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ABOUT THE TABERNACLE

PICTURE OF A TABERNACLE MODEL



THE TABERNACLE

THE OUTER COURT

THE OUTER FENCE

SCRIPTURES ON THE TABERNACLE

The Lord spoke to Moses about a tabernacle in which He was to dwell in, the tabernacle was to be set up in the midst of the Israelites throughout their stay in the wilderness. During their wanderings, the tabernacle was to be dismantled and carried along with them. Whenever they were instructed to halt and set up camp for a while, they were to reassemble the Tabernacle.

There was a specific pattern that He showed Moses, He instructed that Moses should make sure He followed the pattern that was showed to Him on the mountain top. There was a reason for this; we are going to carefully go through the details of the tabernacle throughout this book so that the Children of God are enlightened about the precious thoughts of God.

Most of the scriptures that describe the tabernacle of Moses are seen in the following Chapters of the book of Exodus. They are **EXODUS CHAPTERS 25, 26, 27 and 30**. I skipped Chapters 28 and 29 mainly because it covers the laws relating to the priesthood who were chosen to minister in the Tabernacle. We are limiting this book to the major physical furniture pieces that made up the Tabernacle; the furniture pieces and utensils within and without the Tabernacle will be studied in detail. As you read this book, pick up highlighted sections and study them in the Bible for greater insight.

While observing the picture above, you notice a fence and a covered structure within the fence. The covered structure is the Tabernacle. The Tabernacle had two compartments within it called the **HOLY PLACE** and the **HOLIES OF HOLIES**. The holy place was separated from the holiest of holies by a veil. The open part of the structure within the fence was called the **OUTERCOURT**.

SUMMARY OF THE TABERNACLE'S MAJOR FEATURES:-

Outside the Tabernacle, a space was reserved for sacrifices of animals and burnt offerings of all sorts. The priests also used this section to wash themselves and generally prepare themselves before entering into the Tabernacle. This section without the tabernacle was called the **OUTER COURT** it had the following major features.

- a. **AN OUTER DIMARCATION OR FENCE OF LINEN MATERIAL AND WOODEN PILLARS WITH BRONZE BASE SOCKETS AND SILVER BANDS.**
- b. **THE BRONZE ALTAR.**
- c. **A BRONZE LAVER.**
- d. **UTENSILS LIKE PANS, SPOONS, AND FORKS ETC ALL MADE OF BRONZE.**

NOTE:

Bronze or brass is used to describe the objects in the outer court in some bible translations. Bronze and brass are composite alloys of copper in combination with zinc or tin. The difference between these two forms of alloys is in the percentage input of the contents, but they are principally copper based Alloys. So when we see bronze or brass they mean the same thing.

The **TABERNACLE** itself was the place where the ultimate sacred sacrifices and various rituals were made unto the Lord, it had the following components.

- e. **AN OUTER COVERING OF CURTAINS MADE OF GOAT'S HAIR, RAM SKINS DYED WITH BLOOD AND BADGER'S SKIN.**
- f. **AN ENTRANCE WITH FIVE PILLARS OVERLAID WITH GOLD WHOSE BASES WERE OVERLAID WITH BRONZE.**
- g. **AN OUTER FRAME OF WOODEN PANELS OVERLAID WITH GOLD AND SILVER BASE SOCKETS.**
- h. **CURTAINS OF LINEN EMBROIDED WITH CHERUBIM OVER THE FRAMES OF THE TABERNACLE.**

The Tabernacle also had two sections namely the **HOLY PLACE** and the **HOLIEST OF HOLIES**. A veil separated these two sections.

The first section called the **HOLY PLACE** had the following major objects

- i. **A GOLDEN TABLE FOR SHEWBREAD.**
- j. **A GOLDEN LAMPSTAND.**
- k. **A GOLDEN ALTER OF INCENSE**
- l. **UTENSILS LIKE PANS, SPOONS, AND FORKS ALL MADE OF PURE GOLD.**

In the **HOLIEST OF HOLIES** section of the **TABERNACLE**, the following objects were seen.

- m. **THE ARK OF THE COVENANT CONTAINING A GOLDEN POT OF MANNA, ARON'S ROD THAT BLOSSOMED AND THE TABLETS OF STONES CONTAINING THE COVENANT.**

- n. **THE MERCY SEAT WITH TWO CHERIBUM MADE OF PUER GOLD ATTACHED TO IT.**

- o. **THE HOLIEST OF HOLIES WAS SEPARATED FROM THE HOLY PLACE BY THE LINEN VEIL OF PURPLE, RED AND BLUE; IT WAS EMBROIDED WITH CHERUBIM ALL OVER IT.**

The Glory of the Lord was constantly over the Tabernacle, seen as a cloud by day and fire by night.

Exodus 40:38 For the cloud of the LORD *was* upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

The Children of Israel encamped around the Tabernacle according to their tribes. In so doing God dwelt among them wherever they camped.

