

**TABERNACLE & TEMPLE**  
**PART I**  
**GOD'S TABERNACLE OF OLD COVENANT**

By

Richard W. Linthicum

RichardLayman@verizon.net

www.MessiahBible.net

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**PART I – GOD’S TABERNACLE OF OLD COVENANT**

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All Scriptural Quotations are taken from the New American Bible (1970 Version).

- *(Parenthetic Italics) Imbedded within Bible Quotes are Author’s Comments.*
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- **Green Indicates References & Quotations from Catholic “Deuterocanonical” Books.**

*Small Italics are Author’s Footnotes.*

## TABERNACLE & TEMPLE

### PART I – GOD’S TABERNACLE OF OLD COVENANT

#### Introduction

*The Tabernacle, Subsequently the Temple, was the Lord God’s Dwelling Place on Earth and Israel’s Central Place of Worship.*

#### A. God’s Pre-Law Dwelling Among Men

*There was No Specific Dwelling Place of the Lord God on Earth Before the Law was Given to Moses. Men of God would Worship the Lord by Building Altars in the Open Fields to Offer Sacrifices to Him. This Section Looks at Incidents Mentioned in the Scriptures where Men Built Altars to the Lord Prior to the Law.*

1. God’s Intended Relationship with Man Gen. 1:26 – 2:25
  - a. “Then God said: ‘Let us (*Triune God*) make man in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground.’ God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them.” (*Gen. 1:26-27*)
    - 1) God Created Man (Male & Female) in His Image (i.e. Created with Certain Godlike Attributes)
      - a) Triune Beings with a Body, Soul/Mind & Spirit
      - b) Eternal Beings Created to be Timeless & Ageless
      - c) Beings to be United with their Creator
      - d) Beings Capable of Intimately Knowing & Communicating with God
    - 2) God Gave Man Dominion Over Earth
      - a) Man to be God’s Governing Representative on Earth
    - 3) Man Created to be Living Tabernacles of God. “the LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so man became a living being.” (*Gen. 2:7*)
      - a) God Breathed Life into Man, Filling Him with Divine Glory
  - b. God Commissioned Man to Populate Earth. “Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it...” (*Gen. 1:28*)
    - 1) Procreate Offspring Who are in God’s Image, Filled with Divine Glory
  - c. “The LORD God gave man this order: ‘You are free to eat from any of the trees of the garden except the tree of knowledge of good and bad. From that tree you shall not eat; the moment you eat from it you are surely doomed to die.’” (*Gen. 2:16-17*)
    - 1) Man Created in an Innocent State with Free Will
    - 2) God Allowed Man to be Tempted, Giving Him Choice
      - a) If Man Stays Obedient to God, He Will Live in Perfect Harmony with God
      - b) If Man Disobeys God, He Will Die! (*Separated from a Holy God*)
2. Man’s Separation from God Gen. 3
  - a. Man (Adam & Eve) Sin – Disobeying the Lord God Gen. 3:1-20
    - 1) Serpent (Satan) Entices Eve to Eat from the Forbidden Tree
    - 2) Eve Entices Adam to Share the Forbidden Fruit
      - a) Adam Willfully Disobeys God
    - 3) Results of Adam & Eve’s Sin:
      - a) Recognize Themselves as Naked

- (*Loss of Innocence - Perceiving Good & Evil*)
- b) Ashamed, Afraid & Hiding from God (*Shame & Fear - Symptoms of Sin*)
  - c) Adam Abdicates His God Given Dominion to Satan  
(*Adam Willfully Submitted to Satan When He Ate the Forbidden Fruit*)
  - d) Woman Will Endure Intense Pain in Childbirth (*Fulfilling God's Command to Populate Earth*) & be Submissive to Her Husband
  - e) Man Must Labor to Sustain Himself & His Family  
(1) Competing with Nature (*Weather, Thorns, Insects, etc.*) for Resources
  - f) Mankind Cursed with Death (*Physical & Spiritual*). "... For you are dirt, and to dirt you shall return." (*Gen. 3:19*)  
(1) Applying to All Earthly Life, Originally Under Man's Dominion
- b. Lord God Reveals His Means of Redemption Gen. 3:21-24
- 1) "For the man and his wife the LORD God made leather garments, with which he clothed them." (*Gen. 3:21*)
    - a) Revealing His Requirement of Blood Sacrifice for the Atonement of Sin
  - 2) God Expels Adam & Eve from His Holy Presence  
(*The Glory of the Lord Departs from Man, Leaving a Spiritual Void*)
3. Man's First Sacrificial Offerings Recorded in Scriptures Gen. 4:1-16
- a. Adam & Eve's First Born Son is Cain
    - 1) Cain Became a Tiller of Soil
  - b. Adam & Eve's Next Son is Abel
    - 1) Abel Became a Keeper of Flocks
  - c. Cain's & Abel's Offerings to the Lord Gen. 4:3-7  
(*Presumably on Sacrificial Altars*)
    - 1) Cain Offers Produce from His Crops (*Offering of Man's Works*)
    - 2) Abel Offers Best Firstlings of His Flock (*Blood Sacrifices – Consistent with the Type of Sacrifice God Revealed to Adam & Eve. See Gen. 3:21 Above*)
    - 3) The Lord Accepts Abel's Offering, But Not Cain's
  - d. Cain Becomes Jealous & Murders Abel Gen. 4:8-16  
(*Sin Intensifies – Taking a Human Life*)
4. Noah Gen. 6 – 9
- a. The Lord Sends a Flood to Destroy Sinful Man
    - 1) Noah, His Family & Animals Rescued in an Ark
  - b. After the Flood
    - 1) "... Noah built an altar to the LORD, and choosing from every clean animal and every clean bird, he offered holocausts (*Whole Burnt Sacrifices*) on the altar." (*Gen. 8:20*)
    - 2) The Lord Accepts Noah's Sacrifices & Establishes His Covenant  
(*See 'Noahic Covenant' in "Covenants – Part I" Study*)
      - a) "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants (*All Humanity*) after you and with every living creature that was with you: ..." (*Gen. 9:9-10*)
5. Abram / Abraham  
(*See 'Abrahamic Covenant' in "Covenants – Part I" Study*)
- a. The Lord Announces His Covenant with Abram (Abraham) Gen. 12:1-3
    - 1) The Lord Calls Abram:
      - a) Instructs Abram. "Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your

- father's house to a land that I will show you (*"Promise Land."*)  
(*Gen. 12:1*)
- b) Promises Abram:
    - (1) He Will Become the Father of a Nation
    - (2) God's Favor Will be Upon His Nation
    - (3) He Will be a Blessing to All Mankind
  - 2) Abram & His Household Migrate to Canaan Gen. 12:4-5
    - a) Abram Claims the Land for the Lord & His People Gen. 12:6-9
      - (1) Arrives at Shechem. "The LORD appeared to Abram and said, 'To your descendants I will give this land.' So Abram built an altar there to the LORD who had appeared to him" (*Gen. 12:7*)
      - (2) Travels in Promise Land. "... pitching his tent with Bethel to the west and Ai to the east. He built an altar there to the LORD and invoked the LORD by name." (*Gen. 12:8*)
    - 3) Abram Later Travels to Egypt to Survive Famine Gen. 12:10-20  
(*Leaving the Promise Land*)
    - 4) Abram Returns to Promise Land Gen. 13
      - a) Goes to Where He Built an Altar & Invoked the Name of the Lord
        - (1) Lord Reaffirms His Promises to Abram
      - b) Settles in Hebron. "...There he built an altar to the LORD." (*Gen. 13:18*)
  - b. The Lord Changes Abram's Name to Abraham Gen. 17:1-8
  - c. Abraham Offers His Son Isaac Gen. 22:1-19
    - 1) The Lord Commands Abraham: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you." (*Gen 22:2*)
    - 2) Abraham Takes Isaac to Land of Moriah
      - a) They Ascend Mount Moriah (*Future Site of the Temple*)  
(*The Tabernacle, then the Temple, were the Lord's Designated Places of Sacrificial Worship*)
        - (1) "... Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it.
        - (2) "Next he tied up his son Isaac, and put him on top of the wood on the altar. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son."  
(*Gen. 22:9-10*)
      - b) Lord's Messenger Calls from Heaven: "Do not lay your hand on the boy. Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." (*Gen. 22:12*)
      - c) Abraham Sees a Ram Caught by its Horns in a Thicket
        - (1) Sacrifices the Ram Instead of Isaac
      - d) Abraham Names Place "Yahweh-Yireh"  
(*i.e. "The Lord – Shall be Seen" / "The Lord - Shall Provide"*)
      - e) Lord's Messenger Calls from Heaven
        - (1) Reiterates Lord's Covenant with Abraham & Seals it by Oath
6. Isaac – Legitimate Son of Abraham
- a. The Lord Confirms His Covenant with Isaac Gen. 26:23-25
    - 1) Isaac Goes to Beer-Sheba (*In Promise Land*)
    - 2) Lord Appears to Isaac: "I am the God of your father Abraham. You have no need to fear, since I am with you. I will bless you and multiply your descendants for the sake of my servant Abraham." (*Gen. 26:24*)

- 3) Isaac. "...built an altar there and invoked the LORD by name" (*Gen. 26:25a*)
7. Jacob – Chosen Son of Isaac
- a. Jacob Leaves Promise Land to Get a Wife from Kinsmen at Paddan-aram Gen. 28
- 1) Stops at Shrine & Altar Built by Abraham  
(*Abraham's First Altar in Promise Land. See Gen. 12:7 Above*)
    - a) Places One of the Stones Under His Head & Lays Down to Sleep
  - 2) Dreams of a Stairway to Heaven (*Jacob's Ladder*) Gen. 28:10-15
    - a) God's Messengers Going Up & Down Stairway
    - b) The Lord Stands Beside Jacob
      - (1) Confirms His Covenant with Jacob
  - 3) Jacob Wakes from His Sleep, Exclaiming: "Truly, the LORD is in this spot, although I did not know it! How awesome is this shrine! This is nothing else but an abode of God, and that is the gateway to heaven!" (*Gen. 28:16-17*)
  - 4) Jacob Takes the Stone from Under His Head & Sets It Up as a Memorial  
(*Jacob Erected Memorial Stones in the Promise Land [Here and in Gen. 33:20 & Gen. 35:13-15 Below] to Mark Sites of Divine Revelation*)
    - a) Pours Oil on It (*Symbolizing the Lord's Anointing*)
    - b) Calls Site "Bethel" (Meaning "House of God")
    - c) Makes a Vow to the Lord:
      - (1) "If God remains with me, to protect me on this journey I am making and to give me enough bread to eat and clothing to wear, and I come back safe to my father's house, the LORD shall be my God.
      - (2) "This stone that I have set up as a memorial stone shall be God's abode....." (*Gen. 28:20-22*) ("God's Abode" *Conceptual Foreshadow of God's Dwelling Place on Earth - His Tabernacle*)
- b. Jacob Travels to Paddan-aram, Marries & Raises a Family Gen. 29 - 30
- c. Jacob Returns to Promise Land with His Household Gen. 31 – 33
- 1) Jacob Struggles with an Angel of the Lord All Night Gen. 32:23-33
    - a) Angel Injures Jacob that Morning
      - (1) Jacob Continues to Hold On Until Angel Blesses Him
    - b) Angel Blesses Jacob, Changing His Name: "You shall no longer be spoken of as Jacob, but as Israel, because you have contended with divine and human beings and have prevailed." (*Gen. 32:29*)
    - c) Jacob Names Place Peniel. "Because I have seen God face to face,...yet my life has been spared." (*Gen. 32:31*) (Recognizes Visitation of the Lord)
  - 2) Jacob Arrives at Shechem Gen. 33:18-20
    - a) Purchases Plot of Ground from Inhabitants
      - (1) "He set up a memorial stone there and invoked 'El, the God of Israel'." (*Gen. 33:20*) ("El" *Short Form of "Elohim". Here Jacob Proclaims Creator God as the God of Israel*)
  - 3) The Lord Confirms His Covenant with Jacob Gen. 35:1-15
    - a) Lord Instructs Jacob: "Go up now to Bethel. Settle there and build an altar there to the God who appeared to you....." (*Gen. 35:1*)
    - b) Jacob Purifies His Household & Goes to Bethel
      - (1) "There he built an altar and named the place Bethel, for it was there that God had revealed himself to him ...." (*Gen. 35:7*)
      - (2) Lord Confirms His Covenant with Jacob

- (a) Reiterates Changing His Name to Israel
- (3) “Then God departed from him. On the site where God had spoken with him, Jacob set up a memorial stone, and upon it he made a libation and poured out oil. Jacob named the site Bethel (*“House of God”*) because God had spoken with him there.” (*Gen. 35:13-15*)
- 4) Jacob’s Sons Become the 12 Tribes of Israel (*God’s Chosen People/Nation*)

## **B. The Tent Tabernacle Specified by Law**

### 1. Historical Perspective

- a. Israel Migrates to Egypt to Survive a Severe Famine Gen. 46 – 50
  - 1) Jacob (Israel), His Sons & their Families
  - 2) Settle in Land of Goshen in Egypt
- b. Egyptians Enslave Later Generations of Israelites Ex. 1 – 2
  - 1) Lord Sets Apart a Deliverer – Moses
    - a) To Deliver His People from Bondage
    - b) To Lead Them to Promise Land
    - c) To Establish Them as His Chosen Nation
  - 2) Moses Kills an Egyptian Taskmaster
    - a) Flees Egypt & Settles in Midian
- c. Lord Calls & Commissions Moses Ex. 3 – 4
  - 1) Moses Tending Sheep at Mount Horeb
    - a) Sees & Approaches a Flaming Bush that’s Not Consumed
  - 2) The Lord God Speaks to Moses from Flaming Bush
    - a) “Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.” (*Ex. 3:5*) (*He is a Holy God*)
    - b) “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob.” (*Ex. 3:6*) (*The Covenant Making God of Israel*)
    - c) “I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well what they are suffering. Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey (*Promise Land*), ...” (*Ex. 3:7-9*)
    - d) “Come, now! I will send you to Pharaoh to lead my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” (*Ex. 3:10*)
    - e) “..... when you bring my people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this very mountain.” (*Ex. 3:12*)
      - (1) The Lord Will Give Israel His Laws at Mount Horeb
  - 3) Moses Asks Lord God His Name
  - 4) The Lord Replies:
    - a) “I am who am. This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM (*“Yahweh”*) sent me to you.”  
(*“I AM” - The Ever Present, Ever Living, No Beginning, No Ending God!*)
    - b) “Thus shall you say to the Israelites: The LORD (*Yahweh*), the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. (*He is the Lord God of Israel*)
    - c) “This is my name forever; this is my title for all generations”(Ex. 3:14-15)
  - 5) The Lord Instructs & Anoints Moses, Confirming His Commission
  - 6) Moses Returns to Egypt

- d. The Lord Delivers Israel from Bondage Ex. 5:1 – 12:36
- 1) Lord Sends 10 Plagues on Egypt through Moses Ex. 7:14 - 12:36
    - a) The 10<sup>th</sup> Plague – Death of First Born Ex. 11:1 – 12:36
      - (1) Lord Institutes Passover
        - (a) Instructs Each Israelite Family to Slaughter a Lamb
          - Spread Blood on Doorposts & Lintels of their Dwellings
      - (2) Angel of Death Goes through Egypt Killing All First Born
        - (a) Passes Over Dwellings Covered with Blood
      - (3) Pharaoh Releases Israel from Bondage
      - (4) Lord Commands Israel to Annually Celebrate Passover Ex. 12:43-49
- e. Israelites Leave Egypt Ex. 12:37 – 13:22
- 1) Taking Spoils of Egypt (*Materials that Will be Used to Construct the Lord's Tabernacle, its Furnishings & Utensils*)
  - 2) Taking Large Flocks & Herds of Livestock  
(*For Sustenance & Blood Sacrifices to the Lord*)
  - 3) Hurriedly Baking Unleavened Dough into Loaves  
(*For Sustenance & Cereal Offerings to the Lord*)
- f. The Lord Leads Israel to Mount Horeb (Sinai) to Receive His Law Ex. 14 - 18
- 1) Lord Leads Israel Through the Red ("Red") Sea Ex. 14
    - a) Pharaoh Regrets Releasing Israelites from Bondage
      - (1) Musters an Army & Pursues Them
    - b) Lord Rescues Israel
      - (1) Parts the Sea
        - (a) Israel Crosses to the Other Side on Dry Ground
      - (2) Egyptian Army Follows Israelites
        - (a) Waters Flow Back Drowning the Egyptians
  - 2) Lord Provides for Israel as They Travel to Mount Horeb
    - a) Sweetens Bitter Water in Desert Ex. 15:22-27
    - b) Provides Food in Desert – Manna & Quail Ex. 16
    - c) Provides Water from a Rock Ex. 17:1-7
  - 3) Amalekites Oppose Israel on Their Way to Mount Horeb Ex. 17:8-16
    - a) Lord Gives Israel Victory Over Amalek Army
    - b) Moses Builds an Altar to Lord (*In Same Manner as His Forefathers: Abraham, Isaac & Jacob*)
      - (1) "Moses also built an altar there, which he called Yahweh-nissi (*Meaning: 'The Lord My Victor/Banner'*)" (Ex. 17:15)  
(*i.e. Israel's Standard/Banner/Flag Who Leads them to Victory.*)
2. The Law Given to Israel at Mount Horeb (Sinai) Ex. 19 - 24
- a. Israel Arrives & Camps at Mount Horeb (Sinai)  
(*Horeb & Sinai are the Same Mountain. Ex. 19:11 & Deut. 4:10*)
  - b. The Lord's Intention for His Nation Ex. 19:1-15  
The Lord's Intention for Israel is to be His Kingdom of Priests on Earth.
    - 1) Moses Ascends Mount Sinai
      - a) Lord Speaks to Moses: "Thus shall you say to the house of Jacob;
        - (1) ".....You have seen for yourselves how I treated the Egyptians and how I bore you up on eagle wings and brought you here to myself.
        - (2) "Therefore, if you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people,

though all the earth is mine. You shall be to me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation.....” (Ex. 19:3c-6)

- b) *The Lord God Desires a Personal Relationship with Each Israelite Living in His Promise Land, Obeying His Laws, Worshipping Him as Lord, Ministering to One Another and Interceding for Each Other; Being His Witness to the Other Nations.*
- 2) Moses Returns from the Mountain & Summons the Elders
  - a) Relates the Word of the Lord
  - b) People Respond: “Everything the LORD has said, we will do.” (Ex. 19:8b)
- 3) Moses Reports Israel’s Answer to the Lord
- 4) The Lord Instructs Moses: “Go to the people and have them sanctify themselves today and tomorrow. Make them wash their garments and be ready for the third day; for on the third day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai before the eyes of all the people.....” (Ex. 19:10-13)
  - a) Moses Prepares People as the Lord Instructed
- c. The Lord’s Visitation (*“The Great Theophany”*) Ex. 19:16 – 20:17
  - 1) On 3<sup>rd</sup> Day, Heavy Cloud Appears Over Mount Sinai with Thunder & Lightning Accompanied by Loud Trumpet Blasts
    - a) Moses Leads People Out of their Camp to Meet the Lord
      - (1) Stations Them at Foot of the Mountain
  - 2) Mount Sinai Wrapped in Smoke & Trembled as the Lord Descends in Fire
    - a) Moses Speaks & Lord Answers with Thunder
  - 3) The Lord Audibly Speaks to Israel Ex. 20:1-17
    - a) Introduces Himself. “I, the LORD, am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery.” (Ex. 20:2)
    - b) Delivers His 10 Commandments:
      - (1) “You shall not have other gods besides me.” (Ex. 20:3)
      - (2) Do Not Make Nor Worship Idols
      - (3) Do Not Take the Name of the Lord God in Vain
      - (4) Keep the Sabbath Day Holy
      - (5) Honor Your Father & Mother
      - (6) Do Not Murder
      - (7) Do Not Commit Adultery
      - (8) Do Not Steal
      - (9) Do Not Bear False Witness
      - (10) Do Not Covet
- d. Israel’s Reaction Ex. 20:18-20
  - 1) People Become Afraid & Ask Moses: “You speak to us, and we will listen; but let not God speak to us, or we shall die.” (Ex. 20:19)  
*(Israelite People were Afraid by the Lord’s Revelation at Mount Sinai, Rejecting His Desire to Make them a Kingdom of Priests. They Ask Moses to Intercede to God for Them, Keeping a Distance Between Themselves and the Lord their God. They thereby Set the Premise for Israel’s Formal Intercessory Priesthood Who Will Minister Before God’s Presence in a Tabernacle.)*
  - 2) Moses Answers: “Do not be afraid, for God has come to you only to test you and put his fear (Awe) upon you, lest you should sin.” (Ex. 20:20)
- e. Moses Approaches the Cloud Where God Was
  - 1) The Lord Instructs Moses Ex. 20:21-26

*Instead of a Kingdom of Priests as the Lord Intended, He Separates a Representative Family from Among the Israelites to be His Priests (House of Aaron from Tribe of Levi), and Specifies a Distinct Place (The Tabernacle) for Them to Minister Before Him.*

- a) “Thus shall you speak to the Israelites: You have seen for yourselves that I have spoken to you from heaven. Do not make anything to rank with me; neither gods of silver nor gods of gold shall you make for yourselves.”  
(1) *The People Must Keep the Lord Preeminent in their Lives*
- b) “An altar of earth you shall make for me, and upon it you shall sacrifice your holocausts and peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen....”  
(Ex. 20:22-26) (*Earthen Altars to be Used Until the Tabernacle is Built & Consecrated as Israel’s Designated Place of Worship. Re: Deut. 12:1-14*)  
(1) *The Priests Must Offer Sacrifices Interceding for the People*
- 2) The Lord Gives Moses Laws for His People/Nation Ex. 21 – 23
  - a) Civil Law for All His People
  - b) Religious Laws Officiated by His Priests
    - (1) Appointed Times When People are to Assemble & Worship the Lord at His Tabernacle
    - (2) Sanctity of the Sacrifices Offered by Priests
- f. Ratification of the Covenant Ex. 24:1-11
  - 1) Moses Relates the Word & Ordinances of the Lord to People
    - a) People Respond: “We will do everything that the LORD has told us.”  
(Ex. 24:3b)
    - b) Moses Writes Book of the Covenant, Containing the Law
    - c) Moses Erects 12 Pillars at Foot of Mountain  
(*A Memorial Affirming Acceptance of the Law by 12 Tribes of Israel*)
  - 2) Israelites Build an Altar & Offer Sacrifices to the Lord
    - a) Moses Splashes ½ of Blood on Altar (*Sanctifying It*)
    - b) Moses Reads Book of the Covenant to People
      - (1) People Respond: “All that the LORD has said, we will heed and do.”  
(Ex. 24:7b) (*Confirming their Previous Acceptance*)
    - c) Moses Sprinkles Remaining Blood on People, Declaring: “This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words of his.” (Ex. 24:8)  
(*Sealing the Lord’s Covenant with Israel*)
  - 3) Moses Escorts Aaron & His Sons with 70 Elders to Meet the Lord
    - a) “...they beheld the God of Israel. Under his feet there appeared to be sapphire tilework, as clear as the sky itself. Yet he did not smite these chosen Israelites. After gazing on God, they could still eat and drink.”  
(Ex. 24:10-11) (*The Lord Reveals His Majesty to Israel’s Leadership*)
- g. The Lord Gives Moses His Sacred Law
  - 1) The Lord Invites Moses: “Come up to me on the mountain and, while you are there, I will give you the stone tablets on which I have written the commandments ....” Ex. 24:12
  - 2) Moses Ascends Mount Sinai to Receive the Sacred Law Ex. 24:13-18
    - a) Cloud of Glory Settles Upon Mount Sinai
      - (1) Cloud Covers Mountain 6 Days
      - (2) Glory Appears as Consuming Fire on Mountain Top
      - (3) Lord Calls Moses into Midst of Cloud (*Lord’s Presence*) the 7<sup>th</sup> Day

- b) Moses Enters into Midst of Cloud, Receiving the Law  
(1) Remains on Mountain 40 Days & 40 Nights
- 3) *The Sacred Laws Consist of 4 Major Elements:*
- a) *The Tabernacle – The Lord God’s Dwelling Place Among His People on Earth & Israel’s Central Place of Worship.*
  - b) *The Priesthood – The Lord’s Chosen Priesthood to Make Constant Intercession for God’s Chosen People (Israel) with Continual Blood Sacrifices (See “Anointed Priest – Part I” Study).*
  - c) *Sacrifices & Offerings – Prescribed Means to Make Atonement for Sins Before a Holy God, Seek His Forgiveness, Absolution & Reconciliation, and to Offer Thanksgiving (See “Sacrifices & Offerings – Part I” Study).*
  - d) *Holy Days, Festivals & Feasts – Divine Appointments Prescribed by the Lord for His People to Celebrate Him & Commemorate His Intervention in Man’s Affairs (See “Holy Days, Festivals & Feasts – Part I” Study).*
3. The Lord Specifies His Tabernacle
- a. The Lord Commands Israel to Build Him a Tabernacle Ex. 25 – 27 & 30  
*The Lord God’s Dwelling Place Among His People on Earth.*
  - 1) Materials to be Contributed by People Ex. 25:1-7  
*(Contributions from Riches Taken from Egypt)*
    - a) The Lord Orders Moses: “Tell the Israelites to take up a collection for me. From every man you shall accept the contribution that his heart prompts him to give me. These are the contributions you shall accept from them: gold, silver and bronze; violet, purple and scarlet yarn; fine linen and goat hair; rams’ skins dyed red, and tahash skins; acacia wood; oil for the light; spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense; ....”
      - (1) *Symbolism of Building Materials*
        - (a) *Precious Metals:*
          - *Gold - Symbolizes Divinity*
          - *Silver – Symbolizes Redemption*
          - *Bronze – Symbolizes Judgment / Suffering*  
*(Bronze is Alloy of Copper Hardened with Tin.)*
        - (b) *Yarns for Weaving Cloth Items:*
          - *Violet – Represents Heaven in this Context*  
*(“Blue” in Some Translations. The Hebrew Word is “tek-ay-leth”, the Color Obtained from Mussels/Snails which is a Purple Hue of Blue like Violet. Also Referred to as “Color of the Heavens”. )*
          - *Purple – Represents Royalty*
          - *Scarlet (Red) – Represents Blood Sacrifice*
        - (c) *Fine Linen – Symbolizes Purity / Perfect Man*
        - (d) *Animal Products:*
          - *Goat Hair – Points to Atonement (Covering of Sin)*
          - *Rams’ Skins Dyed Red – Symbolizes Substitutional Sacrifice*
          - *Tahash Skins – Symbolizes Sin, Iniquity*  
*(Hebrew Word is “takh-esh” a Clean Wild Animal with Fur, Probably Antelope. Some Translations Use “Badger” an Unclean Animal [Lev. 11:5].)*
        - (e) *Acacia/Shittim Wood – Symbolizes Man*

