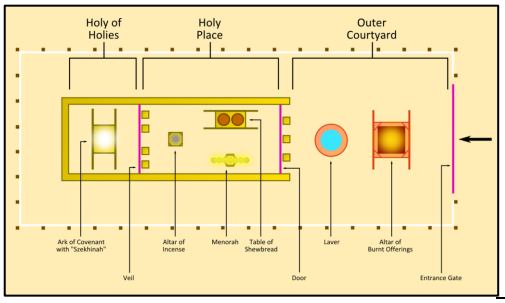
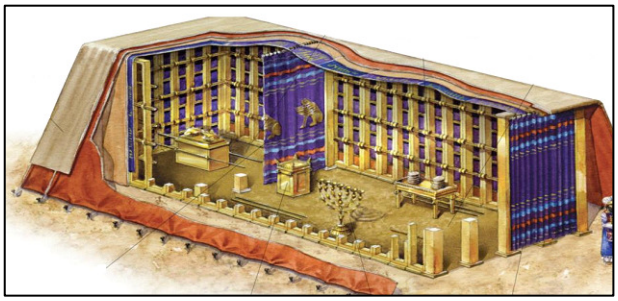
D) The Holy of Holies: A Copy and Shadow of Heaven

Continuing the pattern of the copy and shadows of heavenly things from the Book of Hebrews (Hebrews 8:5, 9:24, 10:1), we move deeper toward the presence of God. The last stop of the journey would be the Holy of Holies, the very location of God on Earth.

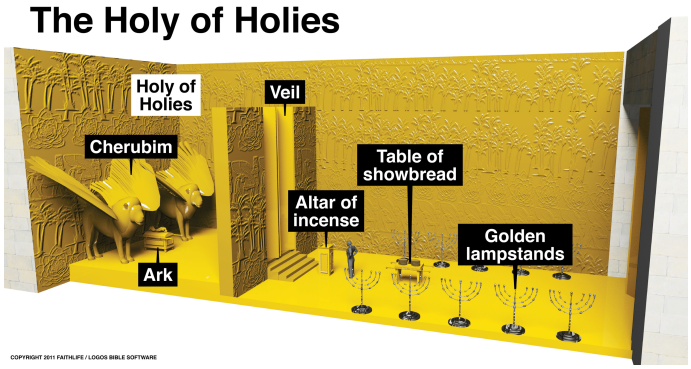
The Holy of Holies…

- was he second room of the tent of meeting.
- was perfectly cubed, being 15 x 15 x 15 foot.
- contained the Ark of the Covenant.
- Between the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies, there was a veil. This veil could only be entered one time a year and by one person, the High Priest (Leviticus 16).





- We find a detailed description from the Book of Hebrews concerning the Holy of Holies in Hebrews 9:3-5. During the times of King Solomon, the Tabernacle was enlarged and made permanent in the Temple. The Holy of Holies was doubled in size to 30 x 30 x 30 feet and much more ornate.



The Holy of Holies is a Copy and Shadow of Heaven.

<u>The Copy and Shadow:</u> It was perfect cube (10 x 10 x 10 cubits)

- Exodus 26:16

The Reality: Heaven is a perfect fit for all the people of God.
- Revelation 21:16

The Copy and Shadow: It had golden brilliance.
- Exodus 26:29

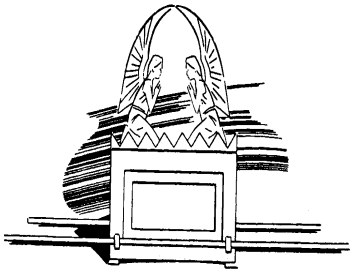
The Reality: Heaven is brilliant to the Christian.
- Revelation 21:18
- Revelation 22:5

The Copy and Shadow: Anyone who approached had to pass through the veil.
- Hebrews 9:3

The Reality: Christians approached through the broken body of Jesus
- Hebrews 10:19-20

The Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 25:10-22)

The Ark was...
- made of acacia wood
- a box roughly 3 1/2 feet long, 2 feet wide, and 2 feet high
- overlaid with gold both in and out
- fastened on the bottom with four rings, two on each side, and two poles going through for carrying
- mounted with a mercy seat of two cherubim
-the place where God would meet with the children of Israel



The Ark was a Copy and Shadow of God's Throne

The Copy and Shadow: The Ten Commandments were placed inside it.
- Exodus 25:16

The Reality: God's throne is where all righteousness and judgment emanate.
- Psalms 97:2
- *Proverbs 16:*

The Copy and Shadow: A jar of manna was kept in the Ark of the Covenant.

- Exodus 16:32-33

The Reality: God's throne is in reality where lovingkindness comes.

- Psalm 89:14
- James 1:17

The Copy and Shadow: Aaron's staff was kept in the Ark.

- Numbers 17:10

The Reality: Christ alone is priest as ordained from God's throne.

- Hebrews 2:17
- Hebrews 8:1

The Copy and Shadow: The Ark was the mercy seat of God.

- Exodus 25:17
- The word for "mercy seat" is better rendered in the NIV as "atonement cover", for that is the direct meaning of the phrase.

The Reality: Christ resides on the throne and extends his mercies.

- Titus 3:4-5
- Hebrews 4:16

The Copy and Shadow: Around the Ark we find Cherubim (guardians of God's glory).

- Exodus 25:18

The Reality: Around God's throne reside worshipping angels and Cherubim.

- Revelation 4:8
- Hebrews 1:6

The Copy and Shadow: The Ark was kept in the Holy of Holies, the throne room of God.

- Exodus 26:33
- I King 8:6

The Reality: The throne of God is in the Most Holy place.

- Hebrews 9:24
- John 1:14
- Habakkuk 2:20
- Hebrews 9:11

Holy of Holies

In Closing:

- *Habakkuk 1:13, Your eyes are too pure to approve evil, And You cannot look on wickedness with favor. This illuminates two points about our God.*

There are two concepts to meditate on in closing the Tabernacle series. Consider the following about God.

1. He is Holy.

A) His location is holy.

- Isaiah 6:3
- Revelation 4:8
- Psalm 11:4

B) His name is holy.

- Isaiah 57:15
- Psalm 71:22

C) His ways are holy.

- Psalm 77:13
- Psalm 119:168

2. He is Watching.

A) He sees our actions.

- Hosea 7:12

B) He sees our hearts.

- Proverbs 15:3
- Hebrews 4:12-13

C) He sees our future.

- Proverbs 5:21
- Jeremiah 29:11