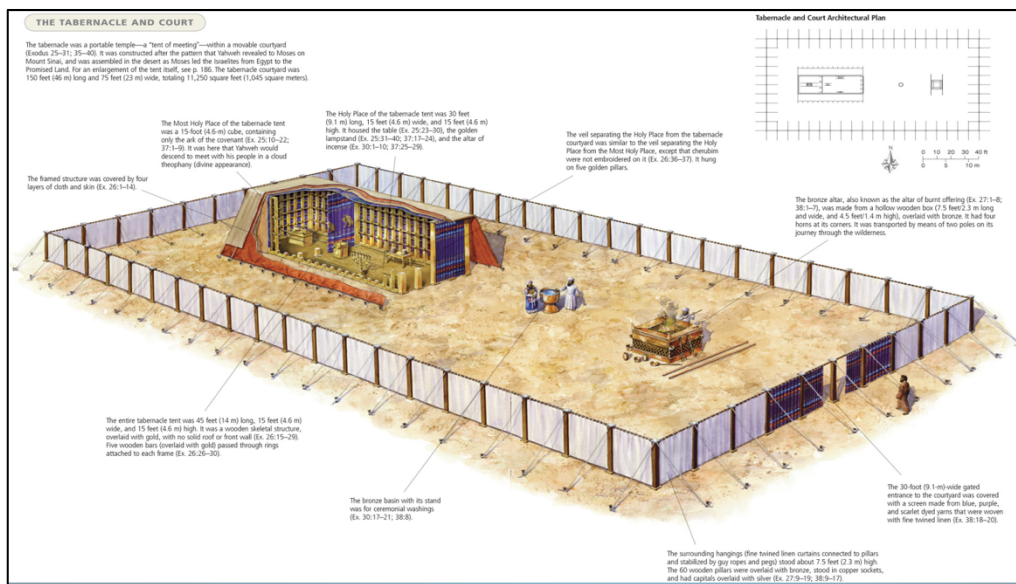


## C) The Holy Place (Exodus 26)

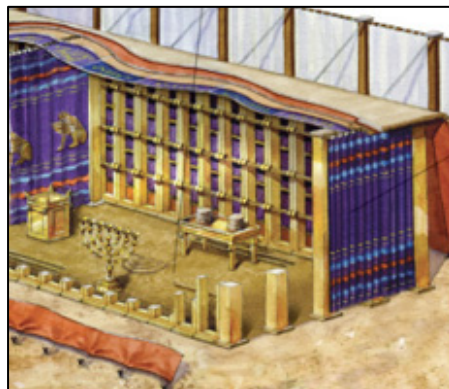
We have been covering a series on the Sacrificial System. There is an incredible connection between this system and the New Testament covenant with Jesus Christ. There are nearly 4,000 clues which reveal a deeper understanding of our Savior, our God, the church and our fellow saints. They are referred to as “copies and shadows” in the Book of Hebrews.

- Hebrews 8:5, “...a copy and shadow of the heavenly things...”
- Hebrews 9:24, “...a mere copy of the true one...”
- Hebrews 10:1, “...a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things...”

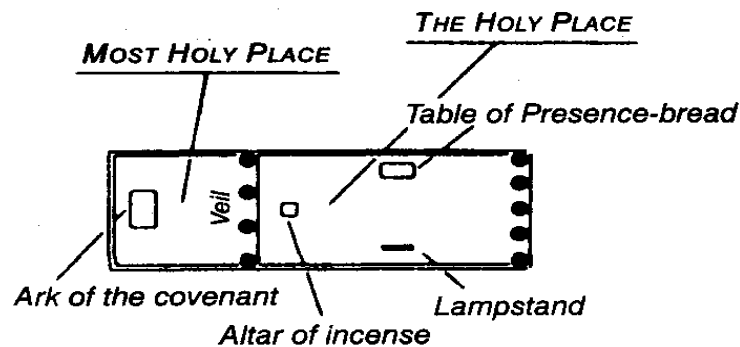
The books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy contain the bulk of these insights, not only for the New Testament, but also much of the other Old Testament books. In this lesson we will be covering the specific area of the Tabernacle in the Tent of Meeting referred to as the “Holy Place”.



The Tabernacle



The Holy Place



- The Holy Place was one of the two rooms of the Tent of Meeting. The second room was the Most Holy Place.
- It contained three items of Tabernacle furniture: 1) Table of Showbread, 2) The Lampstand, 3) The Altar of Incense (Hebrews 9:2).
- The table was on the north side of the room, the lampstand on the south and the altar on the west in front of the veil leading into the Most Holy Place.
- Accessories of the furniture items included golden snuffers, snuff dishes, and oil vessels, were all of gold for the lampstand, golden plates for the bread and golden dishes for the frankincense.

### The Holy Place is a Copy and Shadow of the Christ's Church.

The Copy and Shadow: The Passage to the Most Holy Place (Heaven) was the Holy Place (The Church).

- Hebrews 9:6, "Now when these things have been thus prepared, the priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle, performing the divine worship"

The Reality: All must go through the Church to get to God's throne room.

