

**Holy Ghost**

*"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."  
Acts 2:4*

**Baptism**

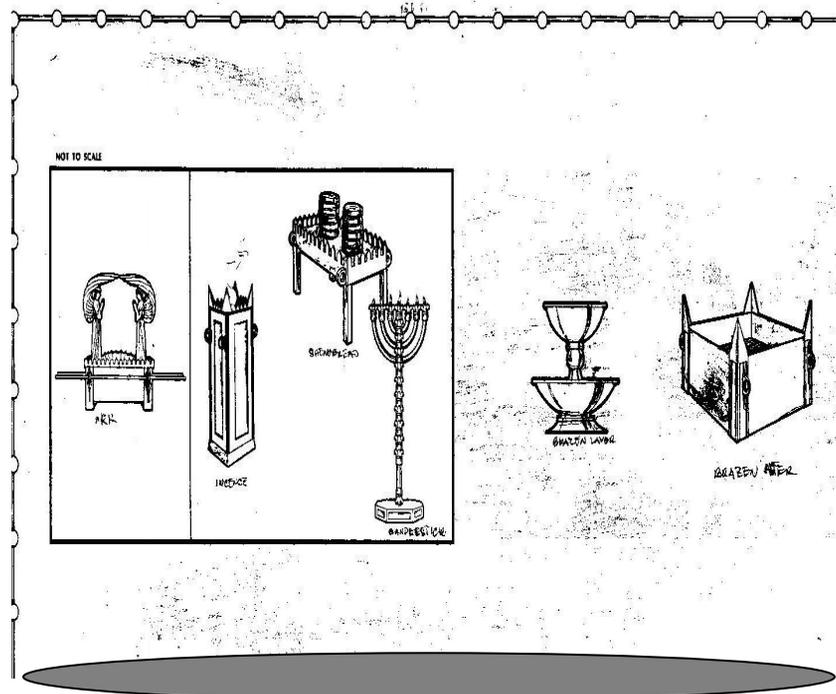
*"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."  
Acts 2:38*

**Repentance**

*"Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin."  
Romans 6:6*

# LESSON 1

## THE TABERNACLE Man's Approach to God



*"And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.  
According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it."  
Exodus 25:8-9*

*When the Lord gave Moses the plan of the Tabernacle on Mt. Sinai, He admonished Moses to follow His specifications in its construction to the letter (Exodus 25:1-9). The Tabernacle was more than just a place to worship while in the wilderness. Its design and layout was a shadow of the redemptive work of Jesus, as well as a pattern of the salvation experienced in the present church age.*

### Types and Shadows

**I Corinthians 10:11** *“Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world to come.”*

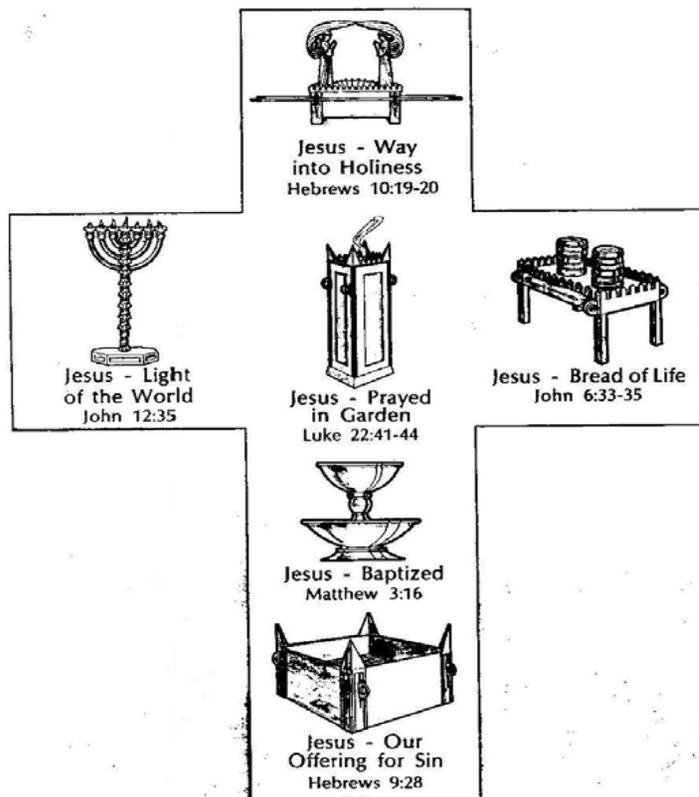
**Colossians 2:16-17** *“Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of a holyday, or of the new moon, or of the Sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come, but the body is of Christ.”*

**Hebrews 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 showed to thee in the mount.”*

The altar of sacrifice represents Jesus Christ as the sacrifice for our sins and reminds us that we die with Him in repentance.