(f) *Oil for the Light – Symbolizes Illumination by the Holy Spirit*

(g) *Spices Used in:*

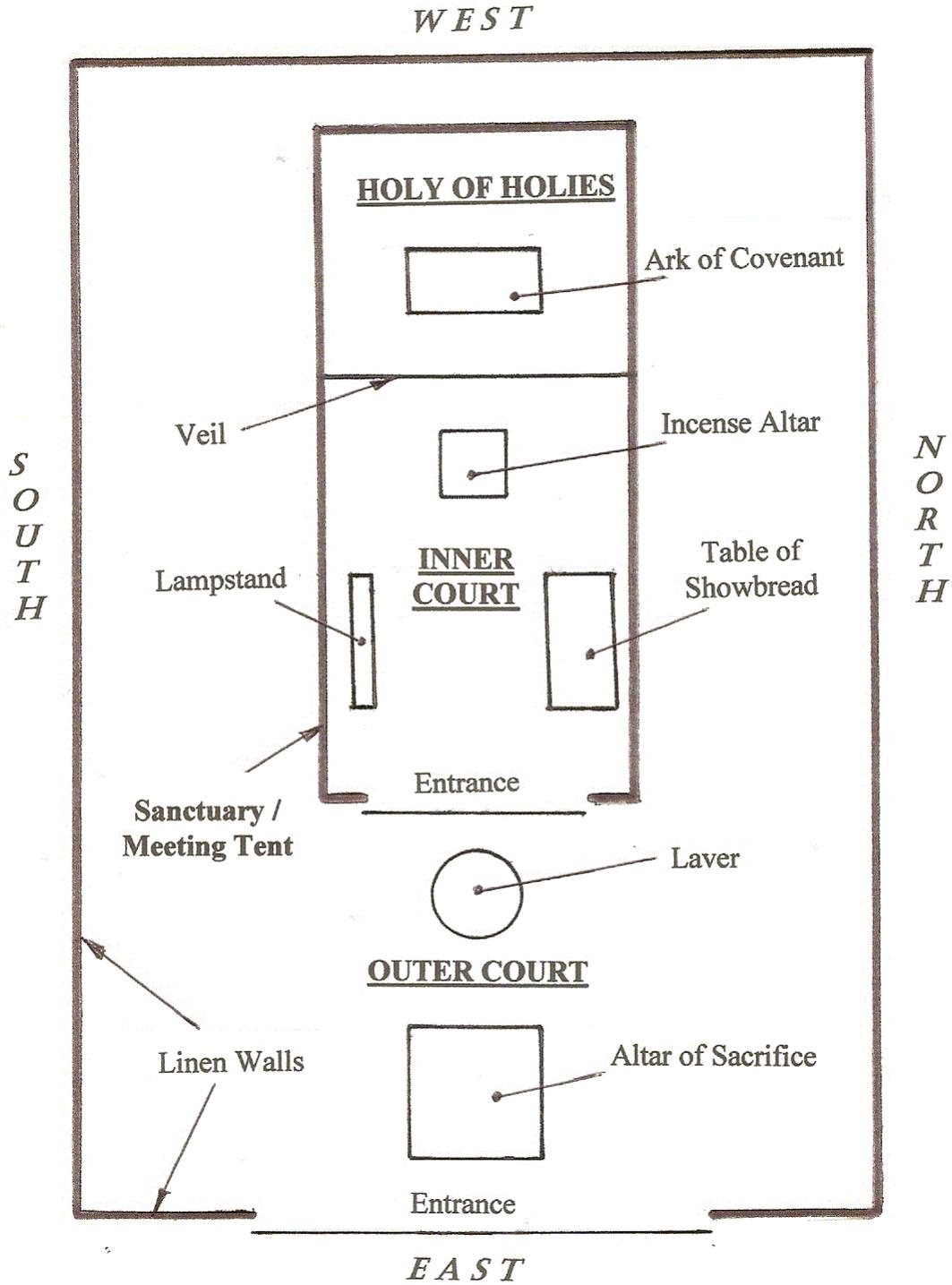
- *Anointing Oil – Represents Anointing by the Holy Spirit*
- *Fragrant Incense – Represents Intercessory Prayer*

- 2) Command to Build the Tabernacle Ex. 25:8-9
  - a) “They shall make a sanctuary for me, that I may dwell in their midst.
  - b) “This Dwelling and all its furnishings you shall make exactly according to the pattern that I will now show you”
- 3) Basic Configuration of Tabernacle (See Figure 1 – ‘The Tabernacle’ Below)  
*This Summary is from Man’s Perspective, Entering from the Outside through the Tabernacle into God’s Presence*
  - a) Outer Court Ex. 27:9-19
    - (1) Open Courtyard Surrounded with Linen Walls
      - (a) Curtain Entrance at Center of Eastern End
      - (b) Altar of Sacrifice Ex. 27:1-8
      - (c) Laver Basin Ex. 30:17-21
    - b) Covered Tent Within the Outer Court Ex. 26  
*(Referred to as the “Sanctuary”, “Meeting Tent” or “Dwelling”)*
      - (1) First Chamber is “Inner Court” or “Holy Place”
        - (a) Curtain Entrance on its East End
        - (b) Table of Showbread on North Side Ex. 25:23-30
        - (c) Lampstand (Menorah) on South Side Ex. 25:31-40
        - (d) Incense Altar at its Far / West End Ex. 30:1-10
      - (2) Second Chamber is “Holy of Holies” or “Most Holy Place” Located Beyond West End of Inner Court  
*(Holy of Holies is God’s Dwelling Place on Earth)*
        - (a) Veil Separates Inner Court from Holy of Holies
        - (b) Ark of the Covenant Ex. 25:10-22

**Figure 1**

**THE TABERNACLE**

Plan View Schematic – Not to Scale & Not Proportional



- 4) The Lord Gives Moses the Specifications  
*The Lord Specified the Tabernacle & its Furnishings from His Perspective Within the Holy of Holies.*

Comment. *The Hebrew Cubit is about 18 inches or 1.5 feet, equaling 0.457 meters.*

- a) **Ark of the Covenant** Ex. 25:10-22
- (1) The Ark. “You shall make an ark of acacia wood, two and a half cubits long, one and a half cubits wide, and one and a half cubits high. Plate it inside and outside with pure gold, and put a molding of gold around the top of it. Cast four gold rings and fasten them on the four supports of the ark, two rings on one side and two on the opposite side. Then make poles of acacia wood and plate them with gold. These poles you are to put through the rings on the sides of the ark, for carrying it; they must remain in the rings of the ark and never be withdrawn. In the ark you are to put the commandments which I will give you.”
- (a) Materials: Wood Box Plated Inside & Outside with Gold
- 2 Wood Carrying Poles Plated with Gold
- (b) Size: Length 3.75’ (1.14m) x Width 2.25’ (0.69m) x Height 2.25’ (0.69m)
- (c) Ark to Contain the Lord’s Commandments
- (2) The Ark’s Lid (Propitiation). “You shall then make a propitiatory of pure gold, two cubits and a half long, and one and a half cubits wide. Make two cherubim of beaten gold for the two ends of the propitiatory, fastening them so that one cherub springs direct from each end. The cherubim shall have their wings spread out above, covering the propitiatory with them; they shall be turned toward each other, but with their faces looking toward the propitiatory. This propitiatory you shall then place on top of the ark.”
- (a) Material: Solid Gold Lid for Ark
- (b) Size: Length 3.75’ (1.14m) x Width 2.25’ (0.69m)
- (3) Contents of the Ark. “In the ark itself you are to put the commandments which I will give you.”
- (a) Stone Tablets of 10 Commandments Ex. 40:20a; Deut. 10:1-5
- (b) Book of the Law (Torah) Ex. 25:16 & 21b; Deut. 31:24-26
- (c) Jar of Manna Ex. 16:33-34
- (d) High Priest Aaron’s Staff Num. 17:25-26
- (4) God’s Dwelling Place on Earth. “There I will meet you and there, from above the propitiatory, between the two cherubim on the ark of the commandments, I will tell you all the commands that I wish you to give the Israelites.”
- (a) God Resides Between Cherubim (“Mercy Seat”) Above the Ark Containing His Commandments
- There He Will Meet with Man
- b) **Table of Showbread** Ex. 25:23-30
- (1) The Table. “You shall also make a table of acacia wood, two cubits long, a cubit wide, and a cubit and a half high. Plate it with pure gold and make a molding of gold around it. Surround it with a frame, a

handbreadth high, with a molding of gold around the frame. You shall also make four rings of gold for it and fasten them at the four corners, one at each leg, on two opposite sides of the frame as holders for the poles to carry the table. These poles for carrying the table you shall make of acacia wood and plate with gold.

(a) Materials: Wood Table Plated with Gold

- 2 Wood Carrying Poles Plated with Gold

(b) Size: Length 3' (0.91m) x Width 1.5' (0.46m) x Height 2.25' (0.69m)

(2) Pure Gold Utensils. "Of pure gold you shall make its plates and cups, as well as its pitchers and bowls for pouring libations.

(3) The Showbread. "On the table you shall always keep showbread set before me."

(a) 12 Loaves of Bread Set Before the Lord Lev. 24:5-7

- Priests Periodically Replace Loaves with Fresh Bread

c) **Lampstand (Menorah)** Ex. 25:31-40

(1) The Lampstand & its Lamps. "You shall make a lampstand of pure beaten gold-its shaft and branches-with its cups and knobs and petals springing directly from it. Six branches are to extend from the sides of the lampstand, three branches on one side, and three on the other. On one branch there are to be three cups, shaped like almond blossoms, each with its knob and petals; on the opposite branch there are to be three cups, shaped like almond blossoms, each with its knob and petals; and so for the six branches that extend from the lampstand. On the shaft there are to be four cups, shaped like almond blossoms, with their knobs and petals, including a knob below each of the three pairs of branches that extend from the lampstand. Their knobs and branches shall so spring from it that the whole will form but a single piece of pure beaten gold. You shall then make seven lamps for it and so set up the lamps that they shed their light on the space in front of the lampstand. These, as well as the trimming shears and trays, must be of pure gold. Use a talent (*i.e.* 75 pounds or 34.27kg) of pure gold for the lampstand and all its appurtenances. See that you make them according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."

(a) Materials: Solid Gold Lampstand with 7 Lamps

- Center Shaft with Lamp & 3 Branches on Opposite Sides with Lamps

(b) Utensils of Pure Gold for Maintaining Lamps

(2) Oil for the Lamps. "...clear oil of crushed olives, to be used for the light, so that you may keep lamps burning regularly. From evening to morning Aaron and his sons shall maintain them before the LORD in the meeting tent, outside the veil which hangs in front of the commandments. This shall be a perpetual ordinance for the Israelites throughout their generations." Ex. 27:20-21

(a) Priests Keep Lamps Burning Before Lord Lev. 24:3b-4

d) **Sanctuary / Meeting Tent Structure** Ex. 26

*(The Tent is Also Referred as the "Dwelling")*

(1) *Overall Description of Meeting Tent*

(a) *Tent Structure*

- *Wall Boards Used for North, South & West Sides of the Tent*
- *Curtains Mounted from Columns on East Side Form the Entrance into the Tent*
- *Center Bar & Purlins at Ceiling Hold the Tent Together & Support Tent Coverings (Roof)*

(b) *Tent Coverings*

- *Cloth Coverings Make Up the Tent's Ceiling & Extend Over its Walls Boards*
- *Animal Skins Laid Over Cloth Covering*

(c) *Veil Hung Inside Tent Separates Holy of Holies from Inner Court*

(2) Cloth Covering. “The Dwelling itself you shall make out of sheets woven of fine linen twined and of violet, purple and scarlet yarn, with cherubim embroidered on them. The length of each shall be twenty-eight cubits, and the width four cubits; all the sheets shall be of the same size. Five of the sheets are to be sewed together, edge to edge; and the same for the other five. Make loops of violet yarn along the edge of the end sheet in one set, and the same along the edge of the end sheet in the other set. There are to be fifty loops along the edge of the end sheet in the first set, and fifty loops along the edge of the corresponding sheet in the second set, and so placed that the loops are directly opposite each other. Then make fifty clasps of gold, with which to join the two sets of sheets, so that the Dwelling forms one whole.” (Ex. 26:1-6)

(a) Materials: 10 Cloth Sheets Made from Fine Linen Woven with Violet, Purple & Scarlet Yarn

- Cherubim Embroidered on Cloth

(b) Each Sheet's Length 42' (12.80m) x Width 6' (1.83m)

(c) 2 Sets of 5 Sheets Each

- Edges of Each Sheet Sewed Together to Form a Set
  - 50 Loops of Violet Yarn Sewed on One Edge of Each Set
- Both Sets Fastened Together with 50 Gold Clasps

(3) Animal Skins Covering. “Also make sheets woven of goat hair, to be used as a tent covering over the Dwelling. Eleven such sheets are to be made; the length of each shall be thirty cubits, and the width four cubits: all eleven sheets shall be of the same size. Sew five of the sheets, edge to edge, into one set, and the other six sheets into another set. Use the sixth sheet double at the front of the tent. Make fifty loops along the edge of the end sheet in one set, and fifty loops along the edge of the end sheet in the second set. Also make fifty bronze clasps and put them into the loops, to join the tent into one whole. There will be an extra half sheet of tent covering, which shall be allowed to hang down over the rear of the Dwelling. Likewise, the sheets of the tent will have an extra cubit's length to be left hanging down on either side of the Dwelling to protect it. Over the tent itself you shall make a covering of rams' skins dyed red, and above that, a covering of tahash skins.” (Ex. 26:7-14)

(a) Materials: Sheets Woven from Animal Skins

- Goats' Hair Covering to Lay Above the Cloth Covering
  - Rams' Skins Dyed Red for Middle Covering
  - Tahash Skins for Top Covering
- (b) Manufacture of Goats' Hair Covering
- 11 Sheets of Goats' Hair
    - Each Sheet's Length 45' (13.71m) x Width 6' (1.83m)
  - 2 Sets of Sheets – One Made from 5 Sheets & One 6 Sheets
    - Edges of Each Sheet Sewed Together to Form a Set (6<sup>th</sup> Sheet Used Double at Front of Tent)
    - 50 Loops Sewed on One Edge of Each Set
  - Both Sets Fastened Together with 50 Bronze Clasps
    - Extra Material Hangs Over Sides of Tent
- (c) Rams' Skins Covering Manufactured the Same as Goats' Hair
- (d) Tahash Skins Covering Manufactured the Same as Goats' Hair
- (4) Wall Boards & Frames. “You shall make boards of acacia wood as walls for the Dwelling. The length of each board is to be ten cubits, and its width one and a half cubits. Each board shall have two arms that shall serve to fasten the boards in line. In this way all the boards of the Dwelling are to be made. Set up the boards of the Dwelling as follows: twenty boards on the south side, with forty silver pedestals under the twenty boards, so that there are two pedestals under each board, at its two arms; twenty boards on the other side of the Dwelling, the north side, with their forty silver pedestals, two under each board; six boards for the rear of the Dwelling, to the west; and two boards for the corners at the rear of the Dwelling. These two shall be double at the bottom, and likewise double at the top, to the first ring. That is how both boards in the corners are to be made. Thus, there shall be in the rear eight boards, with their sixteen silver pedestals, two pedestals under each board. Also make bars of acacia wood: five for the boards on one side of the Dwelling, five for those on the other side, and five for those at the rear, toward the west. The center bar, at the middle of the boards, shall reach across from end to end. Plate the boards with gold, and make gold rings on them as holders for the bars, which are also to be plated with gold. You shall erect the Dwelling according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.” (*Ex. 26:15-30*)
- (a) Materials: Wood Boards Plated with Gold
- (b) Each Board's Length 15' (4.57m) x Width 2.25' (0.69m)
- Each Board has 2 Arms to Fasten Boards in Line
- (c) Arrangement of Wall Boards
- 20 Boards on South Side, Mounted on 40 Silver Pedestals
  - 20 Boards on North Side, Mounted on 40 Silver Pedestals
  - 8 Boards on West Side, Mounted on 16 Silver Pedestals  
(2 Boards at Corners Strengthen the Structure)
  - Boards Equipped with Gold Rings to Hold Structural Bars
- (d) Wood Bars Plated with Gold Hold Structure Together
- Center Bar with 15 Purlin Bars
- (5) Veil Before the Holy of Holies. “You shall have a veil woven of

violet, purple and scarlet yarn, and of fine linen twined, with cherubim embroidered on it. It is to be hung on four gold-plated columns of acacia wood, which shall have hooks of gold and shall rest on four silver pedestals. Hang the veil from clasps.” (Ex. 26:31-33a)

(a) Materials:

- Veil Woven of Violet, Purple & Scarlet Yarn, and Fine Twined Linen
  - Cherubim Embroidered on Veil
- 4 Wood Columns Plated with Gold Support the Veil
  - Equipped with Gold Hooks to Hang Veil
  - Each Column Mounted on a Silver Pedestals

(b) Veil Separates Holy of Holies from Inner Court of the Tent

- Holy of Holies. “The ark of the commandments you shall bring inside, behind this veil which divides the holy place from the holy of holies. Set the propitiatory on the ark of the commandments in the holy of holies.” (Ex. 26:33b-34)
- Inner Court. “Outside the veil you shall place the table and the lampstand, the latter on the south side of the Dwelling, opposite the table, which is to be put on the north side.” (Ex. 26:35)

(6) Tent’s Entrance Curtain. “For the entrance of the tent make a variegated curtain of violet, purple and scarlet yarn and of fine linen twined. Make five columns of acacia wood for this curtain; have them plated with gold, with their hooks of gold; and cast five bronze pedestals for them.” (Ex. 26:36-37)

(a) Materials:

- Variegated Curtain Woven of Violet, Purple & Scarlet Yarn, and Fine Twined Linen
- 5 Wood Columns Plated with Gold Support the Curtain
  - Gold Hooks to Hang Curtain
  - Each Column Mounted a Bronze Pedestals

e) **Altar of Sacrifice**

Ex. 27:1-8

(Also Referred to as “Altar of Holocausts” or “Brazen Altar”)

(1) “You shall make an altar of acacia wood, on a square, five cubits long and five cubits wide; it shall be three cubits high. At the four corners there are to be horns, so made that they spring directly from the altar. You shall then plate it with bronze.... Make a grating of bronze network for it; this to have four bronze rings, one at each of its four corners. Put it down around the altar, on the ground. This network is to be half as high as the altar. You shall also make poles of acacia wood for the altar, and plate them with bronze. These poles are to be put through the rings, so that they are on either side of the altar when it is carried. Make the altar itself in the form of a hollow box, just as it was shown you on the mountain.”

(a) Materials: Hollow Wood Box Plated Inside & Outside with Bronze

- Wood Horns Plated with Bronze at 4 Corners of Altar
- Bronze Grating from Ground to Middle of Altar

- 4 Bronze Rings at its Corners
  - 2 Wood Carrying Poles Plated with Bronze
  - (b) Size: Sides of Altar 7.5' (2.29m) Square x Height of 4.5' (1.37m)
  - (c) Bronze Utensils. "Make pots for removing the ashes, as well as shovels, basins, forks and fire pans, all of which shall be of bronze." (Ex. 27:3)
  - (d) Priests Offer Burnt Sacrifices to the Lord Lev. 1 – 7  
(See "Sacrifices & Offerings – Part I" Study)
    - Priests Keep Fire Burning Continuously on the Altar Lev. 6:5-6
- f) **Outer Court Structure** (*Open Air Courtyard*) Ex. 27:9-19
- (1) "You shall also make a court for the Dwelling. On the south side the court shall have hangings a hundred cubits long, woven of fine linen twined, with twenty columns and twenty pedestals of bronze; the hooks and bands on the columns shall be of silver. On the north side there shall be similar hangings, a hundred cubits long, with twenty columns and twenty pedestals of bronze; the hooks and bands on the columns shall be of silver. On the west side, across the width of the court, there shall be hangings, fifty cubits long, with ten columns and ten pedestals. The width of the court on the east side shall be fifty cubits. On one side there shall be hangings to the extent of fifteen cubits, with three columns and three pedestals; on the other side there shall be hangings to the extent of fifteen cubits, with three columns and three pedestals. .... All the columns around the court shall have bands and hooks of silver, and pedestals of bronze. The enclosure of the court is to be one hundred cubits long, fifty cubits wide, and five cubits high. Fine linen twined must be used, and the pedestals must be of bronze. All the fittings of the Dwelling, whatever be their use, as well as all its tent pegs and all the tent pegs of the court, must be of bronze."
- (a) Materials
- Cloth Walls ("Hangings") are Woven from Fine Linen
  - Support Columns Made of Bronze to Hold the Hangings
    - Each Column Mounted on Bronze Pedestal
    - Silver Hooks & Bands Attached to Each Column
  - All Tent Pegs & Fittings throughout Tabernacle are Bronze
- (b) Size & Arrangement of the Walls. Overall Courtyard – Length 150' (45.72m) x Width 75' (22.86m) x Height 7.5' (2.29m)
- South Side of Court
    - Hanging – Length 150' (45.72m) x Height 7.5 (2.29m)
    - 20 Columns & Pedestals
  - North Side of Court
    - Hanging – Length 150' (45.72m) x Height 7.5 (2.29m)
    - 20 Columns & Pedestals
  - West Side (Rear) of Court
    - Hanging – Length 75' (22.86m) x Height 7.5 (2.29m)
    - 10 Columns & Pedestals
  - East Side – Entrance into Court (*Same Length as West Side*)

- Hangings on Left & Right Sides – Length of Each 22.5’ (6.86m) x Height 7.5’ (2.29m).
  - Each Side Supported by 3 Columns & Pedestals  
(30’ [9.14m] Remains Open for Entrance Curtain)
- (c) Entrance Curtain on East Side. “At the entrance of the court there shall be a variegated curtain, twenty cubits long, woven of violet, purple and scarlet yarn and of fine linen twined. It shall have four columns and four pedestals.” (Ex.27:16)
- Variegated Curtain Woven of Violet, Purple & Scarlet Yarn, and Fine Twined Linen – Length 30’ (9.14m)
    - Curtain Supported by 4 Columns & Pedestals

*The Lord Next Appoints His Priests to Minister in His Tabernacle, Specifies their Priestly Vestments and Prescribes their Consecration & Ordination Rituals* Ex. 28 - 29  
(See “Anointed Priest – Part I” for an In Depth Study of Israel’s Priesthood)

*The Lord then Continues His Specifications of the Tabernacle’s Furnishings.* Ex. 30

g) **Incense Altar**

- (1) The Altar. “For burning incense you shall make an altar of acacia wood, with a square surface, a cubit long, a cubit wide, and two cubits high, with horns that spring directly from it. Its grate on top, its walls on all four sides, and its horns you shall plate with pure gold. Put a gold molding around it. Underneath the molding you shall put gold rings, two on one side and two on the opposite side, as holders for the poles used in carrying it. Make the poles, too, of acacia wood and plate them with gold. This altar you are to place in front of the veil that hangs before the ark of the commandments where I will meet you.” Ex. 30:1-6
- (a) Materials. Wood Altar Plated with Gold
- Wood Horns Plated with Gold at 4 Corners of Altar
  - Gold Plated Grating Near its Top
  - 2 Wood Carrying Poles Plated with Gold
- (b) Size. Sides of Altar 1.5’ (0.46m) Square x Height 3’ (0.91m)
- (c) Located in Inner Court in Front of Veil Before Holy of Holies
- (2) Priests Offer Incense Before the Lord. “On it Aaron shall burn fragrant incense. Morning after morning, when he prepares the lamps, and again in the evening twilight, when he lights the lamps, he shall burn incense. Throughout your generations this shall be the established incense offering before the LORD. On this altar you shall not offer up any profane incense, or any holocaust or cereal offering; nor shall you pour out a libation upon it. Once a year Aaron shall perform the atonement rite on its horns (*On the Day of Atonement Lev. 16*). Throughout your generations this atonement is to be made once a year with the blood of the atoning sin offering. This altar is most sacred to the LORD.” Ex. 30:7-10
- (a) Altar Used by Priests to Offer Incense to Lord  
(*Making Intercession for Israelites to the Lord their God*)
- (3) Prescribed Incense. “Take these aromatic substances: storax and onycha and galbanum, these and pure frankincense in equal parts; and

blend them into incense. This fragrant powder, expertly prepared, is to be salted and so kept pure and sacred. Grind some of it into fine dust and put this before the commandments in the meeting tent where I will meet you. This incense shall be treated as most sacred by you. You may not make incense of a like mixture for yourselves; you must treat it as sacred to the LORD. Whoever makes an incense like this for his own enjoyment of its fragrance, shall be cut off from his kinsmen.” Ex. 30:34-38

- (a) Prescribed Incense is Sacred to the Lord
  - Used Exclusively by Priests on Incense Altar
- h) **Laver** Ex. 30:17-21
  - (1) The Laver. “For ablutions you shall make a bronze laver with a bronze base. Place it between the meeting tent and the altar, and put water in it.”
    - (a) Materials. Bronze Laver (Basin) with Bronze Base
      - Basin Filled with Water
    - (b) Located in Outer Court Between Entrance to Meeting Tent & Altar of Sacrifice
  - (2) Priests Cleanse Themselves Before Entering Meeting Tent. “Aaron and his sons shall use it in washing their hands and feet. When they are about to enter the meeting tent, they must wash with water, lest they die. Likewise when they approach the altar in their ministry, to offer an oblation to the LORD, they must wash their hands and feet, lest they die. This shall be a perpetual ordinance for him and his descendants throughout their generations.”
- 5) The Lord Imposes a Census Tax Ex. 30:11-16
  - a) “When you take a census of the Israelites who are to be registered, each one, as he is enrolled, shall give the LORD a forfeit (*Ransom*) for his life, so that no plague may come upon them for being registered. Everyone who enters the registered group must pay a half-shekel, according to the standard of the sanctuary shekel, twenty gerahs to the shekel. This payment of a half-shekel is a contribution to the LORD. Everyone of twenty years or more who enters the registered group must give this contribution to the LORD. The rich need not give more, nor shall the poor give less, than a half-shekel in this contribution to the LORD to pay the forfeit for their lives.”
    - b) “When you receive this forfeit money from the Israelites, you shall donate it to the service of the meeting tent, that there it may be the Israelites’ reminder before the LORD, of the forfeit (*Ransom*) paid for their lives.”
      - (1) Tax for the Service & Maintenance of the Tabernacle
        - (a) A Reminder of the Ransom Paid for their Lives
  - 6) The Lord Prescribes Holy Anointing Oil Ex. 30:22-33
    - a) Prescribed Oil. “Take the finest spices: five hundred shekels of free-flowing myrrh; half that amount, that is, two hundred and fifty shekels, of fragrant cinnamon; two hundred and fifty shekels of fragrant cane; five hundred shekels of cassia—all according to the standard of the sanctuary shekel; together with a hin of olive oil; and blend them into sacred anointing oil, perfumed ointment expertly prepared.”  
(1 Shekel = 0.39 Ounce or 0.0114 kilogram)

- b) Anoint the Tabernacle. “With this sacred anointing oil you shall anoint the meeting tent and the ark of the commandments, the table and all its appurtenances, the lampstand and its appurtenances, the altar of incense and the altar of holocausts with all its appurtenances, and the laver with its base. When you have consecrated them, they shall be most sacred; whatever touches them shall be sacred.”
- c) Anoint the Priests. “Aaron and his sons you shall also anoint and consecrate as my priests.”
- d) Anointed Oil is Sacred. “To the Israelites you shall say: As sacred anointing oil this shall belong to me throughout your generations. It may not be used in any ordinary anointing of the body, nor may you make any other oil of a like mixture. It is sacred, and shall be treated as sacred by you. Whoever prepares a perfume like this, or whoever puts any of this on a layman, shall be cut off from his kinsmen.”