- Ephesians 4:4-6, There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

The Copy and Shadow: Only Priests could enter into the Holy Place.

- Numbers 18:2, "But bring with you also your brothers, the tribe of Levi, the tribe of your father, that they may be joined with you and serve you, while you and your sons with you are before the tent of the testimony."
- Numbers 18:7, "I am giving you the priesthood as a bestowed service, but the outsider who comes near shall be put to death."
- Luke 1:8-9, The priest Zacharias "was performing his priestly service before God...according to the custom of the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense."

The Reality: Only those viewed as "priests" can enter into the church.

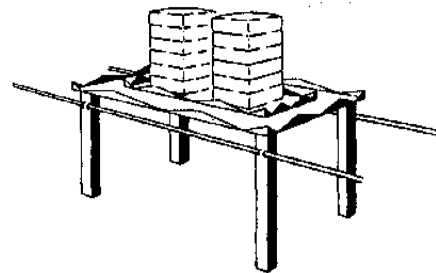
- Isaiah prophesied of the church in 61:6, "*But you will be called the priests of the LORD; You will be spoken of as ministers of our God.*"
- 1 Peter 2:5, "you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."
- Revelation 1:6, "and He has made us *to be* a kingdom, priests to His God and Father..."

## The Furniture of the Holy Place

### 1) The Table of Showbread (Exodus 25:23-30)

The Table of Showbread was...

- made of acacia wood
- 3 feet long, 1 ½ feet wide, and 2 feet high
- overlaid with gold
- molded with a gold rim around the top
- fastened with four gold rings toward the top, two on each side with two poles going through for carrying
- made with golden bowls, jars and pans for functional service
- made to hold the 12 loaves of showbread
- to be placed opposite of the candlestick in the Holy of the Tabernacle



It was also called the Bread of Presence (Numbers 4:7). It was holy bread, being set apart by God from the ordinary bread which the Israelites would have eaten. This bread was to be eaten only by the priests (Matthew 12:46).

The Table of Showbread was a Copy and Shadow of God's People.

The Copy and Shadow: The twelve loaves placed on the table to symbolize the chosen people of God.

- Leviticus 24:5-6, "Then you shall take fine flour and bake twelve cakes with it; two-tenths of an ephah shall be in each cake. <sup>6</sup> And you shall set them in two rows, six to a row, on the pure gold table before the LORD."
- Twelve is the number of God's people (the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve apostles).

The Reality: All Christians are set apart for God.

- Revelation 7:2-3, And I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, having the seal of the living God; and he cried out with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads."
- The twelve tribes, which are "without number", when added up, are all the people of God. If you are in Christ's church, then you are on God's table and in His presence.

The Copy and Shadow: The loaves were to be continually before God.

- Exodus 25:30, "And you shall set the bread of the Presence on the table before Me at all times."
- It is clear, the "bread of the Presence" is to always be present before the Father.

The Reality: All practicing Christians have continual fellowship with God.

- I John 1:7, "but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin."
- Acts 2:42 And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship..."
- Fellowship with God is intrinsic in the life of the Christian; it cannot be separated.

The Copy and Shadow: Frankincense was applied to the bread as a memorial unto Jehovah.

- Leviticus 24:7, "And you shall put pure frankincense on each row, that it may be a memorial portion for the bread, even an offering by fire to the LORD."

- The frankincense made the bread a memorial to God.

The Reality: Christians are a memorial for Christ by taking the Lord's Supper.

- 1 Corinthians 11:26, "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes."
- When we partake in the Lord's supper, we are symbolically becoming a living memorial for Christ. The best sermon preached on Sunday morning is the silent sermon called communion.

The Copy and Shadow: The showbread was to be eaten weekly.

- Leviticus 24:8-9, "Every sabbath day he shall set it in order before the LORD continually; it is an everlasting covenant for the sons of Israel. <sup>9</sup> And it shall be for Aaron and his sons, and they shall eat it in a holy place; for it is most holy to him from the LORD'S offerings by fire, his portion forever."
- It was not to be eaten whenever they wanted to eat it, but once a week.

The Reality: Christians are to assemble weekly.

- Hebrews 10:25, "not forsaking our own assembling together..."
- Acts 20:7 "And on the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread..."
- 1 Corinthians 16:2, "On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come."
- As Christians, we are to come together and culminate our worship corporately.

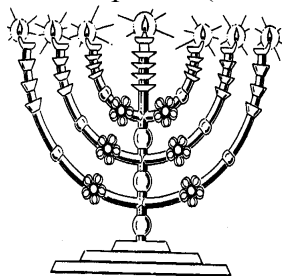
The Copy and Shadow: The loaves were to be placed opposite of the candlestick in the Holy.

- Hebrews 9:2, "For there was a tabernacle prepared, the outer one, in which were the lampstand and the table and the sacred bread; this is called the holy place." The light of the candlestick shone on the bread at all times.

The Reality: Christians are to be in the light of Christ.

