Tabernacle. The Tribe of Judah is represented by the lion, Reuben is man, Dan is the eagle, an Ephraim the ox or calf.

The Tabernacle Courtyard

The Tabernacle Courtyard. (Video 2:02 minutes)

Ex 27:18 The length of the court *shall be* an hundred cubits, and the breadth fifty every where, and the height five cubits *of fine twined linen, and their sockets of brass.*

The presence of God resided within the interior of the fence of the courtyard. Anyone outside the courtyard was far from God. Only through the one Gate could one enter into God's presence.

Eph 2:12-13 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: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

The wall was too high to look over, symbolizing the natural man and the things of God

I Cor 2:9 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.

The pillars and sockets were made of brass – Brass symbolizes judgment!

Ex 27:17 All the pillars round about the court *shall be* filleted with silver; their hooks *shall be of silver, and their sockets of brass.*

Num 21:9 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.

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

Silver symbolizes Christ's Atonement. Silver was used as a ransom for the soul.

Ex 30:12 When thou takest the sum of the children of Israel after their number, then shall they give every man a ransom for his soul unto the LORD, when thou numberest them; that there be no plague among them, when *thou* numberest them.

Ex 38:27 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. And of the thousand seven hundred seventy and five *shekels* he made hooks for the pillars, and overlaid their chapiters, and filleted them.

When the Israelites looked upon the Tabernacle, they would see the silver on the posts and be reminded that they were ransomed by the Atoning Blood. This is what we see now in Christ Jesus.

I Pet 1:18-19 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; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

You Tube: Power in the Blood Song with Lyrics

PART II

The Brazen Altar

The Brazen Altar Video (Time: 1:14 minutes)

The Brazen altar was the very first item one would see when entering the tabernacle area.

The altar was the most used piece of the Tabernacle. Every sacrifice placed on the altar had to meet precise requirements.

Bronze speaks of judgment and this altar was to be the ultimate place of judgment. Because the shittim wood was completely sealed by the brass, it would not be consumed by the fire, though subject to intense heat continuously. Christ, too, while on the Altar of Calvary, became the sacrificial lamb, enduring the sins of the world and subject to intense affliction, both spiritually and physically.

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

The altar is square, giving opportunity for every tribe, tongue, and nation from the four corners of the earth to come to the altar of Christ.

Heb 8:5 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.

Temple priests would sacrifice every morning and evening. Any Israelite who conformed to the strict laws of Moses could come to the Tabernacle throughout the day. The penitent would place their hands on the head of sacrificial animal and confess their sins. The Brazen Altar foreshadowed the Cross where God would make the ultimate sacrifice; a sacrifice no other man could ever make.

There is no forgiveness of sin apart from sacrifice.

Lev 17:11 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.

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

The whole idea of the burnt offering was to satisfy the sin problem before entering anywhere else in the Lord's house or tabernacle. The smoke from the offerings would rise up to Yahweh to be a sweet savor in His nostrils. Not that Elohim enjoyed the sacrifice, but because this meant that someone had given himself entirely to the Lord and a child had been redeemed.

This is the Lord's way.

Heb 9:14 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?

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

The wood and the horns being overlaid with brass typifies judgment. Calvary was God's necessary judgment upon sin. The sinless Son of God was the only being in the universe qualified to offer a sacrifice sufficient for our atonement.

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

Ex 29:12 *And thou shalt take of the blood of the bullock, and put it upon the horns of the altar with thy finger, and pour all the blood beside the bottom of the altar.*

Likewise Jesus would shed His Blood on the Cross through the nails; this way the 4 horns represented the 4 wounds in the feet and hands of Jesus.

Isa 53:5 *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.*

Likewise the horns of the altar would bring salvation to as many as would come.

2 Sam 22:3 *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.*

However, rejection of the sacrifice brings judgment from the horns.

Rev 9:13-15 *And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. 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.*

Furthermore, this altar was the one and only place where their sacrifices were to be offered. This represents Calvary, because God said if anyone offers a sacrifice, "and bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer an offering unto the Lord...; blood shall be imputed unto that man; he hath shed blood; and that man shall be cut off from among his people (Lev 17:3,-6,9).

Of course, God had a reason for every stipulation, and the reason was this: ANY SUBSTITUTE FOR CALVARY IS SPIRITUALLY FATAL!

According to Exodus 27, the height of the brazen altar was 3 cubits.

Ex 27:1 *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.*

The grate was located midway of the altar, making the grate made of pure brass 1.5 cubits in height.

Ex 27:4-5 *And thou shalt make for it a grate of network of brass; and upon the net shalt thou make four brazen rings in the four corners thereof. And thou shalt put it under the compass of the altar beneath, that the net may be even to the midst of the altar.*

1.5 cubits was also the height of the Table of Showbread found in the Holy Place AND the Ark of the Covenant located within the Most Holy Place. Was this a coincidence?