(1) Holy Anointing Oil (*Symbolizing the Holy Spirit*) is Sacred to the Lord & Used Exclusively for His Service

- 7) The Lord Appoints & Equips Artisans to Build His Tabernacle Ex. 31:1-11
  - a) “... I have chosen Bezalel, son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with a divine spirit of skill and understanding and knowledge in every craft: in the production of embroidery, in making things of gold, silver or bronze, in cutting and mounting precious stones, in carving wood, and in every craft. As his assistant I have appointed Oholiab, son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. I have also endowed all the experts with the necessary skill to make all the things I have ordered you to make: the meeting tent, the ark of the commandments with the propitiatory on top of it, all the furnishings of the tent, the table with its appurtenances, the pure gold lampstand with all its appurtenances, the altar of incense, the altar of holocausts with all its appurtenances, the laver with its base, the service cloths, the sacred vestments for Aaron the priest, the vestments for his sons in their ministry, the anointing oil, and the fragrant incense for the sanctuary. All these things they shall make just as I have commanded you.”

#### 4. Construction of the Tabernacle

Ex. 35 – 39

##### a. Preparations for Building the Tabernacle

Ex. 35:1 – 36:7

- 1) Commanded to Observe Sabbath Rest During Construction Ex. 35:1-3
  - a) Death Penalty for Disobedience
- 2) Collection of Materials Ex. 35:4-9
  - (*People had Gathered Riches from Egyptians Before Leaving. Ex. 12:35-36*).
  - a) Moses Asks People for Contributions. “Everyone, as his heart prompts him (*i.e. Freewill Offerings*), shall bring, as a contribution to the LORD, gold, silver and bronze; violet, purple and scarlet yarn; fine linen and goat hair; rams’ skins dyed red, and tahash skins; acacia wood; oil for the light; spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense.....” (*Ex. 35:5b-9*)
- 3) Call for Artisans Ex. 35:10-19
  - (*Some Israelites were Skilled Artisans Who did Work for the Aristocracy, and Built Temples & Royal Courts in Egypt. Re: Ex. 31:1-11*)
  - a) “Let every expert among you come and make all that the LORD has commanded:

- (1) “ the Dwelling, with its tent, its covering, its clasps, its boards, its bars, its columns and its pedestals; the ark, with its poles, the propitiatory, and the curtain veil; the table, with its poles and all its appurtenances, and the showbread; the lampstand, with its appurtenances, the lamps, and the oil for the light; the altar of incense, with its poles; the anointing oil, and the fragrant incense; the entrance curtain for the entrance of the Dwelling;
  - (2) “the altar of holocausts, with its bronze grating, its poles, and all its appurtenances; the laver, with its base, the hangings of the court, with their columns and pedestals; the curtain for the entrance of the court;
  - (3) “ the tent pegs for the Dwelling and for the court, with their ropes; the service cloths for use in the sanctuary;
  - (4) “the sacred vestments for Aaron, the priest, and the vestments worn by his sons in their ministry.”
- 4) Israelite People Contribute Generously to Lord Ex. 35:20-29
- a) “When the whole Israelite community left Moses’ presence, everyone, as his heart suggested and his spirit prompted, brought a contribution to the LORD for the construction of the meeting tent, for all its services....”
    - (1) “Both the men and the women, .... brought brooches, earrings, rings, necklaces and various other gold articles.
    - (2) “Everyone who could presented an offering of gold to the LORD.
    - (3) “Everyone who happened to have violet, purple or scarlet yarn, fine linen or goat hair, rams’ skins dyed red or tahash skins, brought them.
    - (4) “Whoever could make a contribution of silver or bronze offered it to the LORD; and everyone who happened to have acacia wood for any part of the work, brought it.
    - (5) “All the women who were expert spinners brought hand-spun violet, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen thread.
    - (6) “All the women who possessed the skill, spun goat hair.
    - (7) “The princes brought ..... spices, and oil for the light, anointing oil, and fragrant incense.
    - (8) “Every Israelite man and woman brought to the LORD such voluntary offerings as they thought best, for the various kinds of work which the LORD had commanded Moses to have done.”
- 5) Artisans Appointed, Trained & Given Skills Ex. 35:30 – 36:1
- a) Chief Artisan Bezalel. “....the LORD has chosen Bezalel, son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and has filled him with a divine spirit of skill and understanding and knowledge in every craft: in the production of embroidery, in making things of gold, silver or bronze, in cutting and mounting precious stones, in carving wood, and in every other craft.
  - b) “He (*Lord*) has also given both him (*Bezalel*) and Oholiab (*His Assistant*), ..... the ability to teach others. He has endowed them with skill to execute all types of work: engraving, embroidering, the making of variegated cloth of violet, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen thread, weaving, and all other arts and crafts.”
  - c) “Bezalel, therefore, will set to work with Oholiab and with all the experts whom the LORD has endowed with skill and understanding in knowing how to execute all the work for the service of the sanctuary, just as the LORD has commanded.”

- 6) People Give Excessive Contributions Ex. 36:2-7
- a) Moses Gives Contributions to Artisans. “Moses then called Bezalel and Oholiab and all the other experts whom the LORD had endowed with skill, men whose hearts moved them to come and take part in the work. They received from Moses all the contributions which the Israelites had brought for establishing the service of the sanctuary”
  - b) People Continue to Give. “Still, morning after morning the people continued to bring their voluntary offerings to Moses.....”
  - c) Artisans Tell Moses: “The people are bringing much more than is needed to carry out the work which the LORD has commanded us to do.”
  - d) Moses Orders People to Stop Contributing to Tabernacle
    - (1) “.... there was already enough at hand, in fact, more than enough, to complete the work to be done.”
- b. Manufacturing the Tabernacle, its Furnishings & Utensils Ex. 36:8 – 39:43  
*(Everything Made According to the Lord’s Specifications. Ex. 25 – 27 & 30)*
- 1) The Meeting Tent (Sanctuary / Dwelling) Ex. 36:8-38
    - a) Tent Structure
      - (1) Its Coverings of Cloth & Animal Skins
      - (2) Wall Boards with their Pedestals & Structural Bars
    - b) Veil Before the Holy of Holies with its Supports
    - c) Curtain Entrance into Tent with its Supports
  - 2) Furnishings for Dwelling Tent Ex. 37
    - a) Ark of the Covenant with its Poles
      - (1) The Ark’s Propitiation (Lid)
      - (2) Ark Made by Chief Artisan Bezalel
    - b) Table of Showbread with its Poles
      - (1) Its Vessels, Plates, Cups, Pitcher & Bowls
    - c) Lampstand (Menorah)
      - (1) Its 7 Lamps, plus Trimming Shears & Trays
    - d) Altar of Incense with its Grating & Poles
    - e) Incense & Sacred Anointing Oil Prepared
  - 3) Furnishings for Outer Court Ex. 38:1-8
    - a) Altar of Sacrifice with its Grating & Poles
      - (1) Its Pots, Shovels, Basins, Forks & Fire Pans
    - b) Laver Basin
  - 4) The Outer Court Structure Ex. 38:9-20
    - a) Linen Walls (Hangings) with Supporting Columns
    - b) Curtain Entrance into Court
    - c) Tent Pegs for the Dwelling & Outer Court with their Ropes
  - 5) Metals Used to Build the Tabernacle Ex. 38:21-31
    - a) Gold = 29 Talents + 730 Shekels (2,193 Pounds or 1002 kilograms)
    - b) Silver = 100 Talents + 1775 Shekels (7,543 Pounds or 3447 kilograms )
    - c) Bronze = 70 Talents + 2400 Shekels (5,309 Pounds or 2426 kilograms)
  - 6) Priestly Vestments (See “Anointed Priest – Part I” Study) Ex. 39:1-31
  - 7) Finished Work Presented to Moses Ex. 39:32-43
    - a) “Thus the entire work of the Dwelling of the meeting tent was completed....” (Ex. 39:32)
      - (1) Work Presented to Moses
    - b) “The Israelites had carried out all the work just as the LORD had

commanded Moses (i.e. According to Lord's Specifications). So when Moses saw that all the work was done just as the LORD had commanded, he blessed them." (Ex. 39:42-43)

## 5. Tabernacle Erected & Consecrated to the Lord

- a. The Lord Instructs Moses to Erect the Tabernacle Ex. 40:1-8
  - 1) The Meeting Tent / Dwelling. "On the first day of the first month you shall erect the Dwelling of the meeting tent."
    - a) The Holy of Holies
      - (1) Ark of the Covenant. "Put the ark of the commandments in it,"
      - (2) Hang the Veil. "and screen off the ark with the veil."
    - b) Inner Court & its Furnishings
      - (1) Table of Showbread. "Bring in the table and set it."
      - (2) Lampstand. "Then bring in the lampstand and set up the lamps on it."
      - (3) Altar of Incense. "Put the golden altar of incense in front of the ark of the commandments,"
      - (4) Tent's Entrance. "... hang the curtain at the entrance of the Dwelling"
  - 2) The Outer Court & its Furnishings
    - a) Altar of Sacrifice. "Put the altar of holocausts in front of the entrance of the Dwelling of the meeting tent."
    - b) The Laver. "Place the laver between the meeting tent and the altar, and put water in it."
    - c) Set Up the Court's Walls & Entrance. "Set up the court round about, and put the curtain at the entrance of the court."
- b. The Lord Instructs Moses to Consecrate the Tabernacle Ex. 40:9-11
  - 1) "Take the anointing oil and anoint the Dwelling and everything in it, consecrating it and all its furnishings, so that it will be sacred.
  - 2) "Anoint the altar of holocausts and all its appurtenances, consecrating it, so that it will be most sacred.
  - 3) "Likewise, anoint the laver with its base, and thus consecrate it."
- c. The Lord Instructs Moses to Consecrate the Priests Ex. 40:12-15  
(See "Anointed Priest – Part I" Study for the Consecration of Israel's Priesthood)
  - 1) "Then bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance of the meeting tent, and there wash them with water (*At the Laver*). Clothe Aaron with the sacred vestments and anoint him, thus consecrating him as my priest...."
- d. Moses Erects the Tabernacle, Preparing it to Receive the Lord Ex. 40:16-33
  - 1) "Moses did exactly as the LORD had commanded him."
  - 2) Erects the Meeting Tent / Dwelling. "On the first day of the first month of the second year (*After Leaving Egypt*) the Dwelling was erected" (Ex. 40:17)
    - a) Puts the Commandments into Ark of the Covenant
      - (1) Places the Propitiation Upon it
      - (2) Brings Ark of Covenant into the Holy of Holies
    - b) Installs the Veil Separating Holy of Holies from the Inner Court
    - c) Installs the Table of Showbread (*Re: Lev. 24:5-9*)
      - (1) He "arranged the bread on it before the LORD, as the LORD had commanded him." (Ex. 40:23)
        - (a) 12 Loaves of Bread Baked with Fine Flour
          - 2 Stacks of 6 Loaves Each Placed on Table
          - Frankincense Put on Each Stack as an Oblation to Lord

- d) Installs the Lampstand (Menorah) (*Re: Lev. 24:1-4; Num. 8:1-4*)
  - (1) "...he set up the lamps before the LORD, as the LORD had commanded him." (*Ex. 40:25*)
    - (a) Poured Prescribed Oil into the Lamps
    - (b) Lamps Lit to Illuminate the Meeting Tent
- e) Installs the Altar of Incense Before the Veil
  - (1) "...on it he burned fragrant incense, as the LORD had commanded him." (*Ex. 40:27*)
- f) Hung the Curtain at Entrance of the Meeting Tent
- 3) Erects the Outer Court
  - a) Installs the Altar of Sacrifice
    - (1) "... and offered holocausts and cereal offerings on it, as the LORD had commanded him." (*Ex. 40:29*)
  - b) Installs the Laver Before the Meeting Tent
    - (1) "... and put water in it for washing.
      - (a) "Moses and Aaron and his sons used to wash their hands and feet there, for they washed themselves whenever they went into the meeting tent or approached the altar, as the LORD had commanded Moses." (*Ex. 40:30-32*)
  - c) Sets Up the Court's Walls, Columns & Entrance Curtain
- 4) "Thus Moses finished all the work." (*Ex. 40:33b*)
- e. The Lord's Presence (Shekinah Glory) Fills the Tabernacle      *Ex. 40:34-38*  
 (*Re: Num. 9:15-23*)  
*After Moses Consecrated the Tabernacle with its Priesthood, the Glory of God Descended on the Tabernacle Taking Up Residence Upon the Propitiation ("Mercy Seat") on the Ark of the Covenant within the Holy of Holies, Dwelling Among His Chosen People.*
  - 1) Glory of the Lord Descends on the Tabernacle. "Then the cloud covered the meeting tent, and the glory of the LORD filled the Dwelling."
    - a) "Moses could not enter the meeting tent, because the cloud settled down upon it and the glory of the LORD filled the Dwelling."
  - 2) Glory of the Lord Leads Israel to the Promise Land
    - a) "Whenever the cloud rose from the Dwelling, the Israelites would set out on their journey."
    - b) "But if the cloud did not lift, they would not go forward; only when it lifted did they go forward."
  - 3) Revelation of the Lord's Presence. "In the daytime the cloud of the LORD was seen over the Dwelling; whereas at night, fire was seen in the cloud by the whole house of Israel in all the stages of their journey."
- f. Dedication of the Tabernacle
  - 1) Israel's 12 Tribal Princes Bring Offerings to Newly Erected Tabernacle  
*Num. 7*
    - a) Offerings for the Dedication of the Sacrificial Altar
      - (1) "Now, when Moses had completed the erection of the Dwelling and had anointed and consecrated it with all its equipment (as well as the altar with all its equipment), an offering was made by the princes of Israel, who were heads of ancestral houses..."
      - (2) "The offering they brought before the LORD consisted of six baggage wagons and twelve oxen, that is, a wagon for every two princes, and

- an ox for every prince.”
- (3) “These they presented as their offering before the Dwelling (*i.e. In the Outer Court, Probably at the Altar of Sacrifice*). (Num. 7:1-3)
- b) The Lord Instructs Moses
- (1) “Accept their offering, that these things may be put to use in the service of the meeting tent. Assign them to the Levites....” (Num. 7:5)
- (a) Moses Accepts their Offerings Assigning them to the Levites
- (2) “Let one prince a day present his offering for the dedication of the (*Sacrificial*) altar.” (Num. 7:11)
- c) Procession of the 12 Princes:
- (1) 1<sup>st</sup> Day Nahshon, Son of Amminadab, Prince of Judah
- (2) 2<sup>nd</sup> Day Nethanel, Son of Zuar, Prince of Issachar
- (3) 3<sup>rd</sup> Day Eliab, Son of Helon, Prince of Zebulun
- (4) 4<sup>th</sup> Day Elizur, Son of Shedeur, Prince of Reuben
- (5) 5<sup>th</sup> Day Shelumiel, Son of Zurishaddai, Prince of Simeon
- (6) 6<sup>th</sup> Day Eliasaph, Son of Reuel, Prince of the Gad
- (7) 7<sup>th</sup> Day Elishama, Son of Ammihud, Prince of Ephraim
- (8) 8<sup>th</sup> Day Gamaliel, Son of Pedahzur, Prince of Manasseh
- (9) 9<sup>th</sup> Day Abidan, Son of Gideoni, Prince of Benjamin
- (10) 10<sup>th</sup> Day Ahiezer, Son of Ammishaddai, Prince of Dan
- (11) 11<sup>th</sup> Day Pagiel, Son of Ochran, Prince of Asher
- (12) 12<sup>th</sup> Day Ahira, Son of Enan, Prince of Naphtali
- d) Offerings Brought by Each Prince on His Assigned Day
- (1) 1 Silver Plate Weighing 130 Shekels (*3.17 Pounds or 1.48 kilograms*)
- (2) 1 Silver Basin Weighing 70 Shekels (*1.71 Pounds or 0.80 kilograms*), Filled with Fine Flour Mixed with Oil for a Cereal Offering
- (3) 1 Gold Cup Weighing 10 Shekels (*3.9 Ounces or 0.114 kilograms*), Filled with Incense
- (4) Sacrificial Animals:
- (a) 1 Young Bull, 1 Ram & 1 Yearling Lamb as Holocaust Offerings
- (b) 1 Goat as a Sin Offering
- (c) 2 Oxen, 5 Rams, 5 Goats & 5 Yearling Lambs as Peace Offerings
- e) Moses Hears the Lord’s Voice from the Holy of Holies. “When Moses entered the meeting tent to speak with him, he heard the voice addressing him from above the propitiatory on the ark of the commandments, from between the two cherubim; and it spoke to him.” (Num. 7:89)
- 2) Levites Dedicated for Service in the Tabernacle Num. 8:5-26  
*Levites Appointed by God to Assist the Priests, Serve at the Tabernacle & Minister to the Community. (Levites from Same Tribe as Moses & Aaron)*  
*(See “Anointed Priest – Part I” for the Consecration & Duties of the Levites)*
- a) Lord Instructs Moses. “Take the Levites from among the Israelites and purify them.” (Num. 8:6)
- (1) Prescribing Purification & Dedication Rites
- (2) “Only then shall the Levites enter upon their service in the meeting tent .....” (Num. 8:15)
- b) “Thus, then, did Moses and Aaron and the whole community of the Israelites deal with the Levites, carrying out exactly the command which the LORD had given Moses concerning them.” (Num. 8:20)
- (1) “Only then did they enter upon their service in the meeting tent under

- the supervision of Aaron and his sons (*The Priests*). . . .” (Num. 8:22)
- g. Celebration of Passover at the Tabernacle Num. 9:1-14  
*Israelites Celebrate Passover at the Newly Consecrated Tabernacle in the 1<sup>st</sup> Month that Started their 2<sup>nd</sup> Year of Freedom from Bondage.*
- *Day 1 of that Month – Moses Erected & Anointed the Tabernacle*
  - *Days 2 – 13 of that Month – The Princes Bring Offerings to the Tabernacle*
  - *Day 14 of that Month – Israelites Celebrate Passover at the Tabernacle*
- 1) Lord Instructs Moses to Celebrate Passover. “In the first month of the year following their departure from the land of Egypt, the Lord said to Moses. . . ., ‘Tell the Israelites to celebrate the Passover at the prescribed time. The evening twilight of the fourteenth day of this month is the prescribed time when you shall celebrate it, observing all its rules and regulations.’” (Num. 9:1-3)
  - 2) Moses Instructs the People
  - 3) Israelites Celebrate Passover  
*(Commemorating the Lord’s Deliverance of Israel from Bondage in Egypt)*  
*(See “Holy Days, Festivals & Feasts – Part I” for a Study of Passover.)*
6. Worship at the Tabernacle  
*Worship through the Tabernacle Reveals the Way to Approach a Holy God & Enter into His Presence.*
- a. The Lord’s Designated Place of Worship Deut. 12:1-14
- 1) “These are the statutes and decrees which you must be careful to observe in the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you to occupy, as long as you live on its soil.” (Deut. 12:1)
    - a) Keep the Lord & His Laws Preeminent in Your Lives
    - b) Purge All Idolatry from Your Midst
    - c) Acknowledge & Worship the Lord, the Only True God (Re: Ex. 20:1-6)
  - 2) Worship the Lord at His Tabernacle (*Where He Dwells Among His People*)
    - a) Before Israel is Settled in Promise Land. “. . . you shall resort to the place which the LORD, your God, chooses out of all your tribes and designates as his dwelling. (*Worship Wherever the Lord has His Tabernacle Set Up*)
      - (1) Offer Sacrifices to Lord. “and there you shall bring your holocausts and sacrifices, your tithes and personal contributions, your votive and freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and flocks.
      - (2) Celebrate & Rejoice in the Lord. “There, too, before the LORD, your God, you and your families shall eat and make merry over all your undertakings, because the LORD, your God, has blessed you.” (Deut. 12:5-7)
    - b) After Israel is Settled in Promise Land. “. . . after you have crossed the Jordan and dwell in the land which the LORD, your God, is giving you as a heritage, when he has given you rest from all your enemies round about and you live there in security, then to the place which the LORD, your God, chooses as the dwelling place for his name. (*Worship at the Tabernacle Site Designated by the Lord in Promise Land*)
      - (1) Offer Sacrifices to Lord. “you shall bring all the offerings I command you: your holocausts and sacrifices, your tithes and personal contributions, and every special offering you have vowed to the LORD.