The laver represents the cleansing from sin that Jesus provides, which we experience at water baptism in His name. Although He was sinless, He was baptized to provide our example for us to follow. The Tabernacle itself stands for the presence of God in the midst of His people. Jesus was literally God tabernacled in the flesh, God coming into this world to be our Savior (Matthew 1:22-23). Through His death, we can receive the Holy Spirit and thereby become a Tabernacle where in God dwells today.

The lamp stand signifies Jesus as the light of the world, and by extension, our position today as lights in the world. The showbread signifies Jesus as the Bread of Life, and by extension, His Word, which is our daily spiritual bread. The altar of incense represents prayer—first, the prayer of Jesus as He submitted to the will of God in dying for us and as He interceded on our behalf, and second, our daily life of prayer. Finally, the Holy of Holies, the Ark of the Covenant, and the mercy seat teach us that Jesus fully atoned for our sins, thereby instituting the new covenant of the Holy Spirit, and enabling us to enter into a life of holiness.



Upon entering into the Holy Place the priest saw the golden lamp stand with its seven branches on one side of the Tabernacle. Directly opposite the golden lamp stand of showbread, and behind them, in the center of the Tabernacle and in front of the veil, was the altar of incense.

**Hebrews 9:8** *"The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing."*

**Hebrews 9:9** *"Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience".*

**Hebrews 9:24** *"For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but unto heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us".*

**Hebrews 10:1** *"For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect."*

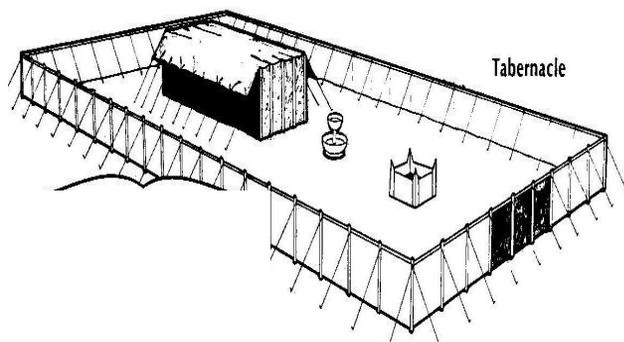
**I Peter 3:21** *"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."*

## LESSON 2

### THE COURT OF THE TABERNACLE

The court of the Tabernacle was approximately 150 feet long and 75 feet wide. It had one gate on the east side. Four doorposts supported hangings of four colors of cloth: purple, scarlet, blue, and white. There was only one entrance into the courtyard. Likewise, there is only one way of salvation—through Jesus Christ (John 10:9).

Inside the courtyard were the brazen altar, the brazen laver, and the Tabernacle itself.



The Tabernacle was approximately 15 feet high, 15 feet wide, and 45 feet long. It consisted of the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies. These two rooms were separated by a veil of blue, purple, and scarlet. In the Holy Place were the golden candlestick, the table of showbread, and the altar of incense. In

*"By his mercy he saved us"* (Titus 3:5). The mercy seat was God's throne to His people. The Tabernacle was located in the center of all the tribes of Israel. God, the Church, and His will must be in the center of our lives as well. When Israel was traveling, the ark was carried before the people, just as we are to follow the Lord in our walk with Him. At the death of Jesus, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, opening the approach to the throne of God. The torn veil represents two things: each person now has direct access into the presence of God, and God's glory is now revealed so that everyone can be filled with the Holy Spirit.

#### 1. From the Tabernacle to the Cross

*"The law is our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith"* (Galatians 3:24). The mission and the object of the law was the Cross of Christ. The things shown to Moses point to One who was to come, even Jesus.

In particular, every aspect of the Tabernacle points to Jesus and His atoning work for our salvation. In the court stood the brazen altar, the first object approached by the priest as he started toward the Holy Place. The brazen laver stood between the altar and the door of the Tabernacle.