- John 3:19-21 "And this is the judgment, that the light is come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light; for their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> "For everyone who does evil hates the light, and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. <sup>21</sup> "But he who practices the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God."
- Jesus called His people the "light of the world" in Matthew 5:14.
- Paul said the Christians were to be lights amidst the crooked and perverse generation in Philippians 2:15.
- We as the Church are to be in the light of the glorious gospel of God.

## 2) The Lampstand (Exodus 25:31-40)



The Lampstand was...

- to be made of pure gold
- to be made with nearly 94 pounds of gold
- to have six branches going out from the center branch, three on each side

- to have snuffers and trays
- to have several different almond blossom, flower and branch shapes in its design
- to be fueled with olive oil
- to be placed in the Holy opposite of the showbread

The Lampstand was a copy and shadow of the Light of God and Christ.

The Copy and Shadow: There were seven flames total.

- Exodus 25:31-32 "Then you shall make a lampstand of pure gold. The lampstand and its base and its shaft are to be made of hammered work; its cups, its bulbs and its flowers shall be of one piece with it. <sup>32</sup> And six branches shall go out from its sides; three branches of the lampstand from its one side, and three branches of the lampstand from its other side."
- There were seven flames and was associated with heavenly perfection.

The Reality: God and Christ are the perfect light for the Christian.

- I John 1:5, states that "...God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all."
- Jesus labeled Himself as the perfect seven "I AM"s in the gospel of John.
- John 8:12, Jesus is the perfect light that shines into the darkness. He forces a decision through this perfection.

The Copy and Shadow: Beaten olive oil was the source of fuel.

- Exodus 27:20, "And you shall charge the sons of Israel, that they bring you clear oil of beaten olives for the light, to make a lamp burn continually."
- This oil was squeezed out of the olive and was high quality fuel, not like the conventional stuff.

The Reality: The Holy Spirit is the fuel for Jesus' light.

- The Hebrews writer confirms this in *Hebrews 1:9*, "*Thou hast loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, Thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness above Thy companions.*"
- Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit, which gave Him the power (Isaiah 11:1-2).
- Peter confirms this again in *Acts 10:38* "*You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good, and healing all who were oppressed by the devil; for God was with Him.*"
- Jesus Himself said to the Jews in John 10:25 Jesus answered them, "*I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father's name, these bear witness of Me.*"

The Copy and Shadow: It was seen by only priests. The light was only for those who could enter the Holy.

- Numbers 8:2, "Speak to Aaron and say to him, 'When you mount the lamps, the seven lamps will give light in the front of the lampstand.'"

The Reality: This light is seen only by the priestly saints.

- 2 Corinthians 4:4, "...in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."
- Jesus further confirms this in John 1:5, "And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it."

- As mentioned prior, Isaiah, Peter and John referred the Christians are the priests, making them the ones who truly see the light of God.

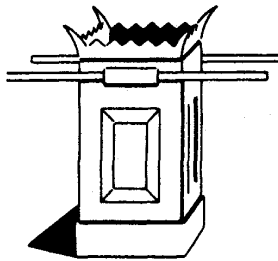
The Copy and Shadow: It was the only source of light associated with the throne (Exodus 37:17-34).

- There were no flashlights, no lanterns, no skylight, only the lampstand.
- There is no mention anywhere in the Bible of another light source in the Tent of Meeting.

The Reality: Jesus is the only true source of light for the Christians.

- Revelation 21:23-24, "And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup> And the nations shall walk by its light, and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory into it."
- John 8:12, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

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



The Altar of Incense....

- was made with Acacia wood and overlaid with gold
- was called the "Golden Altar"
- was 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 x 2 cubits (2ft x 2ft x 3ft)
- was placed inside the Holy next to the veil

The Altar of Incense is a copy and shadow of the Christians prayers

The Copy and Shadow: It was close to the Ark of the Covenant (God's Throne).

Exodus 40:5, "Moreover, you shall set the gold altar of incense before the ark of the testimony, and set up the veil for the doorway to the tabernacle."

The Reality: The Christians' prayers are close to God.

- Acts 10:4, And fixing his gaze upon him and being much alarmed, he said, "What is it, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and alms have ascended as a memorial before God."
- Revelation 8:4, And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand.

The Copy and Shadow: They had to offer incense in an orderly fashion (Exodus 30:9; Leviticus 10:1-2)

- Leviticus 10:1-2, Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered strange fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. <sup>2</sup> And fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD.

The Reality: We are to offer prayers in an orderly life.

- Matthew 6:5, “And when you pray, you are not to be as the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners, in order to be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.”
- Colossians 4:2, “Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving”

The Copy and Shadow: The horns were symbols of power.

Exodus 37:25 ,Then he made the altar of incense of acacia wood: a cubit long and a cubit wide, square, and two cubits high; its horns were {of one piece} with it.

The Reality: Christians’ prayers have power.

- Acts 12:5, So Peter was kept in the prison, but prayer for him was being made fervently by the church to God.
- 2 Corinthians 1:11, you also joining in helping us through your prayers, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed upon us through the prayers of many.
- James 5:16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

The Words to “I Love You, Lord” #779

I Love You, Lord, and I lift my voice  
To worship You, O my soul, rejoice!  
Take joy, my King in what You hear;  
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.