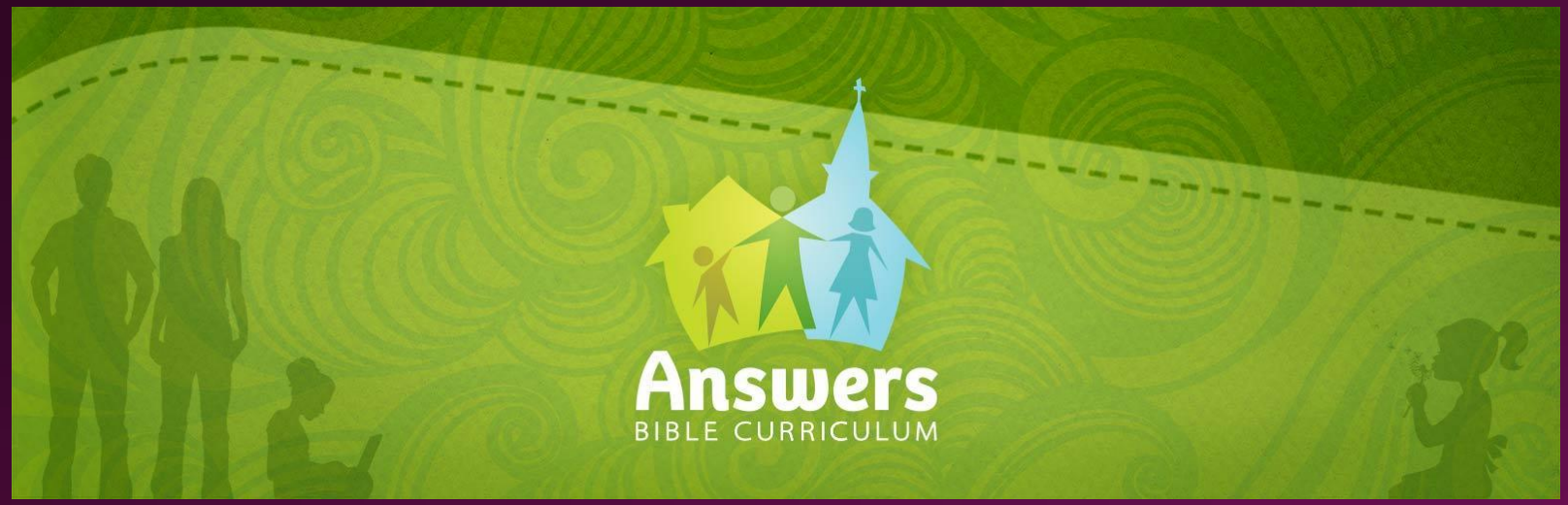
Moses: Minister of the Covenant

Lesson 9: God Dwells among His People



Exodus 20:1-3, And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me." (ESV)

Ark of the Covenant (Ex. 25:10–22)

- Made of acacia wood, overlaid with gold inside and out
- Gold molding
- Tablets of God inside
- Lid = "covering," "mercy seat"
- Two cherubim on the mercy seat
- God says He will meet with man above the mercy seat
- Ark placed in the Holy of Holies





Ark of the Covenant

- Practical purpose?
  - Provide a dwelling place/meeting place for God's presence
- Reveals or emphasizes about God?
  - God is present, majestic, holy, and merciful
- Connection to Christ?
  - Christ is a greater embodiment of God's mercy and presence

Table of Showbread (Ex. 25:23–30)

- Acacia wood, overlaid with pure gold
- Gold border, gold rim
- Includes golden dishes, pans, jars, and bowls
- Features Bread of the Presence





Table of Showbread

- Practical purpose?
  - Table holds bread/implements
  - Bread part of priest's portion
- Reveals or emphasizes about God?
  - God is majestic, provider, life, and satisfaction
- Connection to Christ?
  - Jesus is God's greatest provision and our life and satisfaction

Golden Lampstand (Ex. 25:31–40, 27:20–21)

- Entirely of gold
- Made to resemble almond tree
- Various branches, cups, bulbs, flowers
- Seven lamps
- Snuffers and trays of gold
- Olive oil fuels lamps





Golden Lampstand

- Practical purpose?
  - Provide light all night, every night
- Reveals or emphasizes about God?
  - God is the majestic, present, illuminator
- Connection to Christ?
  - Jesus is the greatest manifestation of God as illuminator

Altar of Incense (Ex. 30:1–9, 34–38)