God made no mistake when He gave Moses the original Blueprint to the build His tabernacle. The blueprint was thought out and released from the very balconies of Eternity. God kept on reminding Moses to see that He follows the Pattern. That Original Pattern remained throughout the days of the Israelites and remains today as the Lord will reveal to us in this book.

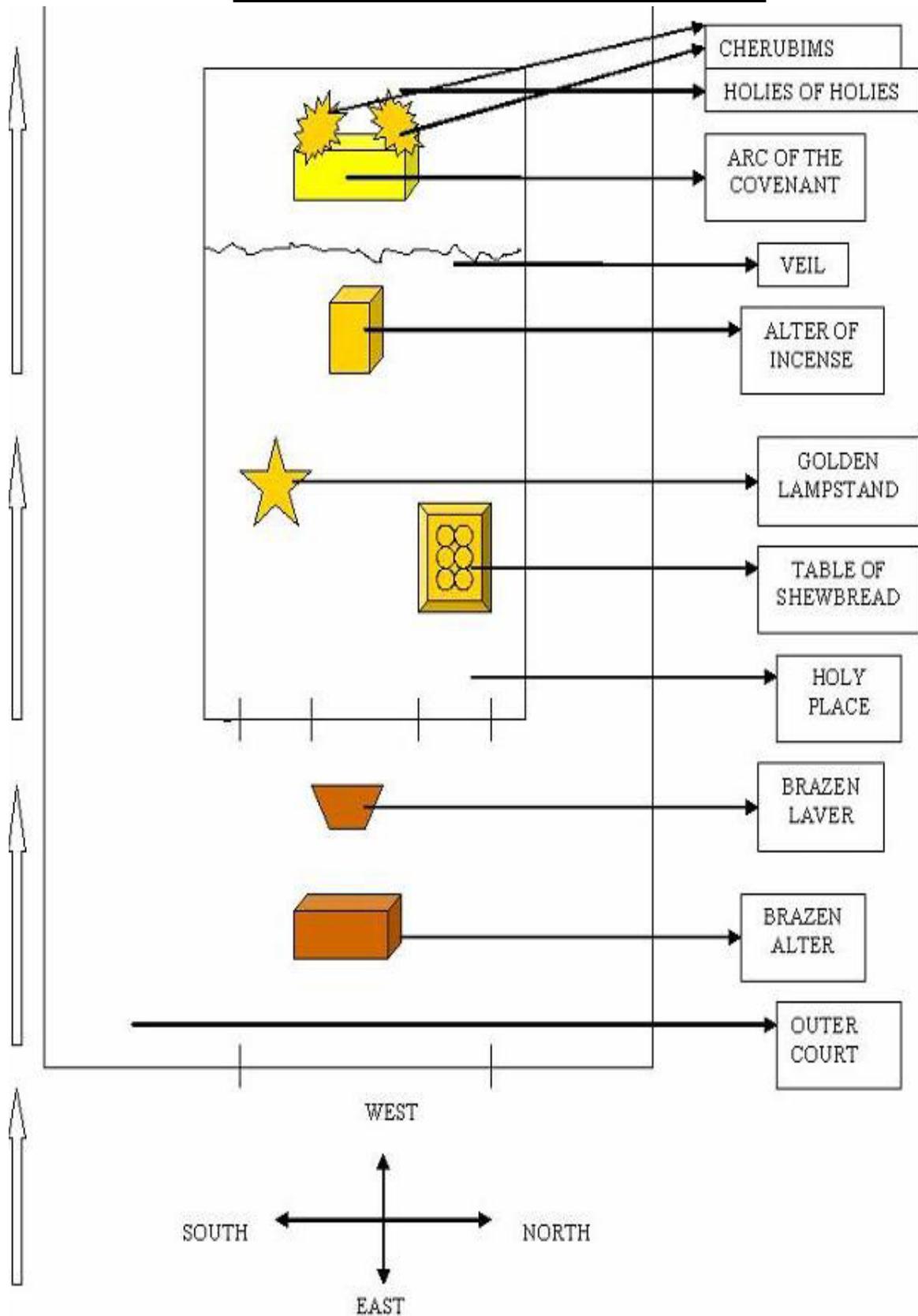
Let us study the basic structure of God's House, bearing in Mind that the Tabernacle, the house of God, the temple of God or the Sanctuary of God all mean the same thing.

No matter where God's dwelling was to be built they had to have the same basic blueprint and pattern. The same rituals and the same ordinances were to be observed in it.

The sketch of the Tabernacle below that shows the basic blueprint of the tabernacle of God. It also shows show the Directions where

various furniture pieces were placed and Materials used for construction.

SKETCH OF THE TABERNACLE



The Graphical representation above means that in the course of routine rituals ordained by God, the priests used to move from the outer court westwards. Starting from the Brazen Alter to the Bronze Laver, then to the Table of shew bread and to the Golden lamp stand, then to the golden alter of incense then finally the Ark and the Mercy Seat of God. This is a spiritual revelation that will help you as you seek the Lord, know that the journey to God's Heart is a spiritual journey from the east to the west. Always remember that in our spiritual progress there is a constant rising of the sun in our lives, it never goes down and back to the east. If it goes down, we are talking here of a falling away from the faith. We will discover that all true seekers of God have to follow this path into glory.