- (2) Celebrate & Rejoice in the Lord. “You shall make merry before the LORD, your God, with your sons and daughters, your male and female slaves, as well as with the Levite who belongs to your community....” (*Deut. 12:10-12*)
- 3) **Holocausts to be Offered Only at the Tabernacle.** “Take care not to offer up your holocausts (*Sacrifices for the Atonement of Sin*) in any place you fancy, but offer them up in the place which the LORD chooses from among your tribes; there you shall make whatever offerings I enjoin upon you.” (*Deut. 12:13-14*)
- b. **Daily Worship in the Tabernacle**
- 1) **The Outer Court** (*Israelite People Gather & Worship the Lord*)
- a) **People Bring their Offerings into Outer Court**
- (1) “No one shall appear before me empty-handed.” Ex. 34:20c  
(*Presenting Offerings to the Lord is an Act of Worship*)
- (2) **Sacrificial Offerings**
- (a) **Animals to be Slaughtered & Sacrificed**
- (b) **Cereal Offerings of Fine Flour with Oil & Frankincense**
- (3) **Tithes, Offerings & Other Contributions**
- b) **The Altar of Sacrifice**  
(*See “Sacrifices & Offerings – Part I’ for a More Complete Study of Sacrifices & Offerings.*)
- (1) **Offerers Slaughter Sacrificial Animals Before the Lord & His Priests**
- (a) **Present their Offerings to Priests**
- (2) **Priests Sacrifice Offerings on the Altar**
- (a) **Example of an Animal Sacrifice** Lev. 1:1-9
- “..... Aaron’s sons, the priests, shall offer up its blood by splashing it on the sides of the altar .....”
  - “Then he shall skin the holocaust and cut it up into pieces.”
  - “After Aaron’s sons, the priests, have put some burning embers on the altar and laid some wood on them, they shall lay the pieces of meat, together with the head and the suet, on top of the wood and embers on the altar.”
  - “The inner organs and the shanks, however, the offerer shall first wash with water.”
  - “The priest shall then burn the whole offering on the altar as a holocaust, a sweet-smelling oblation to the LORD.”
- (b) **Example of Cereal Offering** Lev. 2:1-2
- “.... When he (*Offerer*) has brought it to Aaron’s sons, the priests, one of them shall take a handful of this fine flour and oil, together with all the frankincense, and this he shall burn on the altar as a token offering, a sweet-smelling oblation to the LORD.”
- (3) **Types of Sacrifices Offered to the Lord** Lev. 1 – 7
- (a) **Holocausts (Whole Burnt Offerings)** Lev. 1  
(*Animal Sacrifices for the Atonement of Sin*)
- (b) **Cereal Offerings** Lev. 2  
(*Offerings of Thanksgiving*)
- (c) **Peace Offerings** Lev. 3

- (Animal Sacrifices to Fulfill a Vow)*
- (d) Sin Offerings Lev. 4:1 – 5:13  
*(Animal Sacrifices for Forgiveness of Sins Against the Lord, and/or Cleansing of Ritual Uncleaness)*
- (e) Guilt Offerings Lev. 5:14-26  
*(Animal Sacrifices to Absolve Guilt of Sin Against Another Person and/or Transgression Against the Law.)*
- (4) Priests Offer Established Daily Sacrifices Num. 28:1-8  
(a) Every Morning & Every Evening
- c) The Laver
- (1) Priests Cleanse Themselves at the Laver. “.... Aaron and his sons (*Priests*) shall use it in washing their hands and feet.
- (a) “When they are about to enter the meeting tent, they must wash with water, lest they die.
- (b) “Likewise when they approach the altar in their ministry, to offer an oblation to the LORD, they must wash their hands and feet, lest they die.
- (c) “This shall be a perpetual ordinance for him and his descendants throughout their generations.” Ex. 30:17-21
- 2) The Meeting Tent (“Sanctuary” / “Dwelling”)
- a) **Inner Court** *(Reserved for Priests Assigned to Enter the Inner Court to Minister Before the Lord Every Day)*
- (1) Table of Showbread  
(a) Bread Always Exposed Before the Priests as they Minister
- (2) Lampstand  
(a) Lamps Illuminating the Meeting Tent for Priests to Minister
- (3) Altar of Incense  
(a) Priests Offer Incense Before the Lord Every Morning & Evening *(Interceding for the People of Israel)*
- “....Aaron shall burn fragrant incense. Morning after morning, when he prepares the lamps, and again in the evening twilight, when he lights the lamps, he shall burn incense.
  - “Throughout your generations this shall be the established incense offering before the LORD.
  - “On this altar you shall not offer up any profane incense, or any holocaust or cereal offering; nor shall you pour out a libation upon it.” Ex. 30:7-9
- b) **Holy of Holies** *(Reserved Solely for the High Priest Who Enters the Holy of Holies Only on the Day of Atonement.)*
- (1) Prohibition Against Entering the Holy of Holies  
(a) The Lord Instructs Moses. “..... Tell your brother Aaron (*High Priest*) that he is not to come whenever he pleases into the sanctuary, inside the veil (*i.e. Into the Holy of Holies*), in front of the propitiatory (*Lord’s ‘Mercy Seat’*) on the ark (*of the Covenant*); otherwise, when I reveal myself in a cloud above the propitiatory, he will die.” Lev. 16:1-2
- (2) High Priest Enters Holy of Holies on Day of Atonement to Perform its Specially Prescribed Rituals *(See Lev. 16 ‘Day of Atonement’*

*Below)*

(a) “Only in this way may Aaron enter the sanctuary (*The Holy of Holies*).....” (*Lev. 16:3*)

c. Ordained Holy Days, Festivals & Feasts

*(Appointed Times throughout the Year to Celebrate the Lord)*

*(See “Holy Days, Festivals & Feasts – Part I” for a More Detailed Study of these Celebrations.)*

1) The Sabbath (“*Shabbat*”) Lev. 23:3; Num. 28:9-10

a) Celebrated on 7<sup>th</sup> Day of Every Week (*Jewish Day Starts at Sunset*)  
(*Holy Day of Rest Ordained by God; Acknowledging Him as Creator & Commemorating His Rest After Creation. Gen. 2:1-3; Ex. 20:8-11*)

b) Priests Offer Additional Sacrifices to their Daily Sacrifices

2) New Moon Offerings Num. 28:11-15

*(Jewish Calendar is Based on Lunar Cycles)*

a) Observed on 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Every Month (*The New Moon*)

b) Priests Offer Additional Sacrifices to their Daily Sacrifices

3) Three Annual Pilgrim Festivals Lev. 23:4-44

a) The Lord Requires His People to Make a Pilgrimage to the Tabernacle Three Times a Year to Worship & Celebrate Him.

(1) “Three times a year you shall celebrate a pilgrim feast to me. You shall keep the feast of Unleavened Bread (*Passover Festival*).... You shall also keep the feast of the grain harvest with the first of the crop that you have sown in the field (*Feast of Weeks / Pentecost*); and finally, the feast at the fruit harvest at the end of the year, when you gather in the produce from the fields (*Festival of Tabernacles*). Thrice a year shall all your men appear before the Lord GOD.”  
Ex. 23:14-17

(2) Sacred Assembly to be Held at the Tabernacle on Each Festival  
Lev. 23:4

b) First is the Passover Festival Lev. 23:5-14

*(Three Feasts to be Celebrated in 1<sup>st</sup> Month of the Jewish Calendar; Commemorating the Lord’s Deliverance of Israel from Bondage in Egypt.)*

(1) Feast of Passover Lev. 23:5; Num. 28:16

(a) Passover Supper Celebrated on 14<sup>th</sup> Day of the Month

- Paschal Lamb Sacrificed at Evening Twilight

(2) Feast of Unleavened Bread Lev. 23:6-8; Num. 28:17-25

(a) Feast Celebrated on 15<sup>th</sup> Day of the Month

- Unleavened Bread Eaten 7 Days

(b) Priests Offer Prescribed Sacrifices for 7 Days

(3) Feast of First Fruits Lev. 23:9-14

*(Commemorates Israel’s First Harvest in Promise Land)*

(a) Celebrated on the Day Following Passover Sabbath (*i.e. Sunday*)

(b) Israelites Bring Sheaves from their 1<sup>st</sup> Spring Harvest to the Lord

(c) Priests Offer Prescribed Sacrifices to the Lord

c) Second is the Feast of Weeks / Pentecost (“*Shavuot*”)

Lev. 23:15-22; Num. 28:26-31

*(Commemorates the Lord Giving Moses the Law on Mount Sinai. Ex. 19 – 31)*

(1) Celebrated 7 Weeks + 1 Day (50<sup>th</sup> Day) from Feast of First Fruits

- (2) Israelites Present Fruits from Latter Spring Harvest to the Lord  
 (3) Priests Offer Prescribed Sacrifices to the Lord
- d) Third is the Festival of Tabernacles Lev. 23:23-43  
*(Three Feasts to be Celebrated in the 7<sup>th</sup> Month of the Jewish Calendar; that Celebrate Israel Living in the Promise Land as God's Chosen Nation)*
- (1) Feast of Trumpets / New Years ("*Rosh Hashanah*")  
 Lev. 23:23-25; Num. 9:1-6
- (a) Feast Celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> Day of the Month
- Trumpet Blasts Usher in a New Season
- (b) Priests Offer Prescribed Sacrifices to the Lord
- Includes New Moon Offerings
- (2) Day of Atonement ("*Yom Kippur*") Lev. 23:26-32; Num. 9:7-11  
*(Annual Recalling of Sin, Repentance from Sin & Atonement for Sin)*
- (a) Feast Celebrated on 10<sup>th</sup> Day of the Month
- (b) Israelites Fast, Mortify Themselves & Repent of their Sins
- (c) High Priest Performs Special "Day of Atonement" Rituals Prescribed by the Lord Lev. 16  
*(High Priest Ministers Throughout the Entire Tabernacle, Making Atonement for the Sins of the People & the Defilements Brought into the Tabernacle Over the Past Year.)*
- (d) High Priest Makes Atonement for Himself & His Family  
*(Covers the Sins of the High Priest & His Family, Including Other Priests)*
- Obtains a Bullock as Sin Offering & Ram as Holocaust
  - Sacrifices Sin Offering for Himself & His Family
  - Enters Meeting Tent into Holy of Holies (Lord's Presence)
    - "... When he has slaughtered it, he shall take a censer full of glowing embers from the (*Sacrificial*) altar before the LORD, as well as a double handful of finely ground fragrant incense, and bringing them inside the veil (*Into the Holy of Holies*),
    - "there before the LORD he shall put incense on the fire (*of the Altar of Incense*), so that a cloud of incense may cover the propitiatory over the commandments (*Lord's 'Mercy Seat' Atop Ark of the Covenant*); else he will die.
    - "Taking some of the bullock's blood, he shall sprinkle it with his finger on the fore part of the propitiatory and likewise sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times in front of the propitiatory." (*Lev. 16:11-14*)
- (e) High Priest Makes Atonement for People  
*(Covers the Sins of God's Chosen People & Nation)*
- Receives 2 Goats as Sin Offering & Ram as Holocaust from the Community
    - Casts Lots Over the Goats at Entrance of Meeting Tent
    - Sacrifices One Goat as Sin Offering
  - Enters Meeting Tent into Holy of Holies (Lord's Presence)
    - "...bringing its (*Goat's*) blood inside the veil (*Into the Holy of Holies*), he shall do with it as he did with the

bullock's blood, sprinkling it on the propitiatory and before it." (*Lev. 16:15*)

- (f) High Priest Makes Atonement for the Meeting Tent/Sanctuary (*Covering All the Defilements Brought into the Meeting Tent by Priests Ministering in Behalf of Sinful/Impure People*)
- "Thus he shall make atonement for the sanctuary because of all the sinful defilements and faults of the Israelites. He shall do the same for the meeting tent, which is set up among them in the midst of their uncleanness.
  - "No one else may be in the meeting tent from the time he enters the sanctuary to make atonement until he departs." (*Lev. 16:16-17a*)
- (g) High Priest Makes Atonement for the Altar of Sacrifice (*Covering All the Defilements Caused by the Sins/Impurities Applied to the Sacrifices Offered on the Altar*)
- "When he has made atonement for himself and his household, as well as for the whole Israelite community, he shall come out (of the Meeting Tent) to the (Sacrificial) altar before the LORD and make atonement for it also. Taking some of the bullock's and the goat's blood, he shall put it on the horns around the altar, and with his finger sprinkle some of the blood on it seven times. Thus he shall render it clean and holy, purged of the defilements of the Israelites." (*Lev. 16:17b-19*)
- (h) High Priest Lays Hands on Live Goat ("*Scapegoat*")
- Confessing All the Sins, Faults & Transgressions of Israelites
    - Placing their Sins on the Goat's Head
  - Goat Led into Desert & Released to Carry Off their Iniquities
- (i) High Priest Sacrifices His & the Peoples' Holocausts on the Altar of Sacrifice (*Making Atonement for Himself & Entire Community on the Purified Altar*)
- (3) Feast of Tabernacles / Booths ("*Sukkot*")  
 Lev. 23:33-43; Num. 29:12-38  
*(Recalls the Lord's Provision for Israel as He Led them into the Promise Land)*
- (a) Feast Starts on 15<sup>th</sup> Day of the Month & Continues 7 Days
- Israelites Build & Live in Temporary Shelters ("*Tabernacles*" or "*Booths*")
- (b) Priests Offer Sacrifices to the Lord Prescribed for Each Day of the Celebration

## 7. Care of the Tabernacle

### a. Maintenance of the Tabernacle

#### 1) Priests Maintain Fire on the Altar of Sacrifice

- a) "The fire on the altar is to be kept burning; it must not go out. Every morning the priest shall put firewood on it...The fire is to be kept burning continuously on the altar; it must not go out." Lev. 6:5-6

- 2) Priest Maintain the Lampstand Lev. 24:1-4
  - a) Keeping its Lamps Burning. “.....Aaron shall set up the lamps to burn before the LORD regularly, from evening till morning. Thus, by a perpetual statute for you and your descendants, the lamps shall be set up on the pure gold lampstand, to burn regularly before the LORD.”
- 3) Priests Maintain the Table of Showbread Lev. 24:5-9
  - a) Replacing its Bread. “Regularly on each sabbath day this bread shall be set out afresh before the LORD, offered on the part of the Israelites by an everlasting agreement.” (*Lev. 24:8*)
- 4) Levites Assist Priests in Maintaining the Tabernacle Num. 18:1-7
  - a) “They (*Levites*) shall look after your (*Priests*) persons and the whole tent; however, they shall not come near the sacred vessels or the altar, lest both they and you die. As your associates they shall have charge of all the work connected with the meeting tent....” (*Num. 18:3-4*)
  - b) “Remember, it is I who have taken your kinsmen, the Levites, from the body of the Israelites; they are a gift to you, dedicated to the LORD for the service of the meeting tent. But only you and your sons are to have charge of performing the priestly functions in whatever concerns the altar and the room within the veil (*The Holy of Holies*)....” (*Num. 18:6-7*)
- 5) Levites Take Care of the Tabernacle
  - a) General Work Description
    - (1) “They (*Levites*) shall discharge his (*High Priest’s*) obligations and those of the whole community before the meeting tent by serving at the Dwelling. They shall have custody of all the furnishings of the meeting tent and discharge the duties of the Israelites in the service of the Dwelling.” Num 3:7-8
    - (2) “As your associates they shall have charge of all the work connected with the meeting tent.....” Num. 18:4
  - b) Work Assigned by Levite Clan
    - (1) Duties of Gershonite Clan Num. 3:21-26
      - a) “At the meeting tent they had charge of whatever pertained to the Dwelling, the tent and its covering, the curtain at the entrance of the meeting tent, the hangings of the court, the curtain at the entrance of the court enclosing both the Dwelling and the altar, and the ropes.” (*Num. 3:25-26*)
    - (2) Duties of Kohathite Clan Num. 3:27-32
      - a) “They had charge of whatever pertained to the ark, the table, the lampstand, the altars, the utensils with which the ministry of the sanctuary was exercised, and the veil.” (*Num. 3:31*)
    - (3) Duties of Merarite Clan Num. 3:33-38
      - a) “The Merarites were charged with the care of whatever pertained to the boards of the Dwelling, its bars, columns, pedestals, and all its fittings, as well as the columns of the surrounding court with their pedestals, pegs and ropes.” (*Num. 3:36-37*)
  - b. Abiding With & Transporting the Lord’s Tabernacle
    - 1) The Lord Remains with His People Num. 9:15-23
      - a) Dwelling Among Them. “On the day when the Dwelling was erected, the cloud (*Shekinah Glory*) covered the Dwelling, the tent of the commandments; but from evening until morning it took on the appearance

- of fire over the Dwelling. It was always so: during the day the Dwelling was covered by the cloud, which at night had the appearance of fire.”  
(*See Ex. 40:34-38 Above*) (*Num. 9:15-16*)
- b) Leading Them to the Promise Land. “Whenever the cloud rose from the tent, the Israelites would break camp; wherever the cloud came to rest, they would pitch camp. At the bidding of the LORD the Israelites moved on, and at his bidding they encamped.” (*Num. 9:17-18a*)
- 2) Levites Responsible for the Tabernacle Num. 1:47-54
- a) Disassembling, Transporting & Reassembling the Tabernacle
- (1) “You are to give the Levites charge of the Dwelling of the commandments with all its equipment and all that belongs to it.
- (2) “It is they who shall carry the Dwelling with all its equipment and who shall be its ministers....”
- (3) “When the Dwelling is to move on, the Levites shall take it down; when the Dwelling is to be pitched, it is the Levites who shall set it up. Any layman who comes near it shall be put to death.”  
(*Num. 1:50-51*)
- b) Tabernacle Surrounded by Levite Camps
- (1) “While the other Israelites shall camp by companies, each in his own division of the camp, the Levites shall camp around the Dwelling of the commandments. Otherwise God’s wrath will strike the Israelite community. The Levites, then, shall have charge of the Dwelling of the commandments.” (*Num. 1:52-53*)
- 3) Arrangement of Israel’s Camp Around the Tabernacle Num. 2  
(*Tribes Stationed Outside Tabernacle with Levites Between them & its Walls*)
- a) East of Tabernacle - Facing the Sunrise Num. 2:3-9
- (1) Tribes of Judah, Issachar & Zebulun
- (2) Moses, Aaron & His Sons (*Priests*) Beside its Eastern Wall & Entrance into Tabernacle Num. 3:38  
(*Moses, Aaron & Priests from Tribe of Levi*)
- b) South of Tabernacle Num. 2:10-16
- (1) Tribes of Reuben, Simeon & Gad
- (2) Levite Clan of Kohath Beside its Southern Wall Num. 3:29
- c) West of Tabernacle Num. 2:17-24
- (1) Tribes of Ephraim, Manasseh & Benjamin
- (2) Levite Clan of Gershon Beside its Western Wall Num. 3:23
- d) North of Tabernacle Num. 2:25-31
- (1) Tribes of Dan, Asher & Naphtali
- (2) Levite Clan of Merari Beside its Northern Wall Num. 3:35b
- 4) Israel Breaks Camp When Glory Cloud Leaves its Dwelling
- a) Priests Take Down Meeting Tent & Pack Sacred Objects Num. 4:1-20
- (1) Ark of the Covenant. “In breaking camp, Aaron and his sons shall go in and take down the screening curtain (*Veil*) and cover the ark of the commandments with it. Over these they shall put a cover of tahash skin, and on top of this spread an all-violet cloth. They shall then put the (*Carrying*) poles in place.” (*Num. 4:5-6*)
- (2) Table of Showbread. “On the table of the Presence (*Showbread*) they shall spread a violet cloth and put on it the plates and cups, as well as the bowls and pitchers for libations; the established bread offering

- shall remain on the table. Over these they shall spread a scarlet cloth and cover all this with tahash skin. They shall then put the (*Carrying*) poles in place.” (*Num. 4:7-8*)
- (3) Lampstand. “They shall use a violet cloth to cover the lampstand with its lamps, trimming shears, and trays, as well as the various containers of oil from which it is supplied. The lampstand with all its utensils they shall then enclose in a covering of tahash skin, and place on a litter.” (*Num. 4:9-10*)
  - (4) Altar of Incense. “Over the golden altar they shall spread a violet cloth, and cover this also with a covering of tahash skin. They shall then put the (*Carrying*) poles in place.” (*Num. 4:11*)
  - (5) Other Sanctuary Utensils. “Taking the utensils of the sanctuary service, they shall wrap them all in violet cloth and cover them with tahash skin. They shall then place them on a litter.” (*Num. 4:12*)
- b) Priests Prepare the Altar of Sacrifice. “After cleansing the altar of its ashes, they shall spread a purple cloth over it. On this they shall put all the utensils with which it is served: the fire pans, forks, shovels, basins, and all the utensils of the altar. They shall then spread a covering of tahash skin over this, and put the (*Carrying*) poles in place.” (*Num. 4:13-14*)
  - c) Priests Give Packed Items to Kohathites to Carry. “Only after Aaron and his sons have finished covering the sacred objects and all their utensils on breaking camp, shall the Kohathites enter to carry them. But they shall not touch the sacred objects; if they do they will die. These, then, are the objects in the meeting tent that the Kohathites shall carry.” (*Num. 4:15*)
  - d) Priests’ Overall Responsibility
    - (1) Take Care of Sacred Elements. “Eleazar, son of Aaron the priest, shall be in charge of the oil for the light, the fragrant incense, the established cereal offering, and the anointing oil. He shall be in charge of the whole Dwelling with all the sacred objects and utensils that are in it.” (*Num. 4:16*)
    - (2) Protect the Kohathites. “... Do not let the group of Kohathite clans perish from the body of the Levites. That they may live and not die when they approach the most sacred objects, this is what you shall do for them: Aaron and his sons shall go in and assign to each of them his task and what he must carry; but the Kohathites shall not go in to look upon the sacred objects, even for an instant; if they do, they will die.” (*Num. 4:17-20*)
- 5) Israel’s Order of March After Breaking Camp (*Led by the Glory Cloud*)
    - a) First on the March: Tribes of Judah, Issachar & Zebulun Num. 2:9b
    - b) Second on the March: Tribes of Reuben, Simeon & Gad Num. 2:16
    - c) Levites March in Middle of the Procession Num. 2:17
      - (1) Kohathites Carry the Sacred Objects Packed by Priests (*See Num. 4:1-20 Above*)
      - (2) Gershonites Carry. “... the sheets of the Dwelling, the meeting tent with its covering and the outer wrapping of tahash skin, the curtain at the entrance of the meeting tent, the hangings of the court, the curtain at the entrance of the court that encloses both the Dwelling and the altar, together with their ropes and all other objects necessary in their use. Whatever is to be done with these things shall be their task....”

- Num. 4:21-28
- (3) Merarites Carry. "...the boards of the Dwelling with its bars, columns and pedestals, and the columns of the surrounding court with their pedestals, pegs and ropes..." Num. 4:29-33
- d) Third on the March: Tribes of Ephraim, Manasseh & Benjamin  
Num. 2:24b
- e) Last on the March: Tribes of Dan, Asher & Naphtali Num. 2:31b
- 6) Israel Sets Up Camp as Directed by the Glory Cloud
- a) "At the bidding of the LORD the Israelites moved on, and at his bidding they encamped. As long as the cloud stayed over the Dwelling, they remained in camp." Num. 9:18
- b) Levites Reassemble the Tabernacle. "...when the Dwelling is to be pitched, it is the Levites who shall set it up. Any layman who comes near it shall be put to death." Num. 1:51
- c) Tribes Camp Around the Tabernacle as Positioned by the Lord  
(See Num. 2 Above)
- c. The Lord Leads Israel from Mount Horeb (Sinai) to Promise Land
- 1) Israel's Journey to Promise Land. "...when the cloud tarried many days over the Dwelling, the Israelites obeyed the LORD and would not move on; yet sometimes the cloud was over the Dwelling only for a few days. It was at the bidding of the LORD that they stayed in camp, and it was at his bidding that they departed. Sometimes the cloud remained there only from evening until morning; and when it rose in the morning, they would depart. Or if the cloud lifted during the day, or even at night, they would then set out. Whether the cloud tarried over the Dwelling for two days or for a month or longer, the Israelites remained in camp and did not depart; but when it lifted, they moved on. Thus, it was always at the bidding of the LORD that they encamped, and at his bidding that they set out; ever heeding the charge of the LORD, as he had bidden them through Moses." Num. 9:19-23
- 2) Israel's Arrival at Promise Land. "Then the Israelites moved on and encamped in the plains of Moab (*Adjacent to Canaan – The Promise Land*) on the other side of the Jericho stretch of the Jordan." Num. 22:1  
(*Final Encampment Before Crossing Jordan River into the Promise Land.*)
- a) Israel's Marching Orders. "I (*Lord God*) have given that land over to you. Go now and occupy the land I swore to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, I would give to them and to their descendants." Deut. 1:8

### **C. The Tabernacle & Ark of Covenant in Promise Land**

*This Section Traces the Tabernacle, Especially the Ark of the Covenant (God's Earthly Throne), in the Promise Land Before Israel Constructs a Permanent Temple (House of God) in their Capital City.*

1. Israel Enters the Promise Land Jos. 1 – 5
- a. Israel Prepares to Enter the Promise Land Jos. 1:1-11
- 1) Lord Addresses Joshua
- a) Confirms Joshua's Commission as Israel's Leader. "My servant Moses is dead. So prepare to cross the Jordan here, with all the people into the land I will give the Israelites...." (*Jos. 1:2*)
- b) Gives Joshua the Extent of the Promise Land

- c) Exhorts Joshua to Remain Faithful, Obey the Law & Trust Him
- 2) Joshua Commands Israel's Officers to Prepare to Cross Jordan River
- b. Israel Crosses Jordan River into Promise Land (Canaan) Jos. 3 – 4  
(*Waters Recede at the Presence of the Ark of the Covenant*)
  - 1) Joshua Moves Israelites to Camp Beside Jordan River
    - a) Officers Go through Camp Instructing People: "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD, your God, which the levitical priests will carry, you must also break camp and follow it, that you may know the way to take, for you have not gone over this road before. But let there be a space of two thousand cubits (*1000 Yards or 914 meters*) between you and the ark. Do not come nearer to it." (*Jos. 3:3-4*)
    - b) Joshua Instructs People to Sanctify Themselves
    - c) Joshua Directs Priests to Pick Up & Carry the Ark in Front of People
      - (1) Priests Obey, Carrying the Ark by its Poles as Required by Law
  - 2) Lord Instructs Joshua:
    - a) "Today I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know I am with you, as I was with Moses.
    - b) "Now command the priests carrying the ark of the covenant to come to a halt in the Jordan when they reach the edge of the waters." (*Jos. 3:7-8*)
  - 3) Joshua Commands Israel: "Come here and listen to the words of the LORD, your God."
    - a) "This is how you will know that there is a living God in your midst, who at your approach will dispossess the.... (*Inhabitants of Promise Land*)...."
    - b) "The ark of the covenant of the LORD of the whole earth will precede you into the Jordan....."
    - c) "When the soles of the feet of the priests carrying the ark of the LORD, the Lord of the whole earth, touch the water of the Jordan, it will cease to flow; for the water flowing down from upstream will halt in a solid bank." (*Jos. 3:9-13*)
  - 4) Priests Carry Ark of the Covenant to River's Bed
    - a) Israelites Break Camp & Follow Priests Carrying the Ark
    - b) River Parts as Priests' Feet Touch the Water
      - (1) From City of Adam in North to the Salt (Dead) Sea in South (*About 24 miles / 39 kilometers*)
    - c) People Pass Over Jordan River on Dry Ground
      - (1) Priests Stand Still in Dry River Bed Holding the Ark
  - 5) 12 Memorial Stones Erected Where Israel Entered the Promise Land
    - a) Lord Commands Joshua: "Choose twelve men from the people, one from each tribe, and instruct them to take up twelve stones from this spot in the bed of the Jordan where the priests have been standing motionless. Carry them over with you, and place them where you are to stay tonight (*Across the River in the Promise Land*)." (*Jos. 4:2-3*)
    - b) Joshua Instructs 12 Chosen Men:
      - (1) "Go to the bed of the Jordan in front of the ark of the LORD, your God; lift to your shoulders one stone apiece, so that they will equal in number the tribes of the Israelites.
      - (2) "...these are to be a sign among you. When your children ask you what these stones mean to you, you shall answer them, 'The waters of the Jordan ceased to flow before the ark of the covenant of the LORD

when it crossed the Jordan.’ Thus these stones are to serve as a perpetual memorial to the Israelites.” (*Jos. 4:5-7*)