- Acacia wood overlaid with gold
- Horns at each corner, gold molding, two golden rings
- Placed right in front of the veil before the Holy of Holies
- Incense burning every morning and evening
- Warning against strange incense, laymen use



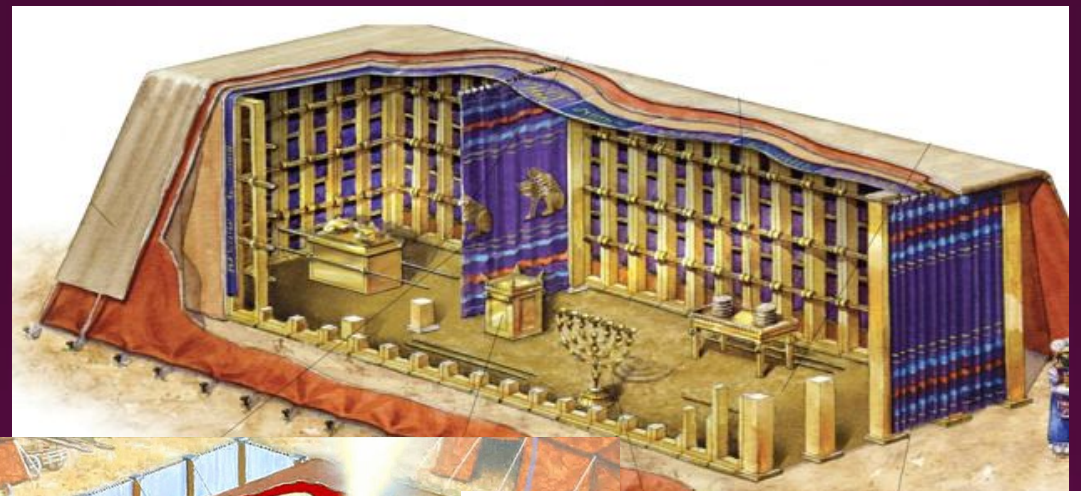


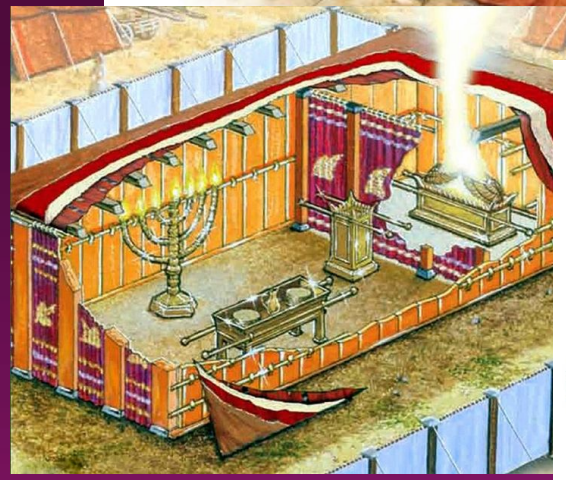
Altar of Incense

- Practical purpose?
  - Provide fragrance and smoke
- Reveals or emphasizes about God?
  - God is majestic and holy, man needs covering
- Connection to Christ?
  - Jesus provided perfect covering with His fragrant offering

Tabernacle Building (Ex. 26:1–37)

- Four layers of covering
- 1st: blue, purple, and scarlet material, fine twisted linen curtains, cherubim
- 2nd: goat hair curtains
- 3rd: ram skins dyed red
- 4th: porpoise skins (?)
- Vertical and horizontal acacia boards covered in gold
- Veil and screen