## CONTENTS OF THE ARK

The budding rod is a type of Christ in that it showed the miracle of new life. Live buds and almonds sprang forth from Aaron's dead rod to establish his priesthood (Numbers 17:18).



Pot of Manna  
Hebrews 9:4

The golden pot of manna was a reminder of God's ability to provide miraculously for the needs of His children during their journey through the wilderness.



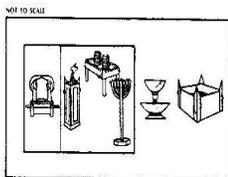
Tables of Stone  
Exodus 25:16, Hebrews 9:4

The law written upon tables of stone gave God's direction to the nation of Israel. Resting on the top of the ark was the mercy seat, made of pure gold. The mercy seat was stained with the blood of an innocent sacrifice. It represents the redemptive work of Christ death.

the Holy of Holies was the ark of the covenant. There abode the Spirit of God between two golden cherubim located on the lid of the ark, which was called the mercy seat. Of course, God is omnipresent, or present everywhere, but He manifested His glory there to show His covenant relationship with Israel. God has always desired to dwell with His people, but sin has always separated humanity from God. From the day of Pentecost, 50 days after the death of Christ, God has dwelt in the hearts of His people in a new and wonderful way. *"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?"* (II Corinthians 3:26).



1. The Altar of Sacrifice (Exodus 27:1-8)

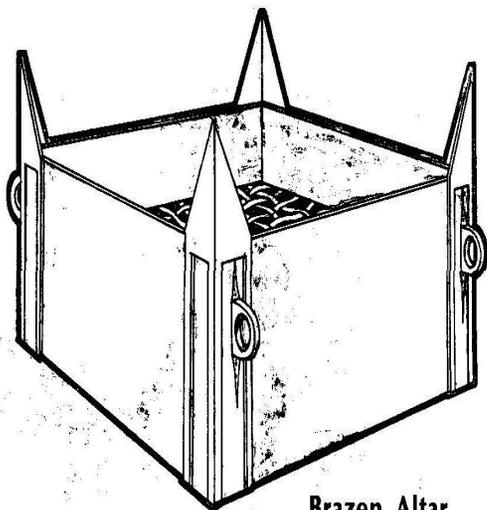


The Priest approached the Tabernacle by way of the brazen altar, where he offered the sacrifice for sin.

*“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

Jesus Christ became our perfect sacrifice.

*“The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”*  
John 1:29



**Brazen Altar**

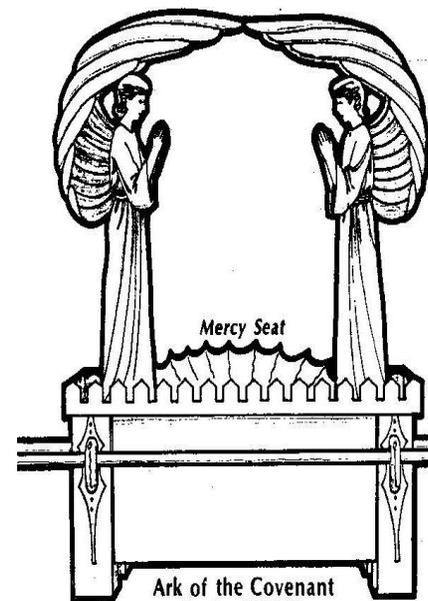
The Place of Sacrifice  
Death  
Shed Blood

The priest approached the Tabernacle first by way of the brazen altar, and there he offered the sacrifice for sin. The brazen altar was approximately seven and half feet square and four and a half feet high. It was made of acacia wood overlaid with brass. It

**LESSON 4**

**THE MOST HOLY PLACE**

Behind the veil at the west end of the Holy Place was the Holy of Holies, which was the dwelling place of God. In the Holy of Holies was the Ark of the Covenant, which contained Aaron's rod that budded, the tables of stone (Ten Commandments), and a golden pot of manna. The Holy of Holies represents the presence of God himself, which we enjoy in our lives today by the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

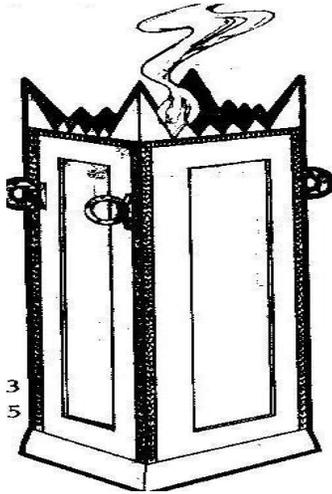


**Ark of the Covenant**  
Exodus 25:10-11

Just as the table exhibited the bread, so the Christian life shows forth Jesus, to a dying world.