- c) The 12 Israelites Obey Joshua
- d) Joshua Also has 12 Stones Set Up in River Bed Where Priests Stood Holding the Ark (*Gateway into the Promise Land*)
- 6) Priests Carry Ark of the Covenant into the Promise Land
  - a) Lord Instructs Joshua: “Command the priests carrying the ark of the commandments to come up from the Jordan.” (*Jos. 4:16*)
  - b) Joshua Commands the Priests as the Lord Instructed
  - c) Priests Obey Joshua, Cross the River on Dry Ground Carrying Ark of the Covenant
    - (1) River Resumes its Course When Priests Reach the Other Side
- c. Religious Rites Observed in Promise Land Jos. 5
  - 1) Israelite Males Circumcised Jos. 5:2-9  
(*Bringing Them Under the Lord’s Covenant. Gen. 17; Lev. 12:3*)
  - 2) Israel Celebrates Passover in Promise Land Jos. 5:10-12  
(*Celebrating Lord’s Deliverance of Israel from Bondage in Egypt*)

## 2. Israel’s Conquest of the Promise Land

- a. Siege of Jericho Jos. 6
  - 1) Lord Instructs Joshua:
    - a) “I have delivered Jericho and its king into your power.” (*Jos. 6:2*)
    - b) Gives Joshua Tactics for Victory
      - (1) “Have all the soldiers circle the city, marching once around it. Do this for six days, with seven priests carrying ram’s horns ahead of the ark. On the seventh day march around the city seven times, and have the priests blow the horns.
      - (2) “When they give a long blast on the ram’s horns and you hear that signal, all the people shall shout aloud. The wall of the city will collapse, and they will be able to make a frontal attack.” (*Jos. 6:3-5*)
  - 2) Joshua Commands Israel
    - a) Orders the Priests. “.....take up the ark of the covenant with seven of the priests carrying ram’s horns in front of the ark of the LORD
    - b) Orders the People. “.... proceed in a circle around the city, with the picked troops marching ahead of the ark of the LORD.” (*Jos. 6:6-7*)
  - 3) Israelites March Around City of Jericho
    - a) Order of March
      - (1) Israel’s Picked Troops (*Honor Guard*)
      - (2) 7 Priests Blowing Ram’s Horns (*Shofars*)
      - (3) Priests Carrying Ark of the Covenant
      - (4) Soldiers as Rear Guard
      - (5) Israelite People
    - b) March Around City Once a Day for 6 Days
    - c) March Around City 7 Times on 7<sup>th</sup> Day
      - (1) On 7<sup>th</sup> Encirclement, Joshua Commands the People: “Now shout, for the LORD has given you the city and everything in it. It is under the LORD’S ban (*Order to Purge the Land of Idolatry*).....”
        - (a) “be careful not to take, in your greed, anything that is under the ban; else you will bring upon the camp of Israel this ban and the

- misery of it.
- (b) “All silver and gold, and the articles of bronze or iron, are sacred to the LORD. They shall be put in the treasury of the LORD (*In His Tabernacle*).” (*Jos. 6:16c-19*)
- (2) People Shout as Priests Blast their Horns
- (3) Walls of Jericho Collapse
- 4) Israel Attacks the City
- a) Annihilates People & Livestock Under the Lord’s Ban
- b) Burns City Destroying It
- c) Booty Placed in Treasury of the Lord’s House
- 5) Joshua Curses Anyone Who Rebuilds City
- b. Siege of Ai Jos. 7:1 – 8:29
- 1) Israeli Troops Defeated in their 1<sup>st</sup> Assault Jos. 7
- a) Joshua & Elders Prostrate Themselves Before Ark of the Covenant
- (1) “Alas, O Lord GOD, why did you ever allow this people to pass over the Jordan, delivering us into the power of the Amorites, that they might destroy us? ....”
- (2) “Pray, Lord, what can I say, now that Israel has turned its back to its enemies (*Fleeing from Them*)?” (*Jos. 7:6-8*)
- b) The Lord Answers:
- (1) “Israel has sinned: they have violated the covenant which I enjoined on them. They have stealthily taken goods subject to the ban, and have deceitfully put them in their baggage (*Instead of the Lord’s Treasury*)
- (2) “If the Israelites cannot stand up to their enemies, but must turn their back to them, it is because they are under the ban. I will not remain with you unless you remove from among you whoever has incurred the ban.” (*Jos. 7:11-12*)
- c) Joshua Investigates & Finds Achan Guilty
- (1) Achan with His Stolen Booty, Family & Possessions Destroyed (*Putting Them Under the Ban Imposed on the Pagans*)
- 2) Israel Defeats Ai in their 2<sup>nd</sup> Assault Jos. 8:1-29
- a) Lord Gives Joshua Tactics
- b) Israel Destroys Ai’s Army, Burns City & Annihilates Population
- c) Israelites Allowed to Keep Booty
- c. Joshua Builds an Altar to Lord on Mount Ebal Jos. 8:30-35  
(*Performing the Ceremony Commanded by Moses. Deut. 27*)
- 1) Altar Built of Undressed Stone
- a) Holocausts & Peace Offerings Sacrificed to the Lord
- 2) The Law Inscribed on Plastered Stones
- 3) People Stand on Either Side of the Priests Holding Ark of the Covenant (*Probably at Shechem Located Between the Mountains of Elba & Gerizim*)
- a) Half the People Facing Mount Gerizim
- (1) Where the Blessings for Obedience to the Law are Pronounced
- b) Half the People Facing Mount Ebal
- (1) Where the Curses for Disobedience to the Law are Pronounced
- (a) Sacrifices Offered to Atone for Sins & Renew Vows
- c) Joshua Reads the Entire Law to the Community

*Comment.* There is no further mention in Scripture of the Tabernacle or the Ark of the Covenant throughout the remainder of Israel's campaign to conquer the Promise Land (Jos. 9 – 12).

- d. The Land Apportioned Among Tribes of Israel Jos. 13 – 21
  - 1) Tabernacle Erected at Shiloh. “After they had subdued the land, the whole community of the Israelites assembled at Shiloh, where they set up the meeting tent.” Jos. 18:1
  - 2) “These are the final portions into which Eleazar the priest, Joshua, son of Nun, and the heads of families in the tribes of the Israelites divided the land by lot in the presence of the LORD, at the door (Entrance Curtain) of the meeting tent in Shiloh.” Jos. 19:51
- e. Joshua's Farewell Address to Israel Jos. 24
  - 1) Joshua Assembles the Entire Community at Shechem  
(Where They Heard the Law, with its Blessings & Curses. *Re: Jos. 8:30-35*)
    - a) Reminds Israel They are God's Chosen People Jos. 24:1-13
      - (1) God Chose their Forefathers (The Patriarchs)
      - (2) The Lord Delivered them from Bondage
      - (3) The Lord Victoriously Brought them into Promise Land
      - (4) The Lord Gave them the Promise Land as their Inheritance
    - b) Joshua Gives Israel a Choice Jos. 24:14-15
      - (1) “Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve him completely and sincerely. Cast out the gods your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt (*With their Many Gods*), and serve the Lord. (*“River” Refers to the Euphrates, Where Abram Originally Lived [Gen. 11:31-12:6], and the People Worshipped a Moon God.*)
      - (2) “If it does not please you to serve the LORD, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”
  - c) Israel Chooses the Lord as their God Jos. 24:16-24
    - (1) People Respond: “We will still serve the LORD.” (*Jos. 24:21*)
  - d) Joshua Makes a Covenant with the Israelites Jos. 24:25-28
    - (1) Records their Agreement in Book of God's Law
    - (2) Sets Up a Large Stone as a Witness
      - (a) “Then he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak that was in the sanctuary of the LORD.
      - (b) Declares Before Israel: “This stone shall be our witness, for it has heard all the words which the LORD spoke to us. It shall be a witness against you, should you wish to deny your God.” (*Jos. 24:26b-27*)

*Comment.* Unfortunately Israel never fully accomplished their Divine Objective to purge the Pagan Nations from their midst; sanctifying the Promise Land for the Lord their God. The remaining nations became a reproach to God's Chosen People ensnaring them with pagan practices and oppressing them.

### 3. Israel Living in the Promise Land

#### a. Time of the Judges

*Israel Originally Lived as a Confederation of Tribes Interspersed throughout the Promise Land, as Apportioned by the Lord, with the Lord Dwelling in the Tabernacle as their King. During this Time the Lord Raised Up Tribal Leaders*

*Called Judges, to Govern His People & Deliver them from Oppression (See "Period of the Judges" in 'Anointed King – Part I' Study.)*

*This Section Looks at Specific Scriptural References to the Tabernacle, its Furnishings and/or Elements, During the Time of the Judges.*

- 1) The Lord Consulted in Intertribal Conflict Jud. 19 – 21
  - a) Troops from 11 Tribes Confront Benjamin
    - (1) Demanding Justice for Horrific Crime Against a Levite's Concubine
    - (2) Benjamin Refuses & Assembles Troops
  - b) Tribal Troops Consult the Lord at Bethel Jud. 20:17-18  
*("Bethel" Means "House of God". Here it Refers to Tabernacle at Shiloh)*
    - (1) They Ask the Lord Who Should Attack First
    - (2) The Lord Answers: "Judah shall go first."
  - c) Tribal Troops Engage Benjamin Twice & Loose
  - d) Tribal Troops Consult the Lord Before Ark of the Covenant, After Offering Him Sacrifices Jud. 20:26-28
    - (1) High Priest Asks the Lord: "Shall I (*Interceding for the Troops*) go out again to battle with Benjamin, my brother, or shall I desist?"  
*(Probably Asks from the Inner Court at Incense Altar Before the Veil)*
    - (2) LORD Answers (*From the Holy of Holies*): "Attack! for tomorrow I will deliver him into your power."
  - e) Israelites Engage Benjaminites 3<sup>rd</sup> Time & Defeat Them  
*(Justice Belongs to the Lord!)*
- 2) Prophet Samuel Raised in Tabernacle 1 Sam. 1 – 3  
*Samuel is the Lord's Anointed Prophet, Who Establishes Israel's Monarchy & Judges Israel During its Transitional Period.*
  - a) Samuel's Birth & Dedication to the Lord 1 Sam. 1:1 – 2:11
    - (1) Elkanah & His Wives on a Pilgrimage to the Tabernacle at Shiloh  
*(Elkanah a Levite Who Lived in Land of Ephraim. 1 Chron 6:1-12)*
      - (a) His Wife Hannah is Barren
      - (b) Hanna Prays at the Tabernacle for a Son
        - Vows to Give Him to the Lord
      - (c) Priest Eli Hears Her, Agrees & Blesses Her
    - (2) Hannah Later Conceives & Bears a Son
      - (a) Names Him Samuel
    - (3) Hannah Offers Samuel to the Lord at the Tabernacle
      - (a) She & Her Husband Offer Sacrifices to the Lord
      - (b) She Gives Samuel to the Lord, Leaving Him with Eli
        - Eli Raises Samuel to Serve the Lord
  - b) Dichotomy in Eli's Household 1 Sam. 2:12-36
    - (1) Eli's Sons Disrespect the Lord & Misuse their Priestly Office
      - (a) Taking Meat from Sacrifices being Offered to the Lord
      - (b) Having Relations with Women at Entrance of the Meeting Tent
      - (c) Disregarding their Father's Rebuke & Correction
    - (2) Samuel Faithfully Serves in the Lord's Presence (*i.e. the Tabernacle*)
    - (3) "Man of God" (*Unnamed Prophet*) Confronts Eli
      - (a) Rebukes Him for Allowing His Sons to Minister as Priests
      - (b) Prophecies Death of Eli's Sons on Same Day

- c) Lord's Revelation to Samuel 1 Sam. 3:1-18
- (1) "One day Eli was asleep in his usual place ...." (*1 Sam. 3:2*)
  - (2) "... Samuel was sleeping in the temple (*Tabernacle*) of the LORD where the ark of God was." (*1 Sam. 3:3*)
  - (3) Lord Calls Samuel 3 Times (*From the Holy of Holies*)
    - (a) Samuel Asks Eli if He Called
    - (b) 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Times Eli Tells Samuel He Did Not Call
    - (c) 3<sup>rd</sup> Time Eli Realizes it's the Lord & Advises Samuel to Answer
  - (4) Lord Calls & Reveals His Presence to Samuel
    - (a) Condemns Eli's Family for their Crimes  
(*Confirming Prophecy by the "Man of God"*)
  - (5) Samuel Reveals Word of the Lord to Eli
    - (a) Eli Accepts the Lord's Judgment
- 3) Ark of the Covenant Removed from Tabernacle's Holy of Holies 1 Sam. 4 – 6  
(*Men Decide to Remove Ark of the Covenant from the Lord's Presence, Without Consulting the Lord.*)
- a) Pagans Capture Ark of the Covenant 1 Sam. 4
- (1) Philistines Attack & Defeat Israeli Troops
    - (a) Israelites Retire to their Camp After Battle
      - Elders Decide. "Why has the LORD permitted us to be defeated today by the Philistines? Let us fetch the ark of the LORD from Shiloh that it may go into battle among us and save us from the grasp of our enemies." (*1 Sam. 4:3*)
    - (b) Ark of the Covenant Brought from Shiloh
      - Ark Arrives with Priests (Eli's Sons)
    - (c) Philistines Learn Ark of the Covenant is in Israel's Camp
      - Become Afraid. "Gods have come to their camp. Woe to us! ...." (*1 Sam. 4:7*)
    - (d) Philistines Regain their Courage & Attack
      - Defeat & Rout Israeli Troops
      - Capture Ark of the Covenant
      - Kill Eli's Sons
    - (e) Priest Eli Dies Learning Ark was Captured & His Sons Killed
      - Eli's Daughter-in-law Dies in Childbirth that Same Day
        - Before Dying. "She named the child Ichabod, saying, 'Gone is the glory from Israel,' with reference to the capture of the ark of God and to her father-in-law and her husband." (*1 Sam. 4:21*)
  - (2) Ark of the Covenant in Philistine Hands 1 Sam. 5
    - (a) Philistines Put Ark of Covenant in Temple of Dagon in Ashdod
      - Place the Ark Next to Dagon's Statue
      - Next Morning Dagon Found Lying Prostrate Before the Ark
        - Philistines Picked Up Dagon & Set it Back in Place
      - Next Morning Dagon Found Lying Prostrate Before the Ark, with its Head & Hands Broken Off
    - (b) Philistines Cursed Because of the Ark
      - People of Ashdod Afflicted with Hemorrhoids & Plagued with Mice

- Ark Taken to Gath
  - City Thrown into Turmoil & People Afflicted with Hemorrhoids
- Ark Taken to Ekron
  - City Panics, People Die & Survivors Afflicted with Hemorrhoids
- (c) Ark Remains in Philistia 7 Months 1 Sam. 6:1
- b) Ark of the Covenant Returned to Israel 1 Sam. 6
  - (1) Pagan Priests & Fortune Tellers Advise Philistines
    - (a) Make Amends with Guilt Offerings to the God of Israel
      - 5 Golden Hemorrhoids & 5 Golden Mice  
*(One Each for 5 Philistine City States in Promise Land)*
    - (b) Make a New Cart
      - To be Drawn by 2 Cows Who Have Not Borne a Yoke
    - (c) Put the Ark & Box Containing Golden Articles on Cart
    - (d) Release the Cart. “If it goes to Beth-shemesh along the route to his own territory, he (*God of Israel*) has brought this great calamity upon us; if not, we will know it was not he who struck us, but that an accident happened to us.” (*1 Sam. 6:9*)
  - (2) Philistines Do as Advised
    - (a) Cows Take the Cart Directly to Beth-shemesh
  - (3) Israelites Receive Ark of the Covenant
    - (a) Cart Stops in Field of Joshua at Beth-shemesh
      - People Greet Ark with Rejoicing
    - (b) Levites Take Ark & Box of Golden Articles Off Cart
    - (c) Cart Broken Up & Cows Sacrificed to Lord
    - (d) 70 Descendants of Jeconiah Struck Dead Because they Refused to Celebrate the Ark’s Return
  - (4) Messengers Sent to Kiriath-jearim: “The Philistines have returned the ark of the LORD; come down and get it.” (*1 Sam. 6:21*)
- c) Ark of the Covenant Moved to Kiriath-jearim 1 Sam. 7:1-6
  - (1) “So the inhabitants of Kiriath-jearim came for the ark of the LORD and brought it into the house of Abinadab (a Levite) on the hill, appointing his son Eleazar as guardian of the ark of the LORD.”  
*(1 Sam. 7:1)*
  - (2) Ark Remains in House of Abinadab
    - (a) Israel Repents & Returns to the Lord
    - (b) Samuel Continues to Judge Israel
- b. Early Monarchy
 

*The People Request a King to Rule Over them Like the Others Nations (1 Sam. 8). The Lord Grants their Request by Choosing & Anointing Kings to Rule Under His Authority (See ‘Anointed King – Part I’ Study.)*

*This Section Looks at Specific Scriptural References to the Tabernacle, its Furnishings and/or Elements, Prior to Israel’s Construction of the Temple (“House of God”) in Jerusalem.*

- 1) Reign of King Saul
 

*The Lord Chooses & Anoints Saul as the First King of Israel.*

*There are No Scriptural References to the Tabernacle or the Ark of the Covenant During King Saul's Reign.*

Possible Exception.

1 Sam. 14:18-19

*There is a reference in the King James Version of the Bible; where King Saul orders Priest Ahijah to bring the "Ark of God" to his camp so he can consult the Lord. However, there is no record that the Ark was actually brought there.*

*In the New American Bible's translation, King Saul orders Priest Ahijah to bring the "Ephod" to consult the Lord, referring to the sacred lots ("Urim & Thummim") carried by the Priest to determine the will of the Lord (Re: Ex. 28:31-35).*

*In either case, Saul then tells Priest Ahijah to "Withdraw your hand.", i.e. do not carry out that order.*

a) David Given Showbread as Food

*King Saul Relentlessly Pursues David to Kill Him. In this Incident David Flees to Priest Ahimelech to Obtain Provisions.*

(1) David Visits Priest Ahimelech in City of Nob 1 Sam. 21:2-8

- (a) David Requests Provisions for Himself & His Men
- (b) Ahimelech Replies: "I have no ordinary bread on hand, only holy bread (i.e. Showbread); if the men have abstained from women, you may eat some of that." (1 Sam. 21:5)
- (c) David Assures Ahimelech that His Men have been Separated from Women, being Consecrated for Service
- (d) Ahimelech Gives David Showbread. "So the priest gave him holy bread, for no other bread was on hand except the showbread which had been removed from the LORD'S presence and replaced by fresh bread when it was taken away." (1 Sam. 21:7)

Comment. *It's uncertain where the Priests were setting out Showbread before the Lord. When the Tabernacle was last mentioned in Scripture it was at Shiloh, without the Ark of the Covenant that was moved to Abinadab's House in Kiriath-jearim. The City of Nob was the residence of many Priests at that time. Some scholars believe the Tabernacle was moved to Nob, where the Priests continued to minister.*

(2) King Saul Massacres the Priests at Nob for Assisting David

1 Sam. 22:9-23

- (a) Saul Kills Ahimelech & 85 Priests
  - Ahimelech's Son Abiathar Escapes & Reports to David
- (b) Saul Kills All Men, Women, Children & Livestock

Comment. *When the Tabernacle is next mentioned in Scripture it was at Gibeon (Re: 1 Chron. 16:39-40 & 2 Chron. 1:1-6). It is believed that the Tabernacle (without the Ark of the Covenant which remained at Kiriath-jearim) was moved there after Saul massacres the Priests at Nob.*

2) Reign of King David

*David, "A Man After God's Own Heart" (1 Sam. 13:13-14), was Chosen by the Lord & Anointed to be King of Israel (1 Sam. 16:1-13) During the Reign of King Saul. David Ascended to the Throne After King Saul's Death. He Brought the Ark of the Covenant to Israel's Capital City and Made Preparations for the Construction of a Permanent Temple ("House of God").*

a) King David Brings the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem

2 Sam. 6; 1 Chron. 13, 15 & 16

- (1) David's First Attempt to Bring the Ark to Jerusalem  
2 Sam. 6:1-11; 1 Chron. 13
  - (a) David Addresses Israeli Leaders: "If it seems good to you, and is so decreed by the LORD our God, let us summon the rest of our brethren from all the districts of Israel, and also the Priests and the Levites . . . . . and let us bring the ark of our God here among us, for in the days of Saul we did not visit it." (1 Chron. 13:2-3)
  - (b) David Leads an Entourage to Kiriath-jearim (*aka Baalah*)
    - Ark of the Covenant at Abinadab's House (*Re: 1 Sam. 7:1*)
  - (c) David & People Retrieve the Ark from Abinadab's House
    - Place the Ark on a New Cart Drawn by Oxen  
(*Transporting the Ark in Such a Manner Violates the Law. According to the Law, the Ark of the Covenant Must be Carried by its Poles on the Shoulders of Kohathite Levites. Num. 3:27-31; Num. 4:1-15; Num. 7:9*)
  - (d) Ark of the Covenant On Route to Jerusalem
    - Abinadab's Sons, Uzzah & Ahoi, Guide the Cart  
(*Abinadab & His Sons are Levites*)
    - David & His Entourage Accompany the Ark
      - Rejoicing with Song, Musical Instruments & Dance
  - (e) Ark Reaches Threshing Floor of Nodan/Chidon
    - Oxen Tip the Cart
    - Uzzah Reaches Out His Hand to Steady the Ark
    - Lord Immediately Strikes Uzzah Dead  
(*Touching the Ark is Forbidden by Law. Num. 4:15*)
  - (f) David Becomes Fearful: "How can I bring the ark of God with me?" (1 Chron. 13:12)
  - (g) David Diverts the Ark to the House of Obed-edom a Levite
    - Ark Remains in Obed-edom's House 3 Months
    - Lord Blesses Obed-edom's Household

*Comment. Tabernacle Worship became lax during the reign of King Saul, along with many of the Lord's Religious/Sacred Laws. This condition seems to have continued into the early reign of King David. Apparently, David and his officials were unaware of the Laws concerning transportation of the Ark, truncating its entrance into Jerusalem. However, during the time the Ark remained at Obed-edom's House, David inquired of the Law so he could properly bring it into Jerusalem.*

- (2) David Successfully Brings Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem  
2 Sam. 6:12-23; 1 Chron. 15 & 16
  - (a) David Prepares for the Ark of God
    - Pitches a Tent to House the Ark. "David . . . prepared a place for the ark of God, pitching a tent for it there."  
(1 Chron. 15:1)
    - Applies the Law for Transporting the Ark. "No one may carry the ark of God except the Levites, for the LORD chose them to carry the ark of the LORD and to minister to him forever." (1 Chron. 15:2)
    - Assembles the People in Jerusalem to Receive the Ark
    - Instructs Priests & Levites to Sanctify Themselves

- “You, the heads of the levitical families, must sanctify yourselves along with your brethren and bring the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel, to the place which I have prepared for it.
- “Because you were not with us the first time, the wrath of the LORD our God burst upon us, for we did not seek him aright (*According to the Law*)” (*1 Chron. 15:12-13*)
  - Appoints Musicians & Chanters to Accompany the Ark
- (b) Priests & Levites Sanctify Themselves & Prepare to Receive Ark
- (c) David Leads an Entourage to Obed-edom’s House
  - David Clothed in White Linen Wearing an Ephod (Apron) (*White Symbolizes Purity & Ephod Symbolizes Service*)
  - Levites & Musicians Clothed in White Linen
  - Retrieved Ark of the Covenant from Obed-edom’s Home
- (d) David’s Procession Bringing the Ark to Jerusalem
  - Priests Sound Trumpets Before Ark
  - Levites Carry Ark with Poles, as Prescribed by Law
  - Sacrifices Offered Every 6 Steps Taken by Bearers of Ark
  - Israelites Rejoice with Song, Musical Instruments & Dance
- (e) Ark Brought into “City of David” Jerusalem
  - David Dances & Rejoices Before Lord
- (f) Ark Placed in a Tent Pitched by David. “They brought in the ark of God and set it within the tent which David had pitched for it.” (*1 Chron. 16:1a*)
  - David Offers Holocausts & Peace Offerings
  - Levites Rejoice & Praise the Lord
  - David Blesses People in Name of the Lord of Hosts
    - Distributes Gifts of Food to People
- (g) David Appoints Priests & Levites to Minister Before the Lord
  - Levites Minister Daily Before the Ark in Jerusalem. “He now appointed certain Levites to minister before the ark of the LORD, to celebrate, thank, and praise the LORD, the God of Israel.” (*1 Chron. 16:4*)
  - Priests Continue to Minister at the Tabernacle at Gibeon. “But the Priest Zadok and his Priestly brethren he left before the Dwelling (*Tabernacle*) of the LORD on the high place at Gibeon, to offer holocausts to the LORD on the altar of holocausts regularly, morning and evening, and to do all that is written in the law of the LORD which he has decreed for Israel.” (*1 Chron. 16:39-40*)

Comment. *The Tabernacle continues to be divided during the reign of King David. The Ark of the Covenant was in Jerusalem, and the Tabernacle with the Sacrificial Altar and presumably the other Sacred Furnishings remain at Gibeon. We later see David’s son Solomon visit the Tabernacle at Gibeon after succeeding his father to the Throne (2 Chron. 1:1-6).*

- b) Lord Establishes His Covenant with King David 2 Sam. 7; 1 Chron. 17
  - (1) David Desires to Build a House for Ark of the Covenant  
(A Permanent Temple for the Presence of God to Dwell Among His

*People Israel)*

- (a) Expresses His Desire to Prophet Nathan: “Here I am living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God dwells in a tent!”
  - (b) Nathan Agrees with David: “Go, do whatever you have in mind, for the LORD is with you.” (2 Sam. 7:2-3)
- (2) The Lord Speaks to Nathan that Night. “Go, tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Should you (A Human) build me a house to dwell in?’” (2 Sam. 7:5)
- (Lord is Omnipresent – Heaven & Earth Can Not Contain Him)*
- (a) Lord Does Not Need a House. ‘I have not dwelt in a house from the day on which I led the Israelites out of Egypt to the present, but I have been going about in a tent under cloth.’ (2 Sam. 7:6)
  - (b) Lord Has Not Asked for a House. ‘In all my wanderings everywhere among the Israelites, did I ever utter a word to any one of the judges whom I charged to tend my people Israel, to ask: Why have you not built me a house of cedar?’ (2 Sam. 7:7)
  - (c) Lord Elevated David from Shepherd to King
  - (d) Lord Destroyed All David’s Enemies
  - (e) Lord Established Israel as a Nation
  - (f) Lord Protects & Gives Israel Peace
  - (g) Lord Will Establish a House for David. ‘The LORD also reveals to you that he will establish a house for you.’
- (Lord Promises David a Living House - Not a House of Stone)*
- David’s Heir Will Build Lord’s House. ‘And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will make his kingdom firm. It is he who shall build a house for my name.’  
- *David’s Son Will Fulfill His Desire to Build a Temple*
  - Lord Will Establish His Throne Forever. ‘And I will make his royal throne firm forever.’
  - Lord Will be His Father. ‘I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.....’
  - David’s House & Kingdom Will Last Forever. ‘Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever.’” (2 Sam. 7:11c-16)
- (3) Nathan Delivers Word of the Lord to David
- (4) David Prays Before Ark of the Covenant
- (a) Accepts the Word of the Lord. “Who am I, Lord GOD, and who are the members of my house, that you have brought me to this point? Yet even this you see as too little, Lord GOD; you have also spoken of the house of your servant for a long time to come: this too you have shown to man,....” (2 Sam. 7:18-21)
  - (b) Offers Praise & Thanksgiving. “Great are you, Lord GOD! There is none like you and there is no God but you, just as we have heard it told.” (2 Sam. 7:22)
  - (c) Claims the Lord’s Promises:
    - “And now, LORD God, confirm for all time the prophecy you have made concerning your servant and his house, and

do as you have promised.