Ex 25:10 *And they shall make an ark of shittim wood: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof.*

Ex. 25:23 *Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof.*

In this way we see a bridge between the earthly things and the heavenly things, the Brazen Altar and the Mercy Seat. The altar made of brass, signifying judgment, and the Mercy Seat made of gold, signifying Divinity.

We see a bridge between the Truth and Righteousness of Christ at the altar and the Mercy and Peace of God at the Mercy Seat.

Below the altar net is found an all-consuming fire; below the Mercy Seat is the Ark of the Covenant and the Law. Above the flaming altar net is found the sacrifice of Christ; above the Ark of the Covenant is found God's Mercy Seat.

God's justice demanded a sacrifice; His mercy provided redemption.

Fellowship at the Table of Showbread and Divine Mercy at the Mercy Seat were both made possible through Calvary.

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

At the brazen altar, God met with man.

Ex 29:42-43 *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. And there I will meet with the children of Israel, and the tabernacle shall be sanctified by my glory.*

At the cross, we meet God through Christ. He is always ready to accept us at the altar that burns perpetually.

The Laver

See Laver video (50 sec)

The Laver, consisting of solid brass and no wood, and with no dimensions given, portrays Christ's divinely inspired judgments as totally immune from human limitations.

The laver was the second object between the gate and the door to the Holy Place.

The washing typifies regeneration, renewal, or new birth.

Titus 3:5 *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;*

This washing is essential to a saint moving forward in Christ.

John 13:8 *Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.*

It must be repeated on a daily basis.

I John 1:8-9 *If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.*

It is significant that the brass for the laver was obtained from “the looking glasses of the women.”

Ex. 38:8 And he made the laver of brass, and the foot of it of brass, of the looking glasses of the women assembling, which assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

The highly polished mirrors were used by the ancient Egyptians and were brought out during the exodus by the Israelite women.

God expects us to use His Word to judge and cleanse our own walk of life, even as a mirror is used for outward grooming.

I Cor. 11:31 For if we would judge ourselves we should not be judged.

The laver is the mirror of God’s word – it reveals our reflection and provides the means for cleansing.

James 1:22-25 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Water used in ceremonial cleansing typifies the Word, and that is how it was used in the Laver.

Ex 30:19-21 Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet from it; when they enter the tent of meeting, they shall wash with water, so that they will not die; or when they approach the altar to minister, by offering up in smoke a fire sacrifice to the LORD. “So they shall wash their hands and their feet, so that they will not die; and it shall be a perpetual statute for them, for Aaron and his descendants throughout their generations.”

Christ likewise sanctifies and cleanses the Church:

John 15:3 Now you are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you.

This is the spiritual bath to which Jesus referred when He said to Peter, “He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet.” Jesus makes it clear that a disciple has no part with him if he or she is not willing to be cleansed daily.

The laver is a picture of being cleansed by the Word. Christ’s gift of salvation, or redemption, is found at the brazen altar.

So how do we wash in this laver?

By immersing ourselves in His word daily that we may do the works of the Father.

How does the Lord test or cleanse our hearts?

Ephesians 5:25-26 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it by the washing of water by the word.

To serve the Lord, we must not only be saved by coming to the altar, but also cleansed from daily sin. Sin leads to death.

Being partakers of the new covenant, we are a royal priesthood, a chosen generation; therefore, cleansing at the laver is as true today as it was for any priest of the tabernacle.

If we are to be blessed, we need to be clean; if not, we cannot enter the Holy Place, but we remain in the spiritual outer courtyard.

We, given a new heart by a new birth, should not only be cleansed from the dirt of the flesh but from the sins of the heart.

Matt 15:18-20 But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders. These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man."

There are no dimensions given to the laver in contrast to the other objects in the Tabernacle. This signifies that there is no limit to our cleansing. There is also no mention of a lid to cover it while stationary or by travel, or staves required to carry it. The cleansing continues all during our walk.

In concluding, we are told in Exodus 38:8 that the laver was to be constructed from looking glasses or mirrors.

So when one would wash their hand or feet in the laver, one could see two things that the Lord would want you to see. Mirrors were used, like today, to see how beautiful we are or pinpoint the defects.

The Lord and Creator of the Universe wants us to know who we are, and that we are His children, seated in heavenly places with Him. There is nothing wrong with searching the scriptures to remind ourselves that we are not like the world and that we are the apple of His eye.

However, we are also to search our hearts to root out ugliness and sin.

The mirrored laver was designed to reveal both of these aspects.

Song and prayer.