### 3. The Altar of Incense (Exodus 30:1-10)

The altar of incense was also made of acacia wood overlaid with gold. It represents prayers to God (Revelation 5:8). The incense was offered to God each morning and evening. Likewise, we should pray each day. The aroma of the incense went up when the incense was put on the fire. Likewise, God hears the “effectual fervent prayer” of the righteous person (James 5:16). The fire for the altar of incense came from the brazen altar of sacrifice, signifying that before there can be true prayer and praise (worship) there must first be death to sin and self. The altar was located before the veil that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies. Prayer is the beautiful experience that draws us into the very presence of God.



was a place of death and shedding of blood. It represents the death of Jesus, who purchased our salvation.

It also points to repentance, which is our identification with the death of Jesus and our personal death to sin and self-will. Everyone must approach God through repentance. Jesus said, *“Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish”* (Luke 13:3).

The altar was a prominent feature of the Tabernacle and its worship. It was placed immediately in front of the gate of the court of the Tabernacle. It was the first object that met the eye of the worshipper as he came into the court to present his sacrifice unto the Lord. The altar was not hidden in some remote place in the court, removed from the gaze of the people, nor did it stand inside the Tabernacle where only a few could approach it.

It was placed where all could see it and where all could approach it. Only the priests could see the golden lamp stand, the table of showbread, and the altar of incense, which were inside the Tabernacle itself. No one but the high priest was permitted to enter the Holy of Holies and he did so only on the Day of Atonement. By contrast, the altar was plainly visible from without. In fact, no one could enter into the Holy Place except by passing this sacred emblem where the sacrificial blood of the animals was offered.

The altar teaches that not one will enter heaven except by the blood of Jesus, who stands as an altar of sacrifice for all who would approach God (John 14:6).

It was not merely the altar that gave the worshipper access to the Holy Place, by putting away of his sins, for there had to be a sacrifice upon the altar.

The relationship of the brazen altar to every other part of the Tabernacle service and its furniture was like that of the root to the tree, the heart to the body, and the foundation to a building. Everything inside and even the brazen laver in front of the door of the Tabernacle depended upon the work done at the altar.

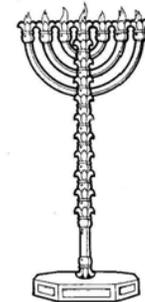
Without the brazen altar, all else, no matter how magnificent, was useless. Everyone had to come to God by way of the altar.

All the priests, their garments, the sacred vessels, and everything else were unfit for service until the blood shed at the brazen altar touched and sanctified them.

*Here is the story of the Cross of Christ, Calvary. There is no pardon, no righteousness, no peace, no grace, no blessings, and no salvation without the sacrifice of the Cross.*

### 1. **The Golden Candlestick** (Exodus 25:31-40)

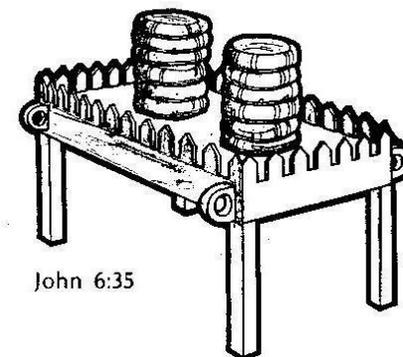
The candlestick was of pure gold, with seven branches coming forth from the stand. It provided the only light in the Tabernacle. It points to Jesus, who is the true Light. Just as the candlestick was of beaten gold, so Christ was first beaten before we could receive His light. The priest had to have the light to guide him in his priestly duties, just as we must be led by the light of the Spirit in true worship.



### 2. **The Table of Showbread** (Exodus 25:23-30)

The table of showbread was approximately three feet by eighteen inches and was twenty-seven inches high. It was made of acacia wood overlaid with pure gold. On the table of showbread were 12 loaves of unleavened bread, which were eaten by the high priest and his sons in the Holy Place.

The showbread provided sustenance for the priest. It points to Jesus, who is the Bread of Life, and to His Word, which is food for the soul.