- “Your name will be forever great, when men say, ‘The LORD of hosts is God of Israel,’ and the house of your servant David stands firm before you.
- “It is you, LORD of hosts, God of Israel, who said in a revelation to your servant, ‘I will build a house for you.’ Therefore your servant now finds the courage to make this prayer to you.
- “And now, Lord GOD, you are God and your words are truth; you have made this generous promise to your servant. Do, then, bless the house of your servant that it may be before you forever; for you, Lord GOD, have promised, and by your blessing the house of your servant shall be blessed forever.” (2 Sam. 7:25-29)

- c) Rebellion Within King David’s House 2 Sam. 15 - 19
- (1) Absalom Rebels Against His Father David
    - (a) Undermines King’s Authority
    - (b) Solicits Support Among Population
      - Declared King by Rebellious Citizens
    - (c) Absalom & Conspirators Move Toward Jerusalem
  - (2) King David Flees Jerusalem
    - (a) Accompanied by His Household & Servants
    - (b) Accompanied by Loyal Officials & Troops
    - (c) Accompanied by Priests & Levites Carrying Ark of the Covenant
  - (3) David Sends the Ark Back to Jerusalem
    - (a) Orders Priest Zadok. “Take the ark of God back to the city.
      - “If I find favor with the LORD, he will bring me back and permit me to see it and its lodging.
      - “But if he should say, ‘I am not pleased with you,’ I am ready; let him do to me as he sees fit.” (2 Sam. 15:25-25)
    - (b) Priests & Levites Take the Ark Back to Jerusalem
  - (4) Absalom Enters & Occupies Jerusalem
    - (a) Absalom Gathers Troops & Pursues David
    - (b) David’s Troops Defeat Rebellious Troops
      - Absalom Killed
    - (c) David Mourns for His Son
  - (5) King David Returns to Jerusalem & Retakes His Throne
    - (a) Ark of the Covenant Remains in Tent Provided by David
- d) King David Purchases the Temple Site 2 Sam. 24; 1 Chron. 21:1 – 22:1
- (1) David Orders a Registration & Census of People
    - (a) Lord’s Anger Flares Up Against Israel  
(Probably Because They Rebelled Against His Anointed King)
    - (b) David Incited to Take a Census of People
      - David Commands His Military to Register & Count People
      - General Joab Objects - It Will Bring Guilt on Israel
      - David Overrides Joab
    - (c) Joab Completes His Assignment & Reports to David
    - (d) David’s Command Displeases the Lord

*(People Belong to Lord, Who Alone Should Know their Number)*

- (2) The Lord's Chastisements
  - (a) David Regrets His Order & Asks the Lord for Forgiveness
  - (b) The Lord Instructs Prophet Gad to Offer David 3 Alternative Chastisements:
    - 3 Years of Famine, or
    - 3 Months Fleeing from His Enemies, or
    - 3 Days of Pestilence by Lord's Destroying Angel
  - (c) David Chooses Pestilence. "... I prefer to fall into the hand of the LORD, whose mercy is very great, than into the hands of men." (*1 Chron. 21:13*)
- (3) The Lord Sends Pestilence on Israel
  - (a) 70,000 People Die
  - (b) Angel Stretches Forth His Hand (Sword) to Destroy Jerusalem
    - Lord Regrets the Calamity & Stays Angel's Hand
    - Angel Standing on Threshing Floor of Ornan (aka Araunah)
    - David Sees the Angel & Says to the Lord: "It is I who have sinned; it is I, the shepherd, who have done wrong. But these (*People*) are sheep; what have they done? Punish me and not my kindred." (*2 Sam. 24:17*)
- (4) Angel Commands Gad to Tell David to Build an Altar on Ornan's Threshing Floor (*Which is Mount Moriah; Where Abraham Offered His Son Isaac to the Lord [Gen. 22:1-19], and David's Son Will Build the Temple [See Below].*)
  - (a) Gad Instructs David. "Go up and build an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite." (*2 Sam. 24:18*)
- (5) David Purchases Ornan's Threshing Floor
  - (a) David Offers Ornan: "Sell me the ground of this threshing floor, that I may build on it an altar to the LORD. Sell it to me at its full price, that the plague may be stayed from the people."
  - (b) Ornan Offers to Give David His Threshing Floor, Oxen for Holocausts, Threshing Sledges & Yokes for Wood, and Wheat for Cereal Offerings
  - (c) David Replies: "No! I will buy it from you properly, at its full price. I will not take what is yours for the LORD, nor offer up holocausts that cost me nothing." (*1 Chron. 21:22 & 24*)
  - (d) David Purchases Threshing Floor & Oxen from Ornan (*Mount Moriah Belongs to David & His Heirs*)
- (6) David Builds an Altar on Threshing Floor
  - (a) "David then built an altar there to the LORD, and offered up holocausts and peace offerings.
  - (b) David "... called upon the LORD, he (Lord) answered him by sending down fire from heaven upon the altar of holocausts.
  - (c) "Then the LORD gave orders to the angel to return his sword to its sheath (*Stopping the Plague*)." (*1 Chron. 21:26-27*)
- (7) David Declares Threshing Floor as the Temple Site
  - (a) "Once David saw that the LORD had heard him on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, he continued to offer sacrifices there.

- “The Dwelling of the LORD (*i.e. The Tabernacle*), which Moses had built in the desert, and the altar of holocausts were at that time on the high place at Gibeon. But David could not go there to worship God, for he was fearful of the sword of the angel of the LORD.
- (b) David Declares: “This is the house of the LORD God, and this is the altar of holocausts for Israel.” (*1 Chron. 21:28 - 22:1*)
- 3) King David’s Preparations for the Temple 1 Kings 2:1-11; 1 Chron. 22 – 29  
*David Appoints His Son Solomon as Successor to the Throne of Israel. Solomon Anointed & Installed as King During David’s Final Days. 1 Kings 1*
- a) King David’s Preparation for Temple Structure 1Chron. 22:1-5
- (1) Appoints Aliens in Israel as Stonecutters. “...to hew out stone blocks for building the house of God.” (*1 Chron. 22:2*)
  - (2) Gathers Building Materials
    - (a) “...large stores of iron to make nails for the doors of the gates, and clamps, together with so much bronze that it could not be weighed
    - (b) “... cedar trees without number.’” (*1 Chron. 22:3-4a*)
  - (3) His Objective. “... the house that is to be built for the LORD must be made so magnificent that it will be renowned and glorious in all countries.....” (*1 Chron. 22:5*)
- b) King David Instructs Solomon 1 Kings 2:1-9; 1 Chron. 22:6-16  
*(After Solomon was Privately Anointed King)*
- (1) David Commands Solomon to Build a House for Lord (“Temple”)
    - (a) David’s Intention & Desire to Build the Lord’s House. “My son, it was my purpose to build a house myself for the honor of the LORD, my God. But this word of the LORD came to me:
      - “You have shed much blood, and you have waged great wars. You may not build a house in my honor, because you have shed too much blood upon the earth in my sight.”
      - “However, a son is to be born to you. He will be a peaceful man, and I will give him rest from all his enemies on every side. For Solomon shall be his name, and in his time I will bestow peace and tranquility on Israel.”
      - “It is he who shall build a house in my honor; he shall be a son to me, and I (*Lord God*) will be a father to him, and I will establish the throne of his kingship over Israel forever.”  
(*1 Chron. 22:7-10*) (*The Lord Chose David’s Son Solomon to Rule Israel & Build His Temple.*)
    - (b) David Encourages His Son. “Now, my son, the LORD be with you, and may you succeed in building the house of the LORD your God, as he has said you shall.” (*1 Chron. 22:11*)
    - (c) David Advises His Son
      - “May the LORD give you prudence and discernment when he brings you to rule over Israel, so that you keep the law of the LORD, your God. Only then shall you succeed, if you are careful to observe the precepts and decrees which the LORD gave Moses for Israel.

- “Be brave and steadfast; do not fear or lose heart.”  
(1 Chron. 22:12-13)
- (2) David Reveals His Preparations for the Temple to Solomon  
1 Chron. 22:14-16a
- (a) Materials He had Gathered for Temple
- 100,000 Talents of Gold (3,750 Tons or 3,427 metric tonnes)
  - 1,000,000 Talents of Silver (37,500 Tons or 34,272 tonnes)
  - Bronze & Iron Too Great to be Weighed
  - Stores of Wood & Stones to Which Solomon Must Add
- (b) Unlimited Supply of Workmen, Stonecutters, Masons, Carpenters & Other Skilled Craftsmen
- (3) David Charges Solomon: “Set to work, therefore, and the LORD be with you!” (1 Chron. 22:16b)
- c) King David Organizes & Commissions Israel’s Officials  
1 Chron. 22:17 – 27:34
- (1) Commands Officials to Help Solomon Build the Temple
- (a) Reminds Them of the Lord’s Favor. “Is not the LORD your God with you? Has he not given you rest on every side? Indeed, he has delivered the occupants of the land into my power, and the land is subdued before the LORD and his people.
- (b) Exhorts Them to Trust the Lord. “Therefore, devote your hearts and souls to seeking the LORD your God.
- (c) Commands Them to Build the Lord’s Temple. “Proceed to build the sanctuary of the LORD God, that the ark of the covenant of the LORD and God’s sacred vessels (i.e. Tabernacle Furnishings & Utensils) may be brought into the house built in honor of the LORD.” (1 Chron. 22:18-19)
- (2) Organizes Priests & Levites to Serve at the Temple  
1 Chron. 23:1 – 26:28
- (a) The Levites. “The LORD, the God of Israel, has given rest to his people, and has taken up his dwelling in Jerusalem. Henceforth the Levites need not carry the Dwelling or any of its furnishings or equipment.” (1 Chron. 23:25-26)
- Assist Priests & Attend to the Temple. “Rather, their duty shall be to assist the sons of Aaron (*Priests*) in the service of the house of the LORD, having charge of the courts, the chambers, and the preservation of everything holy: they shall take part in the service of the house of God. They shall also have charge of the showbread, of the fine flour for the cereal offering, ....” (1 Chron. 23:28-29)
  - Serve as Liturgical Musicians & Singers. “They must be present every morning to offer thanks and to praise the LORD, and likewise in the evening; and at every offering of holocausts to the LORD on sabbaths, new moons, and feast days, ....” (1 Chron. 23:31)
  - Perform Tabernacle Duties Applicable to the Temple. “They shall observe what is prescribed for them concerning the meeting tent, the sanctuary, and the sons of Aaron, their

brethren, in the service of the house of the LORD.”

*(1 Chron. 23:32)*

- Serve as Temple Gatekeepers (*Security*)
  - Serve as Temple Treasurers  
*(i.e. Responsible for Treasury, Storehouses & Offerings)*
- (b) The Priests
- Sacrifice Offerings & Intercede for the People, as Prescribed by Law
- (3) Organizes Civil & Governmental Offices  
*The Temple is to be the Center of Israeli Society; with All Religious, Civil & Governmental Authorities Subject to the Lord their God.*
- (a) Civil Magistrates 1 Chron. 26:29-32
- (b) Military Commanders 1 Chron. 27:1-15
- (c) Tribal Heads 1 Chron. 27:16-24
- (d) Overseers of Royal Treasury 1 Chron. 27:25-31  
*(King’s Storehouses, Estates & Workmen Throughout Israel)*
- (e) Royal Court Attendants 1 Chron. 27:32-34
- d) King David Calls an Assembly in Jerusalem 1 Chron. 28 – 29
- (1) David Addresses God’s Chosen People
- (a) Reveals His Intention to Build a Temple for the Lord  
*(Lord’s Permanent Dwelling Place Among His People)*
- “Hear me, my brethren and my people. It was my purpose to build a house of repose myself for the ark of the covenant of the LORD, the footstool for the feet of our God; and I was preparing to build it.
  - “But God said to me, ‘You may not build a house in my honor, for you are a man who fought wars and shed blood.’”  
*(1 Chron. 28:2-3)*
- (b) House of David Chosen by the Lord to Rule Israel
- (c) David’s Son Solomon Chosen by the Lord to Build His Temple.  
“For he (*Lord God*) said to me: ‘It is your son Solomon who shall build my house and my courts, for I have chosen him for my son, and I will be a father to him. I will establish his kingdom forever,....’” *(1 Chron. 28:6-7)*
- (d) Exhorts the People to Obey the Lord’s Commandments
- (e) Commissions Solomon to Serve the Lord & Build His Temple.  
“As for you, Solomon, my son, know the God of your father and serve him with a perfect heart and a willing soul,.... The LORD has chosen you to build a house as his sanctuary. Take courage and set to work.” *(1 Chron. 28:9-10)*
- (2) David Gives Solomon the Temple Plans 1 Chron. 28:11-19
- (a) Temple Building & Its Appurtenances. “Then David gave to his son Solomon the pattern of the portico and of the building itself, with its storerooms, its upper rooms and inner chambers, and the room with the propitiatory (*i.e. Holy of Holies*). He provided also the pattern for all else that he had in mind by way of courts for the house of the LORD, with the surrounding compartments for the stores for the house of God and the stores of the votive

- offerings,
- (b) Divisions of Priests & Levites. “.... divisions of the Priests and Levites, for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and for all the liturgical vessels of the house of the LORD.
- (c) The Furnishings & Utensils. “He specified the weight of gold to be used in the golden vessels for the various services and the weight of silver to be used in the silver vessels for the various services;
- Lampstands. “..... the golden lampstands and their lamps he specified the weight of gold for each lampstand and its lamps, and for the silver lampstands he specified the weight of silver for each lampstand and its lamps, depending on the use to which each lampstand was to be put.
  - Tables of Showbread. “He specified the weight of gold for each table to hold the showbread, and the silver for the silver tables; the pure gold to be used for the forks and pitchers; the amount of gold for each golden bowl and the silver for each silver bowl;
  - Altar of Incense. “the refined gold, and its weight, to be used for the altar of incense;
  - Golden Throne for Ark of the Covenant. “and, finally, gold for what would suggest a chariot throne: the cherubim that spread their wings and covered the ark of the covenant of the LORD.”
- (d) Temple Specifications. “He had successfully committed to writing the exact specifications of the pattern, because the hand of the LORD was upon him.” (*David Transcribed the Temple Specifications He Received from the Lord.*)
- (3) David Charges Solomon 1 Chron. 28:20-21
- (a) “Be firm and steadfast; go to work without fear or discouragement, for the LORD God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or abandon you before you have completed all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.
- (b) “The classes of the Priests and Levites are ready for all the service of the house of God; they will help you in all your work with all those who are eager to show their skill in every kind of craftsmanship.
- (c) “Also the leaders and all the people will do everything that you command.”
- (4) Offerings for the Temple 1 Chron. 29:1-9
- (a) David Presents the Building Materials He had Gathered (*See 1 Chron. 22:14-16a Above*)
- “My son Solomon, whom alone God has chosen, is still young and immature; the work, however, is great, for this castle is not intended for man, but for the LORD God. For this reason I have stored up for the house of my God, as far as I was able, gold for what will be made of gold, silver for what will be made of silver, bronze for what will be made of

bronze, iron for what will be made of iron, wood for what will be made of wood, onyx stones and settings for them, carnelian and mosaic stones, every other kind of precious stone, and great quantities of marble.” (1 Chron. 29:1-2)

- (b) David Contributes from His Personal Fortune. “But now, because of the delight I take in the house of my God, in addition to all that I stored up for the holy house, I give to the house of my God my personal fortune in gold and silver: three thousand talents of Ophir gold (113 Tons or 103 tonnes), and seven thousand talents of refined silver (263 Tons or 240 tonnes), for overlaying the walls of the rooms, for the various utensils to be made of gold and silver, and for every work that is to be done by artisans.”
- Challenges the People: “Now, who else is willing to contribute generously this day to the LORD?” (1 Chron. 29:3-5)
- (c) Israel’s Tribes & Families Contribute
- Over 5,000 Talents of Gold (Over 188 Tons or 171 tonnes)
  - 10,000 Talents of Silver (375 Tons or 343 tonnes)
  - 18,000 Talents of Bronze (675 Tons or 617 tonnes)
  - 100,000 Talents of Iron (3,750 Tons or 3,427 tonnes)
  - Precious Stones
- (d) David & People Rejoice Over the Free-Will Offerings
- (5) David’s Prayer of Praise & Thanksgiving 1 Chron. 29:10-22a
- (a) Blesses the Lord. “Blessed may you be, O LORD, God of Israel our father, from eternity to eternity. Yours, O LORD, are grandeur and power, majesty, splendor, and glory..... we give you thanks and we praise the majesty of your name.”
- (b) Acknowledges the Lord as Benefactor. “But who am I, and who are my people, that we should have the means to contribute so freely? For everything is from you, and we only give you what we have received from you..... O LORD our God, all this wealth that we have brought together to build you a house in honor of your holy name comes from you and is entirely yours.”
- (c) Intercedes for Solomon. “Give to my son Solomon a wholehearted desire to keep your commandments, precepts, and statutes, that he may carry out all these plans and build the castle for which I have made preparation.”
- (d) Beseeches Whole Assembly to Bless the Lord
- People Praise Lord, Bowing Before the Lord & their King
- (e) Israel Offers Thousands of Sacrifices & Holocausts to Lord
- People Feast & Rejoice in the Lord Presence
- (6) Solomon Publically Anointed King of Israel 1 Chron. 29:22b-25
- (a) People Proclaim Solomon King
- (b) King Solomon Sits on Throne in Place of His Father David
- (c) Officials, Military & David’s Other Sons Swear Allegiance to Solomon
- e) King David Dies & Buried in Jerusalem

1 Kings 2:10-11; 1 Chron. 29:26-30

#### D. Solomon's Temple

##### 1. King Solomon's Reign Before the Temple was Constructed

- a. Influences of the Tabernacle on Solomon's Judgments
  - 1) Adonijah (David's Oldest Living Son) Attempts to Seize the Throne Before Solomon was Anointed King 1 Kings 1:5-53
    - a) Adonijah Supported by Priest Abiathar & General Joab
    - b) David Designates Solomon as His Successor to Throne
      - (1) Solomon Privately Anointed King 1 Kings 1:38-40
    - c) Adonijah Flees to the Altar of Sacrifice
      - (1) Takes Hold of Horns on the Altar for Protection. "Let King Solomon first swear that he will not kill me....." (*1 Kings 1:51*)
    - d) Solomon Shows Mercy to Adonijah. "If he proves himself worthy, not a hair shall fall from his head. But if he is found guilty of crime, he shall die." (*1 Kings 1:52*)  
(*Solomon Shows Mercy to Adonijah Because He Clung to the Altar*)
    - e) Adonijah Brought Back to the Palace & Pays Homage to Solomon
  - 2) After David's Death, Adonijah Conspires Against Solomon 1 Kings 2:12-25 (*Adonijah Rejects & Exploits Solomon's Mercy*)
    - a) Solomon Orders His Execution
  - 3) Solomon Deposes Abiathar as Priest 1 Kings 2:26-27 (*Abiathar Supported Adonijah's Claim to Throne. 1 Kings 1:5-10*)
    - a) Solomon Exiles Abiathar. "Go to your land in Anathoth. Though you deserve to die, I will not put you to death this time, because you carried the ark of the Lord GOD before my father David ...." (*Solomon Shows Mercy to Abiathar Because He had Carried the Ark of the Covenant*)
  - 4) Solomon Orders Execution of General Joab 1 Kings 2:28-35 (*Joab Supported Adonijah's Claim to Throne. 1 Kings 1:5-10*)  
(*Solomon Carries Out King David's Judgment of Joab [1 Kings 2:5-6]. Joab had Murdered 2 Generals Without David's Knowledge [Re: 2 Sam. 3:22-30 & 2 Sam. 20:4-13].*)
    - a) Joab Flees to Tent of the Lord (*Tabernacle*)
      - (1) Holds Onto Horns of the Altar for Protection
    - b) Solomon Sends Benaiah to Kill Joab
      - (1) Joab Refuses to Leave the Altar. "No! I will die here." (*1 Kings 2:30*)
    - c) Solomon Orders Benaiah to Kill Joab at the Altar. "Do as he has said, Strike him down and bury him, and you will remove from me and from my family the blood which Joab shed without provocation. The LORD will hold him responsible for his own blood,...." (*1 Kings 2:31-32*)  
(*Removing Blood Guilt Joab had Brought Upon His Commander King David & His Household*)
    - d) Solomon Appoints Benaiah General of Army Replacing Joab
- b. King Solomon Consults the Lord at the Tabernacle  
1 Kings 3:1-15; 2 Chron. 1:1-12
  - 1) Solomon Goes to Gibeon. "... because the meeting tent (Tabernacle) of God, made in the desert by Moses, the LORD'S servant, was there. (The ark of God, however, David had brought up from Kiriath-jearim to Jerusalem, where he

had provided a place and pitched a tent for it.) (2 Chron. 1:3-4)

- a) Accompanied by Israel's Officials & Family Heads
- b) Solomon Offers Sacrifices to the Lord.
  - (1) "The bronze altar made by Bezalel (Moses' Chief Artisan)...., he put in front of the LORD'S Dwelling on the high place.
  - (2) "There Solomon and the assembly consulted the LORD, and Solomon offered sacrifice in the LORD'S presence on the bronze altar at the meeting tent; he offered a thousand holocausts upon it."  
(2 Chron. 1:5-6)
- 2) The Lord Appears to Solomon that Night in a Dream
  - a) God Says: "Ask something of me and I will give it to you."
  - b) Solomon Asks: ".....Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart to judge your people and to distinguish right from wrong. For who is able to govern this vast people of yours?"
  - c) The Lord Answers Solomon: "Because you have asked for this—not for a long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies, but for understanding so that you may know what is right—
    - (1) "I do as you requested, I give you a heart so wise and understanding that there has never been anyone like you up to now, and after you there will come no one to equal you.  
(Lord Gives Solomon Extraordinary Wisdom to Discern Good from Evil, the Ways of God from the Ways of Man.)
    - (2) "In addition, I give you what you have not asked for, such riches and glory that among kings there is not your like.  
(Lord Gives Solomon Riches So He Would Not Have to Rely on Man, nor Trust in Man, for His Success.)
    - (3) "And if you follow me by keeping my statutes and commandments, as your father David did, I will give you a long life." (1 Kings 3:6-14)  
(Lord Promises Solomon Long Life if He Remains Obedient & Faithful to Him, Ruling God's People in Righteousness.)
- 3) Solomon Returns to Jerusalem
  - a) Stands Before Ark of the Covenant
  - b) Offers Sacrifices & Holocausts to the Lord
  - c) Holds a Banquet for His Servants
- c. Solomon's Preparations for the Temple 1 Kings 5:15-32; 2 Chron. 1:18 – 2:17
  - 1) Solomon Makes a Trade Agreement with Hiram – King of Tyre (Lebanon)
    - a) Hiram Sends Embassy to Solomon
      - (1) Recognizing Solomon as King of Israel
      - (2) Offering Friendship Like He had with King David
    - b) Solomon Replies to Hiram - Soliciting His Help to Build the Temple
      - (1) Reveals David's Intention. "You know that my father David, because of the enemies surrounding him on all sides, could not build a temple in honor of the LORD, his God, until such a time as the LORD should put these enemies under the soles of his feet." (1 Kings 5:17)
      - (2) Israel is at Peace
      - (3) Proposes an Agreement. "As you dealt with my father David, sending him cedars to build a house for his dwelling, so deal with me. I intend to build a house for the honor of the LORD, my God, and to consecrate it to him, for the burning of fragrant incense in his

presence, for the perpetual display of the showbread, for holocausts morning and evening, and for the sabbaths, new moons, and festivals of the LORD, our God: such is Israel's perpetual obligation. And the house I intend to build must be large, for our God is greater than all other gods...."