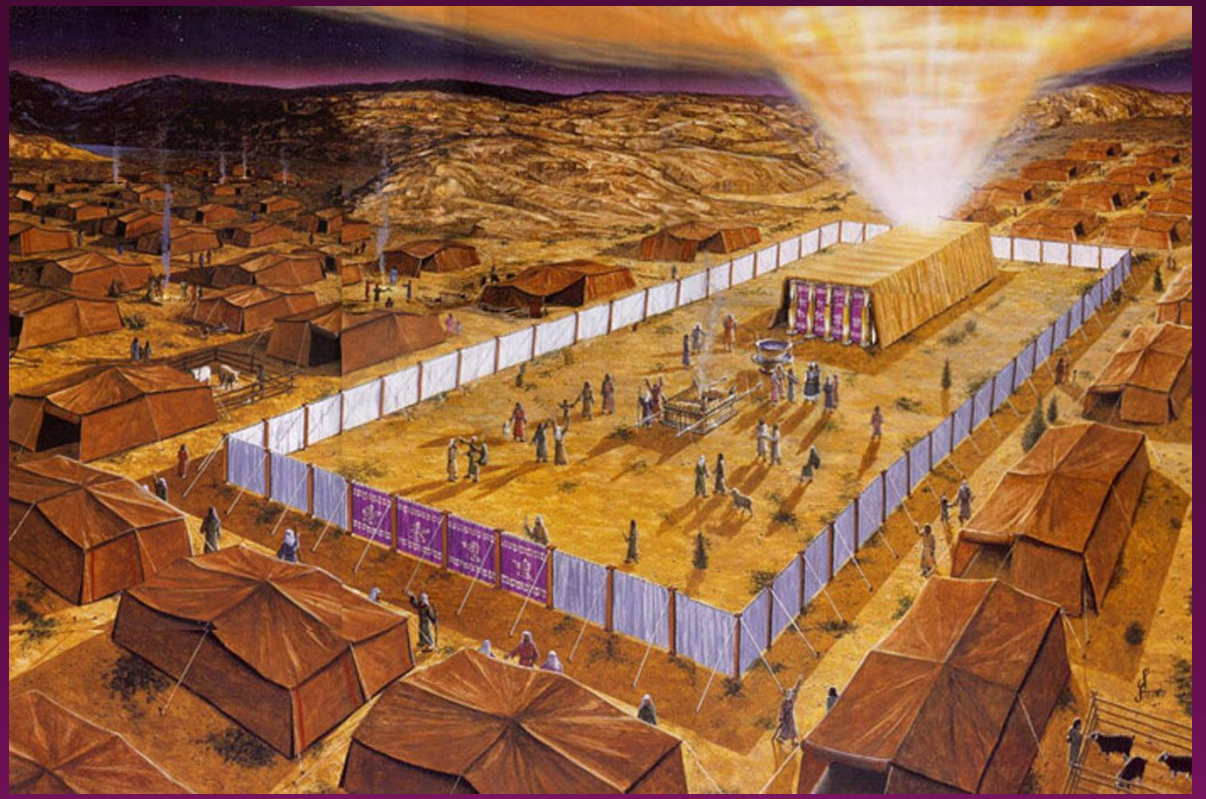






Tabernacle Court (Ex. 27:9–19)

- Hangings of fine twisted linen, pillars
- 100 cu x 50 cu x 5 cu (150 ft x 75 ft x 7.5 ft)
- Bronze sockets, silver hooks
- East gate screen: blue, purple, scarlet material and fine twisted linen
- Bronze pegs, utensils



Tabernacle Building and Court

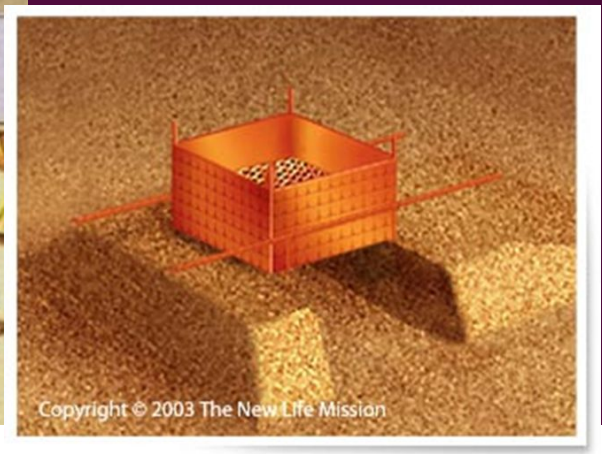
- Practical purpose?
  - Provide a separate, sturdy, and transportable place to meet with God and to house His holy objects
  - Provide buffer zone, worship zone, offering zone
- Reveals or emphasizes about God?
  - God is majestic, holy, and present, man needs God-ordained mediator
- Connection to Christ?
  - Christ, through His death on the cross, has secured for us unhindered access into God's holy presence, both now and forever

The Bronze Altar (Ex. 27:1–8)

- Acacia wood overlaid with bronze
- Four horns, bronze utensils
- Ledge, grating network, four rings
- Hollow









Offering Observations (handout)

- Animal offerings begin the same way…
- Animal offerings had to be of clean animals free from defect
- The offerings had different purposes…
- Most of the sin offering for sinning priest/congregation was burned outside the camp

The Bronze Altar

- Practical purpose?
  - Provide an acceptable altar for Israel's sacrifices
- Reveals or emphasizes about God?
  - God is majestic, holy, and merciful
- Connection to Christ?
  - Christ is both the perfect interceding priest and the perfect offering, fulfilling each type of OT offering