John 6:35

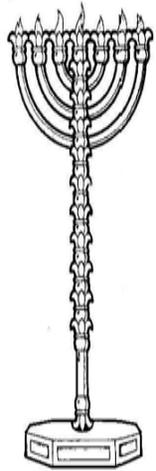
# LESSON 3

## THE HOLY PLACE

In the Holy Place were the golden candlestick (lamp stand), the altar of incense, and the table of showbread. These pieces of furniture point to Jesus Christ and to our life in Christ through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

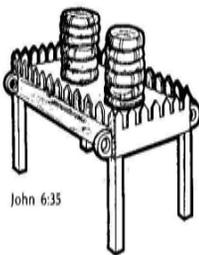
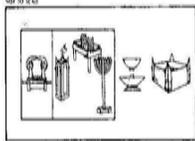
Lesson 3  
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### The Holy Place (The Place of Worship)



**Golden Candlestick**

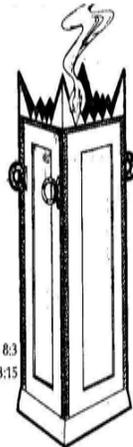
The Only Light in the Tabernacle



John 6:35

**Table of Shewbread**

The Daily Bread of the Priest



Revelation 8:3  
Hebrews 13:15

**Altar of Incense**

The Fire Came from the Altar of Sacrifice

The Altar Was Placed before the Veil

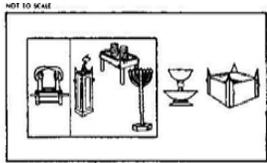
The Place of Daily Prayer and Praise

*The altar represents the shedding of blood and the death of Jesus. And without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins (Hebrews 9:27). The fire upon the altar was never to go out (Leviticus 6:13). There is no hour, day or night that a transgressor cannot find the atonement of Calvary.*



## 2. The Laver of Water (Exodus 30:18-21)

Just before the door of the Tabernacle stood the brazen laver, where the priest was required to wash his hands and feet. God told them to wash *“that they die not”* (Exodus 30:21). At their initial consecration to the priesthood, the priests were washed completely. The laver points to the cleansing from sin we have in Jesus—the initial washing at water baptism, which is the remission of sins (Acts 2:38), and the continual cleansing we have thereafter (I John 1:7).

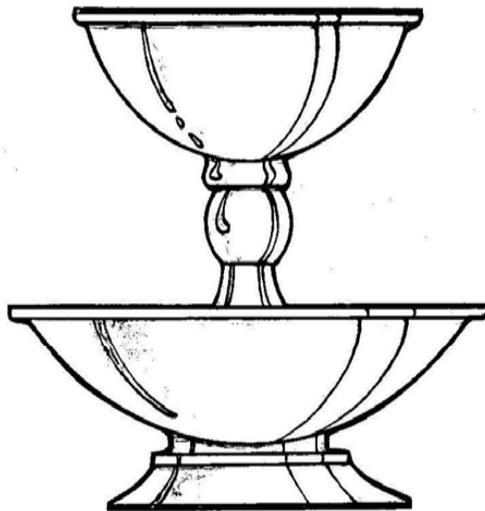


The priest must wash at the laver before ministering at the altar or entering the Tabernacle.

*“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

The laver was a place of washing and cleansing as baptism is a washing and cleansing from sin.

*“And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”*  
Acts 22:16



**Brazen Laver**

The Place of Cleansing

When we are baptized, God washes away our sins (Acts 22:16). Jesus said, *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved: but he that believeth not shall be damned”* (Mark 16:16). *“Baptism doth also now save us”* (I Peter 3:21). *“But ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified, in the name of the Lord Jesus”* (I Corinthians 6:11). (See also Exodus 30:18-21).

*“Thou shalt also make a laver of brass and his foot also of brass, to wash withal, and thou shalt put it between the tabernacle and the congregation and the altar, and thou shalt put water therein. For Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet thereat. 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 unto the Lord”* (Exodus 30:18-20).

The laver was placed between the brazen altar, where death was required, and the Tabernacle, where the priests officiated and the Lord met them (Exodus 40:30).

In the New Testament experience of salvation, repentance comes first, which is a death with Christ, a death to sin. Then comes water baptism, which is a washing and a burial with Christ (Romans 6:3-4).