- (a) "Now, send me men skilled at work in gold, silver, bronze and iron, in purple, crimson, and violet fabrics, and who know how to do engraved work, to join the craftsmen who are with me in Judah and Jerusalem, whom my father David appointed.
- (b) "Also send me boards of cedar, cypress and cabinet wood from Lebanon, ..... My servants will labor with yours in order to prepare for me a great quantity of wood, since the house I intend to build must be lofty and wonderful.
- (c) "I will furnish as food for your servants, the hewers who cut the wood, 20,000 kors of wheat, 20,000 kors of barley, 20,000 measures of wine, and 20,000 measures of oil." (2 Chron. 2:2-9)

c) Hiram Accepts Solomon's Proposal

2) Solomon Conscripts Workmen from Israel

- a) 30,000 Workmen Sent in Relays to/from Lebanon
- b) 150,000 Workmen Sent to the Mountains to Quarry & Transport Stones
- c) Over 3,000 Overseers

3) Work Proceeds Under the Agreement

- a) Tyre Cuts Lumber from Cedar & Fir Trees
  - (1) Lumber Floated as Rafts Down to Israel
  - (2) Israel Disassembles Rafts & Transports Lumber to Work Site
- b) Solomon Pays Tyre with Wheat, Barley, Wine & Oil
- c) Tyre Provides Skilled Craftsmen
  - (1) Join Craftsmen in Judah Appointed by King David
- d) Lord Gives Solomon Wisdom to Work in Harmony & Peace with Tyre

4) Building Materials Prepared for Constructing the Temple

- a) Large Blocks of Hewed Stones for its Foundation
- b) Wood & Stones for the Building
- c) Materials Previously Provided by King David & Tribal Leaders  
(See 1 Chron. 22:1-16 & 1 Chron. 29:1-11 Above)

## 2. King Solomon Builds & Consecrates the Temple (God's House)

1 Kings 6 - 9; 2 Chron. 3 - 8

a. Construction of the Temple

1 Kings 6 - 7; 2 Chron. 3 - 4

- 1) Construction Started 480<sup>th</sup> Year After Israel's Departure from Egypt  
(The Tent Tabernacle was First Erected in 2<sup>nd</sup> Year After Israel's Departure from Egypt [Ex. 40:17], and Remained Israel's Principle Place of Worship Until the Temple was Consecrated [See Below].)
- 2) Temple Built in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah (Temple Mount)
  - a) Threshing Floor Purchased by King David from Ornan  
(See 2 Sam. 24; 1 Chron. 21:1 - 22:1 Above)
- 3) Temple Built to the Lord's Specifications
  - a) Plans Given to Solomon by King David (Re: 1 Chron. 28:11-19)
    - (1) The Lord had Given Temple Plans to David
  - b) Complex of Structures Adjacent to Temple Structure

- (1) Priests' Chambers, Temple Treasuries, Storerooms, etc.
- c) Basic Configuration of Temple Structure
- (1) Courtyard for Israelite People to Worship (*Temple's "Inner Court"*)  
(*The Temple's 'Inner Court' was Referred to as the Tabernacle's 'Outer Court' [Ex. 27:9-19]. Traditionally, the 'Outer Court' of the Temple Referred to an Area Outside the Temple Walls Where Gentiles Could Gather.*)
- (a) Encircled by Stone Walls
- Single Entrance Gate in East Wall
- (b) Bronze Altar to Offer Holocausts & Sacrifices
- 10 Bronze Stands with Basins Used in Sacrificial Rituals
- (c) Sea of Glass (Laver) Supported by 12 Bronze Oxen
- Priests Cleanse Themselves Before Entering the Temple Building
- (2) Temple Building of Dressed Stones - Exquisitely Decorated  
(*Referred to as the Tabernacle's 'Meeting Tent' Ex. 26*)
- (a) Single Entrance on East Wall of Building
- Stairs Lead Up to a Porch in Front of Entrance
    - 2 Bronze Columns, One on Each Side of Porch
  - Double Doors into the Nave
- (b) The "Nave" or Outer Room Reserved for Ministering Priests  
(*Referred to as the Tabernacle's 'Inner Court' or 'Holy Place'*)
- Walls of Cedar Paneling & Floors of Fir Planking
    - Overlaid with Gold
  - Tables of Showbread on Sides of Room
  - Lampstands (Menorahs) on Sides of Room
  - Incense Altar at Far End of Room, Before Entrance into the Holy of Holies
  - Double Doors in Front of the Holy of Holies
    - Covered by an Embroider Veil
- (c) Inner Sanctuary ('Holy of Holies' or 'Most Holy Place') - No One Allowed to Enter, Except High Priest on Day of Atonement
- Room Overlaid Entirely of Gold
  - Resting Place for the Ark of the Covenant  
(*Lord's Throne on Mercy Seat Atop the Ark*)
  - Golden Cherubim Stretched Out Above the Ark
- d) Description of the Temple  
(*The Actual Appearance of the Temple and its Complex of Structures is Uncertain. This Study Presents the Descriptions Found in 1 Kings 6 - 7, Supplemented by Excerpts from 2 Chron. 3 -4; Interpretations May Vary.*)
- (1) Structure of the Temple Building 1 Kings 6:2-10
- (a) "The temple which King Solomon built for the LORD was sixty cubits long, twenty wide, and twenty-five high.
- Building's Inside Dimensions. Length 90' (27.4m) x Width 30' (9.1m) x Height 37.5' (11.4m)
- (b) "The porch in front of the temple (*Entrance*) was twenty cubits from side to side, along the width of the nave, and ten cubits deep (*15' or 4.6m*) in front of the temple.

- (c) “Splayed windows with trellises were made for the temple, and adjoining the wall of the temple, which enclosed the nave and the sanctuary (*Holy of Holies*).....”
- (d) Three Story Annex (Gallery) Along Outside of the Building  
(Probably Contained Chambers for Ministering Priests)
- Entrance at its Lowest Story on Right Side of Building with Stairs Leading to 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Floors
  - Support for Building’s Rafters. “.....there were offsets along the outside of the temple so that the beams would not be fastened into the walls of the temple.”
- (e) “The temple was built of stone dressed at the quarry, so that no hammer, axe, or iron tool was to be heard in the temple during its construction.....”
- (f) “When the temple was built to its full height, it was roofed in with rafters and boards of cedar....”
- (g) “He also decorated the building with precious stones.”  
2 Chron. 3:6
- (2) Interior of the Temple Building 1 Kings 6:14-35
- (a) Rooms Within the Building. “When Solomon finished building the temple, its walls were lined from floor to ceiling beams with cedar paneling, and its floor was laid with fir planking.
- Inner Room. “At the rear of the temple a space of twenty cubits was set off by cedar partitions from the floor to the rafters, enclosing the sanctuary, the holy of holies.
  - Outer Room. “The nave, or part of the temple in front of the sanctuary, was forty cubits long (60’ or 18.3m).  
“The cedar in the interior of the temple was carved in the form of gourds and open flowers; all was of cedar, and no stone was to be seen.”
- (b) The Inner Room (Holy of Holies). “In the innermost part of the temple was located the sanctuary to house the ark of the LORD’S covenant, twenty cubits long, twenty wide, and twenty high (Each of its Walls, its Ceiling & Floor was 30’ or 9.1m). Solomon overlaid the interior of the temple with pure gold.
- Altar of Incense in Nave Before Holy of Holies. “He made in front of the sanctuary a cedar altar, overlaid it with gold, and looped it with golden chains.
  - Interior Surfaces. “The entire temple was overlaid with gold so that it was completely covered with it; the whole altar before the sanctuary was also overlaid with gold.  
“ In the sanctuary were two cherubim, each ten cubits high (15’ or 4.6m), made of olive wood. Each wing of a cherub measured five cubits so that the space from wing tip to wing tip of each was ten cubits. The cherubim were identical in size and shape, and each was exactly ten cubits high. The cherubim were placed in the inmost part of the temple, with their wings spread wide, so that one wing of each cherub touched a side wall while the other wing, pointing toward the middle of the room, touched the

corresponding wing of the second cherub. The cherubim, too, were overlaid with gold.”

- *Cherubim Above Ark of the Covenant's Lid (Propitiation)*
- (c) Walls & Floor of Building. “The walls on all sides of both the inner and the outer rooms had carved figures of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers. The floor of both the inner and the outer rooms was overlaid with gold.”
- (d) Entrance from Nave into the Holy of Holies. “At the entrance of the sanctuary, doors of olive wood were made; the doorframes had beveled posts. The two doors were of olive wood, with carved figures of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers. The doors were overlaid with gold, which was also molded to the cherubim and the palm trees.”
- Veil Covering the Doors. “.....veil of violet, purple, crimson and fine linen, and had cherubim embroidered upon it.”  
2 Chron. 3:14
- (e) Entrance from Outside into the Nave. “The same was done at the entrance to the nave, where the doorposts of olive wood were rectangular. The two doors were of fir wood; each door was banded by a metal strap, front and back, and had carved cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers, over which gold was evenly applied.”
- (3) Appurtenances & Furnishings Outside the Temple Building Within its Inner Court (*Bronze Used for Items Outside the Building, Symbolizing Judgment / Suffering*) 1 Kings 7:15-47
- (a) Two Bronze Columns (One on Each Side of Porch). “Two hollow bronze columns were cast, each eighteen cubits high (27’ or 8.2m) and twelve cubits in circumference (18’ or 5.5m); their metal was of four fingers’ thickness. There were also two capitals cast in bronze, to place on top of the columns, each of them five cubits high (7.5’ or 2.3m). Two pieces of network with a chainlike mesh were made to cover the (nodes of the) capitals on top of the columns, one for each capital. Four hundred pomegranates were also cast; two hundred of them in a double row encircled the piece of network on each of the two capitals. The capitals on top of the columns were finished wholly in a lotus pattern above the level of the nodes and their enveloping network. The columns were then erected adjacent to the porch of the temple, one to the right, ..., and the other to the left,.....”
- (b) Sea of Glass (*Laver for Priests to Cleanse Themselves Before Entering Temple Building*). “The sea was then cast; it was made with a circular rim, and measured ten cubits across (15’ or 4.6m), five in height (7.5’ or 2.3m), and thirty in circumference (45’ or 13.7m). Under the brim, gourds encircled it, ten to the cubit all the way around; the gourds were in two rows and were cast in one mold with the sea. This rested on twelve oxen, three facing north, three facing west, three facing south, and three facing east, with their haunches all toward the center, where the sea was set

upon them. It was a handbreadth thick, and its brim resembled that of a cup, being lily-shaped. Its capacity was two thousand measures.”

- *A “Measure” is About 4 Gallons (15 Liters); therefore, the Sea’s Capacity was 8,000 Gallons (30.3 Kiloliters), Large Enough for Priests to be Immersed.*
  - “The sea was placed off to the southeast from the south side of the temple.” (*1 Kings 7:39b*)
- (c) **Bronze Altar of Sacrifice.** “.... a bronze altar twenty cubits long (*30’ or 9.1m*), twenty cubits wide (*30’ or 9.1m*) and ten cubits high (*15’ or 4.6m*).” 2 Chron. 4:1
- **Utensils Used at the Altar.** “.....pots, shovels, and bowls.” (*1 Kings 7:40a*)
- (d) **Ten Bronze Stands.** “Ten stands were also made of bronze, each four cubits long (*6’ or 1.8m*), four wide (*6’ or 1.8m*), and three high (*4.5’ or 1.4m*). When these stands were constructed, panels were set within the framework.....”
- Decorated with Cherubim, Lions, Oxen, Palm Trees & Wreaths
  - Each Stand Mounted on 4 Bronze Wheels with Axels Like a Chariot
  - Top of Each Stand. “...was surmounted by a crown one cubit high within which was a rounded opening to provide a receptacle a cubit and a half in depth.....”
    - Each Receptacle Holds Bronze Basin with a Capacity of 40 Measures (*160 Gallons or 606 Liters*)
    - “Then he made ten basins for washing, .... Here were cleansed the victims (*Sacrificed Animals*) for the holocausts (*e.g. Lev. 1:9*) .....” 2 Chron. 4:6
  - “The stands were placed, five on the south side of the temple and five on the north.” (*Probably Adjacent to the Altar of Sacrifice*)
- (4) **Furnishings & Utensils Used Inside Temple Building (*Gold was Used Inside the Building, Symbolizing Divinity*)** 1 Kings 7:48-50
- (a) “Solomon had all the articles made for the interior of the temple of the LORD:
- **Altar of Incense.** “the golden altar”
  - **Ten Tables of Showbread.** “.... ten tables and had them set in the nave, five to the right and five to the left; and he made a hundred golden bowls.” 2 Chron. 4:8
  - **Ten Lampstands.** “the lampstands of pure gold, five to the right and five to the left before the sanctuary, with their flowers, lamps, and tongs of gold”
  - **Utensils.** “basins, snuffers, bowls, cups, and fire pans of pure gold”
  - **Door Hinges.** “....hinges of gold for the doors of the inner room, or holy of holies, and for the doors of the outer room, the nave.”

- 4) Word of the Lord Comes to Solomon During Construction 1 Kings 6:11-13
  - a) “As to this temple you are building— If you observe my statutes, carry out my ordinances, keep and obey all my commands, I will fulfill toward you the promise I made to your father David. I will dwell in the midst of the Israelites and will not forsake my people Israel.”
- 5) Temple Took 7 Years to Build 1 Kings 6:37-38  
(*Temple Completed About 960 BC*)
- 6) David’s Offerings Brought into Temple’s Treasury 1 Kings 7:51
- b. Consecration of the Temple 1 Kings 8:1 – 9:9; 2 Chron. 5 - 7
  - 1) King Solomon Orders Ark of the Covenant Brought to Newly Constructed Temple 1 Kings 8:1-9; 2 Chron. 5:1-10
    - a) Assembles Elders, Tribal Leaders & Princes at Temple
    - b) Priests Bring the Ark to Temple. “..... Levites took up the ark, and they carried the ark and the meeting tent with all the sacred vessels that were in the tent; it was the levitical Priests who carried them.” (2 Chron. 5:4-5)
      - (1) Ark of the Covenant Brought from Zion
      - (2) Tabernacle’s “Meeting Tent” with its Sacred Vessels (Table of Showbread, Lampstand, Incense Altar, etc.) Brought from Gibeon
    - c) Solomon & People Offer Sacrifices Before the Ark. “....sheep and oxen so numerous that they could not be counted or numbered.” (2 Chron. 5:6)
    - d) Priests Carry the Ark into the Temple’s Holy of Holies
      - (1) “The Priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place beneath the wings of the cherubim in the sanctuary, the holy of holies of the temple. The cherubim had their wings spread out over the place of the ark, sheltering the ark and its poles from above. The poles were long enough so that their ends could be seen from that part of the holy place nearest the sanctuary; however, they could not be seen beyond....”
      - (2) “There was nothing in it but the two tablets which Moses put there on Horeb, the tablets of the covenant which the LORD made with the Israelites at their departure from Egypt.” (2 Chron. 5:7-10)
    - e) Priests Leave Temple Building
      - (1) Levite Musicians with 120 Priests Stand Before Bronze Altar
        - (a) Praise the Lord with Singing & Trumpets
  - 2) A Cloud (“Shekinah Glory” of Lord) Fills the Temple (*The Lord Takes Up Residence Among His People*) 1 Kings 8:10-13; 2 Chron. 5:11 - 6:2
    - a) “When the priests left the holy place, the cloud filled the temple of the LORD so that the priests could no longer minister because of the cloud, since the LORD’S glory had filled the temple of the LORD.” (1 Kings 8:10-11)
      - (1) Priests Unable to Stand & Minister Because of the Lord’s Presence
    - b) King Solomon Welcomes the Lord: “The LORD intends to dwell in the dark cloud; I have truly built you a princely house, a dwelling where you may abide forever.” (1 Kings 8:12-13)
  - 3) King Solomon Declares Fulfillment of the Lord’s Promises to David 1 Kings 8:14-21; 2 Chron. 6:3-11
    - a) “Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who with his own mouth made a promise to my father David and by his hand has brought it to fulfillment.
      - (1) The Lord Chose David to Rule His People Israel

- (2) David Desired to Build a Temple to Honor the Lord
  - (a) "... the LORD said to him, 'In wishing to build a temple to my honor, you do well. It will not be you, however, who will build the temple; but the son who will spring from you, he shall build the temple to my honor.'
  - (3) "And now the LORD has fulfilled the promise that he made: I have succeeded my father David and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD foretold, and I have built this temple to honor the LORD, the God of Israel. I have provided in it a place for the ark in which is the covenant of the LORD, which he made with our fathers when he brought them out of the land of Egypt." (*1 Kings 8:15-21*)
- 4) King Solomon Prays to Lord God of Israel 1 Kings 8:22-53; 2 Chron. 6:12-42
  - a) Solomon Kneels on Platform in Front of Bronze Altar with Israelite Community Behind Him
  - b) Solomon Outstretches His Hands to Heaven & Prays: "LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below; you keep your covenant of kindness with your servants who are faithful to you with their whole heart." (*1 Kings 8:23*)
    - (1) The Lord Fulfilled His Promises to David
      - (a) David's Son Sits on Throne
      - (b) David's Son Built a Temple to Honor the Lord
    - (2) Asks the Lord to Keep & Confirm His Promise to David to Always Have a Descendant on Israel's Throne
      - (a) Conditioned Upon their Obedience
    - (3) Acknowledges Grandeur of the Lord: "Can it indeed be that God dwells among men on earth? If the heavens and the highest heavens cannot contain you, how much less this temple which I have built!" (*1 Kings 8:27*)
    - (4) Offers Petitions to Lord: "Look kindly on the prayer and petition of your servant, O LORD, my God, and listen to the cry of supplication which I, your servant, utter before you this day." (*1 Kings 8:28*)
      - (a) Watch Over & Protect Your Temple. "May your eyes watch night and day over this temple, the place where you have decreed you shall be honored;..." (*1 Kings 8:29*)
      - (b) Listen to the Prayers of Your People. "Listen to the petitions of your servant and of your people Israel which they offer in this place (*i.e. The Temple*). Listen from your heavenly dwelling and grant pardon." (*1 Kings 8:30*)
      - (c) Grant Forgiveness When Your People Sin. "...if then they repent of their sin, and pray, and praise your name in this place, listen in heaven and forgive the sin of your servant and of your people Israel, teaching them the right way to live..." (*1 Kings 8:35-36*)
      - (d) Redeem Your People/Nation from Consequences of Sin. "if then any one (of your entire people Israel) has remorse of conscience and offers some prayer or petition, stretching out his hands toward this temple, listen from your heavenly dwelling place and forgive. You who alone know the hearts of all men, render to each one of them according to his conduct;..."

*(1 Kings 8:38-39)*

- (e) Grant Favor to Foreigners (Gentiles) Who Come to Honor You. “...when he comes and prays toward this temple, listen from your heavenly dwelling. Do all that the foreigner asks of you, that all the peoples of the earth may know your name, may fear you as do your people Israel, and may acknowledge that this temple which I have built is dedicated to your honor.” *(1 Kings 8:42-23)*
  - (f) Answer the Prayers of Your People in Foreign Lands. “... if they pray to you, O LORD, toward the city you have chosen and the temple I have built in your honor, listen in heaven to their prayer and petition, and defend their cause.” *(1 Kings 8:44-45)*
  - (g) Etc.
- c) Solomon Invites the Glory of God to Take His Throne in Holy of Holies
    - (1) “Advance, LORD God, to your resting place, you and the ark of your majesty.
    - (2) “May your Priests, LORD God, be clothed with salvation, may your faithful ones rejoice in good things.” *(2 Chron. 6:41)*
  - d) Solomon Concludes His Prayer: “LORD God, reject not the plea of your anointed, remember the devotion of David, your servant.” *(2 Chron. 6:42)*
- 5) Fire Descends from Heaven Consuming Sacrifices on Altar 2 Chron. 7:1-3
- a) “When Solomon had ended his prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed the holocaust and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the house. *(Lord Takes His Earthly Throne in the Holy of Holies)*
  - b) “But the Priests could not enter the house of the LORD, for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD.
  - c) “All the Israelites looked on while the fire came down and the glory of the LORD was upon the house, and they fell down upon the pavement with their faces to the earth and adored, praising the LORD, ‘for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.’”
- 6) Dedication of the Temple Completed 1 Kings 8:54-66; 2 Chron. 7:4-11
- a) Solomon Stands Up, Faces the People & Blesses Them
    - (1) Solomon’s Perpetual Prayer. “May this prayer I have offered to the LORD, our God, be present to him day and night, that he may uphold the cause of his servant and of his people Israel as each day requires, that all the peoples of the earth may know the LORD is God and there is no other.” *(1 Kings 8:59-60)*
    - (2) Charges the People. “You must be wholly devoted to the LORD, our God, observing his statutes and keeping his commandments, as on this day.” *(1 Kings 8:61)*
  - b) Solomon & the People Offer Sacrifices to the Lord
    - (1) Solomon Offers 22,000 Oxen & 120,000 Sheep as Peace Offerings, Plus Holocausts & Cereal Offerings
      - (a) “Thus the king and all the Israelites dedicated the temple of the LORD.” *(1 Kings 8:63b)*
    - (2) Solomon Consecrates Middle of Court Facing Temple Building. “... he offered there the holocausts, the cereal offerings, and the fat of the peace offerings, because the bronze altar before the LORD was too small to hold these offerings.” *(1 Kings 8:64b)*

- c) Israel Celebrates 7 Day Festival
- d) Solomon Dismisses the People on 8<sup>th</sup> Day
  - (1) People Return to their Homes Rejoicing in the Lord
- 7) The Lord Answers King Solomon's Prayer 1 Kings 9:1-9; 2 Chron. 7:12-22
  - a) "After Solomon finished building the temple of the LORD, .... the LORD appeared to him a second time, as he had appeared to him in Gibeon (*Re: 1 Kings 3:1-15; 2 Chron. 1:1-12*).” (*1 Kings 9:1-2*)
  - b) "The LORD said to him: "I have heard the prayer of petition which you offered in my presence.” (*1 Kings 9:3a*)
    - (1) The Lord Warns His People Against Infidelity & Sin
      - (a) He Will Chastise Them with Drought, Famine, Pestilence, etc.
      - (b) Promise of Restoration. "if my people, upon whom my name has been pronounced, humble themselves and pray, and seek my presence and turn from their evil ways, I will hear them from heaven and pardon their sins and revive their land.” (*2 Chron. 7:14*)
    - (2) The Lord is Attentive to the Prayers of His People. "Now my eyes shall be open and my ears attentive to the prayer of this place.” (*2 Chron. 7:15*)
    - (3) The Lord has Consecrated the Temple. "I have consecrated this temple which you have built; I confer my name upon it forever, and my eyes and my heart shall be there always." (*1 Kings 9:3b*)
    - (4) The Lord Confirms His Promise to Solomon. "As for you, if you live in my presence as your father David lived, sincerely and uprightly, doing just as I have commanded you, keeping my statutes and decrees (*Laws of Moses*), I will establish your throne of sovereignty over Israel forever, as I promised to your father David....” (*1 Kings 9:4-5*)
    - (5) The Lord Warns Solomon & His Successor Kings. "But if you and your descendants ever withdraw from me, fail to keep the commandments and statutes which I set before you, and proceed to venerate and worship strange gods (*Idolatry*), I will cut off Israel from the land I gave them and repudiate the temple I have consecrated to my honor.... and this temple shall become a heap of ruins...." (*1 Kings 9:6-8*)
      - (a) Consequences of Infidelity, Disobedience & Idolatry:
        - Lord's Presence Will Depart from the Temple
          - He Will No Longer Live Among His People
        - Israel Will No Longer be Protected by the Lord
        - Israel Will be Subjugated by Foreign Nations
        - The Temple Will be Destroyed as a Witness Against Them
- c. Worship, Ministerial Services & Maintenance of the Temple
 

(*Worship & Ministries Carried Out in the Temple where the Same as those Prescribed in the Law for the Tabernacle, but in a Much More Grandiose Scale.*)

  - 1) Solomon Worships at the Temple as Prescribed by Law for the Tabernacle
    - a) "In those times Solomon offered holocausts to the LORD upon the altar of the LORD which he had built in front of the porch, as was required day by day according to the command of Moses, and in particular on the sabbaths, at the new moons, and on the fixed festivals three times a year: on the feast of the Unleavened Bread (*Passover Festival*), the feast of Weeks

- (*Pentecost*) and the feast (*Festival*) of Booths.” 2 Chron. 8:12-13
- 2) Solomon Implements Ministerial Services at the Temple, as Organized by King David (*See 1 Chron. 23:1 – 26:28 Above*)
    - a) Priests & Levites. “And according to the ordinance of his father David he appointed the various classes of the Priests for their service, and the Levites according to their functions of praise and ministry alongside the Priests, as the daily duty required.
    - b) Security. “The gatekeepers of the various classes stood guard at each gate, since such was the command of David, the man of God.
    - c) “There was no deviation from the king’s command in any respect relating to the Priests and Levites or the treasuries.” 2 Chron. 8:14-15
  - 3) Solomon Provides for Maintenance of the Temple
    - a) “..... he (*King Solomon*) kept the temple in repair.” 1 Kings 9:25
3. History of the Temple During the Divided Kingdom  
*King Solomon Disobeyed the Law by Marrying Many Pagan Women Who Seduced Him into Idolatry. After Solomon Died (Ca. 931 BC), the Lord Divided His Nation into Two Kingdoms. Israel in the North Consisting of 10 Tribes Ruled by Successive Dynasties, and Judah in the South Consisting of 2 Tribes Ruled by the House of David Whose Capital was Jerusalem with the Temple and its Priesthood.*
- *Israel Immediately Rebelling Against the Lord Instituting Idolatry as its National Religion. Many Levites and Other Faithful People Migrated to Judah. Israel Continued in Idolatry Despite the Many Prophets Sent by the Lord Who Called for Repentance and Return to the Lord. Israel was Eventually Conquered by Assyria in 721 BC and its People Taken into Captivity.*
  - *Judah Continued Temple Worship but Repeatedly Rebelled Against the Lord, Disregarding and Disobeying His Laws in Spite of the Many Prophets Sent by the Lord to Correct Them and the Occasional King Who Initiated Reforms. The Spirit of the Lord Finally Left His Temple. Judah was then Conquered by Babylon Who Destroyed the Temple in 586 BC, Taking the People into Captivity.*
- This Study Presents a Sampling of Events Recorded in Scripture Concerning Solomon’s Temple in Jerusalem throughout this Period.*
- a. The Nation Divides 1 Kings 12; 1 Kings 14:21-31; 2 Chron. 10 - 12
    - 1) Rehoboam Succeeds His Father Solomon as King
      - a) Imposes Harsh Rule on People
    - 2) Ten Tribes Rebel Against Rehoboam & Declare Independence
      - a) Install Jeroboam, from Tribe of Ephraim, as King of Israel
      - b) Jeroboam Establishes Shechem as Capital of Israel
      - c) Jeroboam Institutes Idolatry as State Religion (*Breaking All Religious Ties with Judah, Temple Worship, Levitical Priesthood, etc.*)
        - (1) Jeroboam Reasons. “.... If now (*After Splitting from Judah*) this people go up to offer sacrifices in the temple of the LORD in Jerusalem, the hearts of this people will return to their master, Rehoboam, King of Judah, and they will kill me.” (*1 Kings 12:26-27*)
        - (2) Sets Up 2 Golden Calves, Declaring: “You have been going up to Jerusalem long enough (*To Worship the Lord*). Here is your God, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt.” (*1 Kings 12:28*)
        - (3) Builds Pagan Temples & Altars, Establishing their Own Priesthood &

## Holy Days; Defying the Lord &amp; Disobeying His Laws

- d) Levites & Faithful People Migrate to Judah
    - (1) "... the Levites left their assigned pasture lands and their holdings and came to Judah and Jerusalem, because Jeroboam and his sons repudiated them as Priests of the LORD." (2 Chron. 11:13-14)
    - (2) "After them, all those of the Israelite tribes who firmly desired to seek the LORD, the God of Israel, came to Jerusalem to sacrifice to the LORD, the God of their fathers." (2 Chron. 11:16)
  - 3) Rehoboam Rules as King of Judah (931 - 913 BC)
 

(Tribe of Judah & Part of Benjamin; as well as Levites & the Faithful Who Migrated to Judah.)