DEDICATION OF THE TABERNACLE

The book of **Exodus Chapter 40:1 -16** tells us how Moses in obedience to God went on to setup the Tabernacle. Moses did this to precision bearing in mind all that God had told Him, "SEE THAT YOU DO IT ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN I SHOWED YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN" [**EXODUS 25:40**]. Immediately Moses had set up the tabernacle like He was instructed to, the glory of the Lord enveloped the tabernacle.

The splendorous manner in which God's glory came down was a sign of His seal of approval on the structure immediately after it was ready and consecrated unto the Lord. The glory of God's Presence in the form of clouds was so thick that Moses couldn't enter into the Tabernacle. Apart from showing Approval for the dwellings dedicated to Him, the manifestation was to show and assure Israel of His presence in their midst.

Moses had created in physical form, the Tabernacle of God in the heavens where God dwells eternally. God's true eternal dwelling place is in the Heavens, because God is spirit. When God came down after the completion of the Tabernacle, He was trying to tell us that this is exactly the way His dwelling place is in Heaven. So speaking figuratively, the kingdom of heaven descended and came down to earth. God was in the process of educating us on His kingdom. The

one and only thing that made Israel great was the presence of God in the Tabernacle that was in their midst. It is that glory that sustained them; He protected them and prospered them in all that they did.

EXODUS 40:33-38

33 And he raised up the court all around the tabernacle and the altar, and hung up the screen of the court gate. So Moses finished the work. 34 Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 35 And Moses was not able to enter the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 36 Whenever the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, the children of Israel would go onward in all their journeys. 37 But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not journey till the day that it was taken up. 38 For the cloud of the LORD was above the tabernacle by day, and fire was over it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

God is not a man that changes; He is the same yesterday, today and forevermore. The blueprint or design used in creating that Tabernacle of old in the wilderness is still here today and will always be.

The Lord had come to dwell with them that He might be like a Father and God to the Children of Israel. Just reflect on this, the creator of all heaven and of all earth dwelling in their midst. For God to dwell with them they had to continually hearken to the ordinances of the Lord given to them through Moses. The ordinances included the very laws concerning the tabernacle; definitely knowing about the tabernacle enlightens us on ways to the heart of God.

Locked up in all of this are mysteries that hold the keys to our salvation. Those mighty manifestations of God in that day and age were manifestations for our consumption and glory not for Israelites. In fact we will discover that they were living in shadows.

SUMMARY

Moses gathered the Israelites like God commanded Him to do; they were gathered in one unto one purpose, the creation of a mobile tabernacle unto God. The tabernacle along with its furniture pieces and accompanying objects was a simple yet very detailed structure. What Moses made was simply a projection of the mind of God on His glorious Dwelling place. Moses did not understand it neither did all men understand this until the gift of God's spirit became available unto men. The spirit of God searches the mind of God and reveals the deep things God. The spirit since the days of the Apostles is revealing His thoughts in relation to the tabernacle.

Why were some of the Objects that make up the Tabernacle made of bronze while others made of gold? Why were some of the structures covered while others were open for all to see? Why were curtains with images Cherubim weaved on them used as an inner covering in the Tabernacle? Why was there an ark hidden behind a veil where only the high Priest go into only once a year? What did all the consumable materials like bread, olive oil for the lampstand, incense and blood of animals mean? All these things are there for the Children of God to occupy themselves with while the Perfect day dawns in our hearts.

The priests basically offered atonement sacrifices on behalf of the Israelites on the Bronze Alter and washed themselves and the sacrifices with water from the bronze laver. They then entered the Holy place first passing the Golden Table of Shew bread and the golden lamp stand to get to the golden alter just before the Veil. Then only the high Priest of old will go beyond the veil to perform sacrifices before the Lord.

In so doing progressing towards the sacred Holies of Holies was always westward; this movement is the direction of the rising of the sun. This is the Path the saints that are being perfected take into glory. They start of from Darkness at midnight and are constantly lightened up till they get to the fullness of light that is at noonday, The Sun rises in the east and sets in the west.

Moving westwards spiritually talks of spiritual progress in God, it is a journey into the very heart of God. Adam who fell from Grace was cast out of the garden eastwards, for us to get back to the Garden of Eden we have to spiritually move westwards from the place of curses situated eastwards.

While Studying and observing the detailed Pattern of the tabernacle God which was Showed Moses in His presence on the Mountain, we discern that the Lord had greater things in mind pertaining to salvation for mankind. Like I earlier pointed out we all know in our inner most being that even in all the splendor of the Tabernacle the Lord can not and will not ultimately live in Earthly Elementary structures like this. God has a sacred message wrapped up in all of this for the whole of mankind. All need to do is stop and listen.