    - a) Retains Jerusalem as its Capital with Temple, Priesthood, Holy Days, etc.
  - 4) Rehoboam Permits Idolatry to Exist in Judah
    - a) Egypt Invades Judah & Plunders Temple Treasuries
 

(Lord's Chastisement for Infidelity & Religious Compromise)

      - (1) "...Shishak, king of Egypt, attacked Jerusalem. He took everything, including the treasures of the temple of the LORD and those of the royal palace..." (1 Kings 14:25-26)
      - (Apparently the Lord Did Not Allow the Egyptians to Enter His Temple & Take the Sacred Vessels/Furnishings, Since they are Not Specifically Mentioned Here and Appear Later in Scripture.)
    - (2) King Rehoboam humbles himself before the Lord
- b. Queen Athaliah, King Joash & the Temple
- 1) Background
    - a) King Jehoram (Joram) of Judah                      2 Kings 8:16-24; 2 Chron. 21
      - (1) Murders His Brothers - Royal Princes from House of David
      - (2) Marries Athaliah – Daughter of Israel's Evil King Ahab & Jezebel
      - (3) Promotes Idolatry throughout Judah
    - b) King Ahaziah                      2 Kings 8:25-29; 2 Kings 9:27-29; 2 Chron. 22:1-9
      - (1) Succeeds His Father Jehoram to Throne
      - (2) Assassinated in 1<sup>st</sup> Year of His Reign
  - 2) Queen Athaliah (841-835 BC)                      2 Kings 11; 2 Chron. 22:10 – 23:21
    - a) Athaliah (Ahaziah's Mother) Assumes the Throne of Judah
    - b) Attempts to Annihilate the Royal House of David
    - c) Joash (Ahaziah's Infant Son) Hidden in the Temple (*Priests' Chambers*)
      - (1) "But Jehosheba, a royal princess, secretly took Ahaziah's son Joash from among the king's sons who were about to be slain, and put him and his nurse in a bedroom. In this way Jehosheba,.... sister of Ahaziah, and wife of Jehoiada the Priest, hid the child from Athaliah's sight, so that she did not put him to death.
      - (2) "For six years he remained hidden with them in the house of God, while Athaliah ruled over the land." (2 Chron. 22:11-12)
  - d) Priest Jehoiada Leads a Conspiracy Against Athaliah
    - (1) Gathers Levites, Captains & Family Heads at the Temple
      - (a) Reveals Joash to Them. "Here is the king's son who must reign, as the LORD promised concerning the sons of David." (2 Chron. 23:3b)
      - (b) Obtains Their Sworn Commitment to Protect Joash
      - (c) Organizes the Overthrow of Athaliah

- (2) Joash Installed as King of Judah at the Temple
  - (a) Guards Surround the Altar & Temple Building to Protect Joash
  - (b) “Then they brought out the king’s son, set the crown and the insignia upon him, and made him king. Jehoiada and his sons anointed him, and they cried, ‘Long live the king!’”  
(2 Chron. 23:11)
- (3) Athaliah Hears the Commotion & Goes to the Temple
  - (a) “She looked, and there was the king standing beside his pillar at the entrance (*Of Temple Building*), the officers and the trumpeters around him, and all the people of the land rejoicing and blowing trumpets, while the (*Levite*) singers with their musical instruments were leading the acclaim.....”  
(2 Chron. 23:13)
  - (b) Athaliah Removed from Temple Precincts & Executed
    - As Jehoiada Instructed. “....you must not put her to death in the LORD’S temple.” (2 Chron. 23:14)  
(*Human Blood Must Not be Shed in the House of God*)
- e) Priest Jehoiada Restores Judah Back to God
  - (1) “Then Jehoiada made a covenant between himself and all the people and the king, that they should be the LORD’S people.”  
(2 Chron. 23:16)
    - (a) People Destroy Pagan Temples, Altars & Priests in Judah
  - (2) “Then Jehoiada gave the charge of the LORD’S temple into the hands of the levitical Priests, to whom David had assigned turns in the temple for offering the holocausts of the LORD, as is written in the law of Moses....” (2 Chron. 23:18)
  - (3) Jehoiada Secures the Temple
  - (4) King Joash Led Out of the Temple to His Palace
    - (a) Seated Upon the Royal Throne of Judah
- 3) King Joash (Jehoash) (835-796 BC) 2 Kings 12; 2 Chron. 24
  - a) Joash Enthroned at 7 Years of Age
    - (1) Young King Rules with Priest Jehoiada as Regent
  - b) Restoration of the Temple
    - (1) Temple was Damaged & its Resources Misappropriated by Athaliah
    - (2) King Joash Orders Restoration of Temple
      - (a) Commands its Funding
        - Orders Priests & Levites: “Go out to all the cities of Judah and collect money from all Israel that you may repair the house of your God....” (2 Chron. 24:5)  
- Levites Delay in Carrying Out His Order
        - Confronts Jehoiada: “Why have you not required the Levites to bring in from Judah and Jerusalem the tax levied by Moses, the servant of the LORD, and by the assembly of Israel, for the tent of the testimony?” (2 Chron. 24:6)  
(*Applying Tax Imposed by Law. See Ex. 30:11-16 Above*)
      - (b) Levites Put Collection Box Outside the Temple Gate for Tax
        - Princes & People Keep Filling the Box with Money
      - (c) “Then the king and Jehoiada gave it (*Collected Monies*) to the workmen in charge of the labor on the LORD’S temple, who

- hired masons and carpenters to restore the temple, and also iron- and bronze-smiths to repair it.” (2 Chron. 24:12)
- (3) Workmen Restore the Temple. “The workmen labored, and the task of restoration progressed under their hands. They restored the house of God according to its original form, and reinforced it.” (2 Chron. 24:13)
  - (4) Utensils Replaced. “After they had finished, they brought the rest of the money to the king and to Jehoiada, who had it made into utensils for the LORD’S temple, utensils for the service and the holocausts, and basins and other gold and silver utensils....” (2 Chron. 24:14a)
  - (5) Temple Worship Restored. “.... They offered holocausts in the LORD’S temple continually throughout the lifetime of Jehoiada.” (2 Chron. 24:14b)
- c) Later Apostasy of King Joash
- (1) “After the death of Jehoiada, the princes of Judah came and paid homage to the king, and the king then listened to them. They forsook the temple of the LORD, the God of their fathers, and began to serve the sacred poles and the idols.....” (2 Chron. 24:17-18)
  - (2) Failed to Heed Warnings of the Lord’s Prophets
    - (a) King Orders Zechariah (Son of Priest Jehoiada) Killed in Temple Court for Prophesying Against Them
- d) The Lord’s Chastisement of Judah
- (1) Aram (Syria) Invades Judah
    - (a) Joash Pays Tribute to Aram
      - Including Gold from Temple Treasuries
    - (2) Servants Assassinate King Joash in His Sick Bed
- c. Kings Ahaz & Hezekiah and the Temple
- 1) Ahaz King of Judah (735-715 BC) 2 Kings 16; 2 Chron. 28
    - a) Participates in Idolatrous Worship
      - (1) Immolates Sons in the Fire  
(*Sacrificing Children is an Abomination to the Lord*)
    - b) Israel Allies with Aram (Syria) & Invades Judah
      - (1) Defeating Judah’s Troops & Taking Many Captives
      - (2) Ahaz Requests Aid from Assyria
      - (3) Assyria Invades Aram & Israel, Rescuing Judah
      - (4) Ahaz Robs the Temple Treasuries to Pay Assyria
  - c) Ahaz Desecrates & Profanes the Temple of the Lord
    - (1) Visits King of Assyria in Damascus (Aram/Syria)
      - (a) Sacrifices to Pagan Gods of Damascus
        - Believing they are Superior to the Lord, Since their Armies Defeated Judah (*Failing to Realize that the Lord Withdrew His Protection from Judah Because they Abandoned Him & Served Other Gods*)
      - (b) Sends a Model of their Pagan Altar Back to Jerusalem
        - Orders its Construction in the Temple Court
    - (2) Pagan Altar Built & Installed in Place of Temple’s Bronze Altar
      - (a) Bronze Altar Moved to its Northern Side
        - Used by Ahaz for Personal Consultations  
(*Probably Divination - Forbidden by Law*)

- (b) Ahaz Offers Sacrifices on Pagan Altar
  - Orders that All Sacrifices be Offered on it
- (3) Detaches Basins from 10 Bronze Stands
- (4) Removes Sea of Glass (Laver) with its Base
- (5) Destroys Sacred Utensils Used to Worship the Lord
- (6) Builds a Private Entrance into Temple for Himself
- d) Assyria Later Conquers Israel & Destroys its Capital Samaria (722 BC)
 

(*Re: 2 Kings 17:6-41*)

  - (1) Disperses Israelites throughout Assyria Territories
- 2) Hezekiah King of Judah (715-686 BC) 2 Kings 18 – 20; 2 Chron. 29 – 32
  - a) Hezekiah Succeeds His Father Ahaz as King
    - (1) King Hezekiah. "... pleased the LORD just as his forefather David had done." (*2 Chron. 29:2*)
  - b) Hezekiah Restores the Temple. "It was he who, in the first month of the first year of his reign, opened the doors of the LORD'S house and repaired them." (*2 Chron. 29:3*)
    - (1) Gathers Priests & Levites at the Temple Entrance
      - (a) Commands Them to Sanctify Themselves & the Temple. "Listen to me, you Levites! Sanctify yourselves now and sanctify the house of the LORD, the God of your fathers, and clean out the filth from the sanctuary." (*2 Chron. 29:6*)
      - (b) Reminds Them of Their Fathers' Infidelity
        - "Our fathers acted faithlessly and did evil in the eyes of the LORD, our God. They abandoned him, turned away their faces from the LORD'S dwelling (*Temple*), and turned their backs on him.
        - "They also closed the doors of the vestibule, extinguished the lamps, and refused to burn incense and offer holocausts in the sanctuary to the honor of the God of Israel.
        - "Therefore the anger of the LORD has come upon Judah and Jerusalem; he has made them an object of terror..." (*2 Chron. 29:6-8*)
      - (c) Repents & Charges Them to Faithfully Serve the Lord
        - "Now, I intend to make a covenant with the LORD, the God of Israel, that his burning anger may withdraw from us.
        - "My sons, be not negligent any longer, for it is you whom the LORD has chosen to stand before him, to minister to him, to be his ministers and to offer incense." (*2 Chron. 29:10-11*)
    - (2) Levites & Priests Sanctify Themselves. "They gathered their brethren together and sanctified themselves; then they came as the king had ordered, to cleanse the LORD'S house in keeping with his words." (*2 Chron. 29:15*)
    - (3) Priests Cleanse the Temple. "The Priests entered the interior of the LORD'S house to cleanse it; and whatever they found in the LORD'S temple that was unclean they brought out to the court of the LORD'S house, where the Levites took it from them and carried it out to the Kidron Valley (*A Garbage Dump*)." (*2 Chron. 29:16*)
    - (4) Priests Consecrate the Temple. "They began the work of

- consecration on the first day of the first month, and on the eighth day of the month they arrived at the vestibule of the LORD; they consecrated the LORD'S house during eight days, and on the sixteenth day of the first month, they had finished.” (2 Chron. 29:17)
- (5) Priests Report Back to Hezekiah: “We have cleansed the entire house of the LORD, the altar of holocausts with all its utensils, and the table for the showbread with all its utensils. All the articles which King Ahaz during his reign had thrown away because of his apostasy, we have restored and consecrated, and they are now before the LORD'S altar.” (2 Chron. 29:18-19)
- (6) Hezekiah Rededicates the Temple to the Lord
- (a) Gathers Princes of Judah at the Temple
  - (b) Sacrifices Sin Offerings as Prescribed by Law. “Seven bulls, seven rams, seven lambs and seven he-goats were brought for a sin offering for the kingdom, for the sanctuary, and for Judah, and he ordered the sons of Aaron, the Priests, to offer them on the altar of the LORD.” (2 Chron. 29:21)
  - (c) Stations Levite Musicians in the Temple. “...with cymbals, harps and lyres according to the prescriptions of David..., and the Priests with the trumpets.” (2 Chron. 29:25-26)
  - (d) Offers Holocausts to Atone for Sins. “Then Hezekiah ordered the holocaust to be sacrificed on the altar, and in the same instant that the holocaust began, they also began the song of the LORD, to the accompaniment of the trumpets and the instruments of David, King of Israel.” (2 Chron. 29:27)
    - The Community Prostrates Themselves Before the Lord
  - (e) Invites the Community to Present Offerings to the Lord. “You have undertaken a work for the LORD. Approach, and bring forward the sacrifices and thank offerings for the house of the LORD.” (2 Chron. 29:31)
    - Sacrifices, Offerings & Gifts Brought to the Lord
- (7) “Thus the service of the house of the LORD was reestablished. Hezekiah and all the people rejoiced over what God had reestablished for the people, and at how suddenly this had been done.” (2 Chron. 29:35b-36)
- c) Hezekiah Reinstates Sacred/Religious Laws 2 Chron. 30 & 31
- (1) Hezekiah Orders Passover Celebrated at the Temple (*Passover is the First Festival Prescribed in the Law.*)
    - (a) Hezekiah Invites All Judah, and Israelites Remaining in their Lands. “.....come to the house of the LORD in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover in honor of the LORD, the God of Israel.” (2 Chron. 30:1)
 

(*Attempting to Reunite God's Chosen People with their Lord*)
    - (b) Hezekiah Appeals to Israelites: “Israelites, return to the LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, that he may return to you, the remnant left from the hands of the Assyrian kings.....” (2 Chron. 30:6-9)
      - Many Israelites Scoff at the Invitation
      - Some Israelites Travel to Jerusalem to Attend Passover

- (c) Judeans Attend Passover Celebration
  - Take Down & Remove All Pagan Altars in Jerusalem
- (d) Passover Celebrated at the Temple
  - Celebrated in 2<sup>nd</sup> Month, Instead of 1<sup>st</sup> Month as Prescribed by Law, Since the Temple was Not Consecrated at that Time
  - Celebration Continues 7 Days Beyond the Required Time
- (2) Hezekiah Institutes Reforms to Comply with the Law
  - (a) Judah & Parts of Israel are Purged from Idolatry
  - (b) Hezekiah Reestablishes Classes of Priests & Levites
  - (c) Hezekiah Allots Some of His Wealth for Scheduled Holocausts
  - (d) Hezekiah Commands the People to Support Priests & Levites
  - (e) People Generously Give Tithes & Offerings
    - To Support Priests & Levites
    - For the Ministry & Maintenance of Temple
    - To Build Up Temple Treasuries
  - (f) Etc.
- d) Lord Delivers Jerusalem from Destruction  
2 Kings 18:13 - 19:37; 2 Chron. 32:1-23; Isa. 36 & 37  
*(The Lord Protects His Faithful King, Nation & People)*
  - (1) King of Assyria Later Invades Judah
    - (a) Captures Judah's Fortified Cities
    - (b) Hezekiah Pays Tribute to King of Assyria
      - Taken from the Temple & Palace Treasuries
    - (c) Hezekiah Fortifies Jerusalem & Prepares for Battle
  - (2) Assyrians Camp Outside Jerusalem
    - (a) Give Hezekiah an Ultimatum to Surrender
      - Blaspheming the Lord God of Judah
        - Equating the Lord with Pagan Gods
    - (b) Hezekiah Humbles Himself & Goes to the Temple
      - Pleads with the Lord
      - Asks Advice from Isaiah, the Lord's Anointed Prophet
        - Isaiah Tells Him to Trust in the Lord
    - (c) Assyrian King Hears a False Report, as Prophesied by Isaiah
      - Withdraws to Pursue it
      - Sends a Letter to Hezekiah with Surrender Terms
    - (d) Hezekiah Takes the Letter to the Temple
      - Displays the Letter Before the Lord's Presence
      - Prays for Lord's Intervention
      - Isaiah Sends a Message to Hezekiah Confirming that the Lord Heard His Pray & Will Answer it
    - (e) The Lord's Angel Kills 185,000 Assyrian Soldiers that Night
      - Assyrian Army Retreats Home in Disgrace
      - King of Assyria Assassinated in His Pagan Temple
    - (f) The Lord Prospers Hezekiah; Replenishing the Temple & Palace Treasuries *(Re: 2 Chron. 32:27-29)*
- e) Lord Heals Hezekiah from Terminal Illness  
2 Kings 20:1-11; 2 Chron. 32:24-26; Isa. 38  
*(The Lord Heals His Faithful Servant)*

- (1) Hezekiah Contracts a Mortal Disease
    - (a) Hezekiah Prays & Weeps Before the Lord
  - (2) Lord Answers Hezekiah's Prayer
    - (a) Isaiah Delivers Word of Lord to King: "Thus says the LORD, the God of your father David: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears. I will heal you: in three days you shall go up to the LORD'S temple; I will add fifteen years to your life." (*Isa. 38:5*)
    - (b) Isaiah Applies the Remedy Prescribed by the Lord
  - (3) Hezekiah Healed & His Life Extended 15 Years
- d. King Josiah (640-609 BC) & the Temple 2 Kings 22:1 – 23:30, 2 Chron. 34 - 35
- 1) Background. After Hezekiah's Death, Judah Falls into Apostasy During the Reigns of His Son Manasseh (696-642 BC) & Grandson Amon (642-640 BC) 2 Kings 21; 2 Chron. 33
    - a) They Participate in Idolatrous Worship & Occult Practices
      - (1) Desecrating & Profaning Temple of the Lord
  - 2) King Josiah Succeeds His Father Amon as King of Judah
    - a) Josiah Enthroned at 8 Years of Age
      - (1) "He pleased the LORD, following the path of his ancestor David. In the eighth year of his reign, while he was still a youth, he began to seek after the God of his forefather David...." (*2 Chron. 34:2-3*)
    - b) Josiah Destroys Idolatry & Occult from Judah
      - (1) "...in his twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the sacred poles and the carved and molten images." (*2 Chron. 34:3*)
    - c) Josiah Cleanses & Restores the Temple
      - (1) "In the eighteenth year of his reign,...."
        - (a) He Appoints Royal Scribe Shaphan. "...to cleanse the temple.... to restore the house of the LORD, his God." (*2 Chron. 34:8*)
      - (2) Levites Collect Monies for Temple Restoration
        - (a) Money Given to High Priest Hilkiah
          - Used for Repairs & Restoration of the Temple
  - d) Book of the Law ("Books of Moses" / "Torah") Found in Temple
    - (1) Priest Hilkiah Finds the Book While Restoring the Temple
      - (a) Gives the Book to Shaphan: "I have found the book of the law in the temple of the LORD." (*2 Kings 22:8*)
    - (2) King Josiah & Book of the Law
      - (a) Shaphan Reads the Book to King Josiah
        - With its Blessing for Obedience & Curses for Disobedience (*Re: Lev. 26 & Deut. 28*)
      - (b) King Josiah Repents for All of Judah
      - (c) King Commands Priest Hilkiah: "Go, consult the LORD for me, for the people, for all Judah, about the stipulations of this book that has been found, for the anger of the LORD has been set furiously ablaze against us, because our fathers did not obey the stipulations of this book, nor fulfill our written obligations." (*2 Kings 22:13*)
    - (3) High Priest Hilkiah Consults God's Prophetess Huldah
      - (a) Huldah Proclaims Word of the Lord

- Prophecies Destruction of Judah for Persistent Infidelity & Disobedience to Lord & His Laws, as Contained in Book
  - Lord Shows Mercy to Josiah for His Humility & Obedience
    - Destruction Will Befall Judah After His Death
- (b) Word of the Lord Given to King Josiah
- e) King Josiah Reinstates the Laws of Moses in Judah
- (1) Calls an Assembly at the Temple & Reads the Torah
    - (a) “He (*Josiah*) went up to the house of the LORD with all the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Priests, the Levites, and all the people, great and small; and he had read aloud to them the entire text of the book of the covenant that had been found in the house of the LORD.” (*2 Chron. 34:30*)
  - (2) Makes a Covenant with the Lord to Keep His Commandments & Observe the Laws in the Torah
    - (a) Commits All Judah to His Covenant
    - (b) Purges All Idolatry from Judah
  - (3) Reinstates Temple Worship
    - (a) Celebrates Passover at the Temple. “Josiah celebrated in Jerusalem a Passover to honor the LORD; the Passover sacrifice was slaughtered on the fourteenth day of the first month.”
    - (b) Appoints Priests to Minister in the Temple. “He reappointed the Priests to their duties and encouraged them in the service of the LORD’S house.”
    - (c) Commands Levites to Return Ark of the Covenant to its Place in the Temple. “Put the holy ark in the house built by Solomon, son of David, King of Israel. It shall no longer be a burden on your shoulders. Serve now the LORD, your God, and his people Israel.” (*The Ark Must Have Been Removed from the Temple When it was Being Desecrated*)
    - (d) Reestablishes Classes of Priests & Levites. “Prepare yourselves in your ancestral houses and your classes according to the prescriptions of King David of Israel and his son Solomon.” (*2 Chron. 35:1-4*)
    - (e) Offers Abundant Sacrifices & Holocausts to the Lord
4. Destruction of the Temple  
*Judah Returns to Idolatry After King Josiah Dies, Resulting in the Destruction of Jerusalem with its Temple. The Lord Uses Babylon to Execute His Judgment.*
- a. Babylon Initially Invades Judah During the Reign of King Josiah’s Son Jehoiakim (aka Eliakim) (609-597 BC) 2 Kings 23:36 – 24:7; 2 Chron. 36:5-8
    - 1) First Group of Judeans Deported to Babylon (606 BC)
    - 2) Judah Becomes a Vassal State of Babylon
    - 3) Jehoiakim Rebels Against Babylon
      - a) Babylon Puts Down Rebellion & Arrests Jehoiakim
      - b) Babylon Despoils the Temple. “Nebuchadnezzar also carried away to Babylon some of the vessels of the house of the LORD and put them in his palace in Babylon.” (*2 Chron. 36:7*)
  - b. Babylon Attacks Jerusalem & Occupies Judah During the Reign of Jehoiakim’s Son Jehoiachin (aka Jehoiachin / Jeconiah) (597 BC)

2 Kings 24:8-17, 2 Chron. 36:9-10

- 1) Plunders Temple Treasuries
  - a) King of Babylon. "...carried off all the treasures of the temple of the LORD and those of the palace, and broke up all the gold utensils that Solomon, King of Israel, had provided in the temple of the LORD, as the LORD had foretold." (2 Kings 24:13)
- 2) Captures & Deports King Jehoiakin, His Family, Officials, Army, Craftsmen & 10,000 Men to Babylon
- 3) Installs Zedekiah (Jehoiakin's Uncle) as King of Judah

c. Ezekiel's Vision of the Glory of God Leaving the Temple

*Ezekiel, from the Priestly House of Aaron, was One of those Deported to Babylon. The Lord Revealed His Glory to Ezekiel and Called Him to be His Prophet in Babylon (Ezek. 1 - 3). The Lord then Revealed the Corruption, Rebellion & Idolatry of Judah's Officials Remaining in Jerusalem, and Prophecies Against Them (Ezek. 4 - 9). "Do you see the great abominations that the house of Israel is practicing here, so that I must depart from my sanctuary?" (Ezek. 8:6b) Then the Lord Gives Ezekiel a Vision of His Glory Leaving the Temple and Returning to Heaven (Ezek. 10). (The Temple Would No Longer be Protected by His Presence, Allowing Pagans to Enter and Destroy it.)*

- 1) Ezekiel's Vision of the Glory of the Lord Ezek. 10
  - a) A Glorified Man (*Son of God*) Appears to Ezekiel
    - (1) The Man Dressed in Linen (*Representing Purity*)
      - (a) Fire from Waist Down
      - (b) Gleamed like Electrum from Waist Up
    - (2) The Man Seizes Ezekiel by the Hair  
(*Transports Him in the Spirit to Temple in Jerusalem*)
  - b) Ezekiel See a Heavenly Chariot / Coach
    - (1) Four Living Cherubim (*Attendants of God's Heavenly Throne*) Stationed to the Right of the Temple
    - (2) Four Intertwined Wheels Beside Cherubim, Named "Wheelwork"
    - (3) Sapphire Throne in the Firmament Above Cherubim
    - (4) A Voice Commands the Man: "Go within the wheelwork under the cherubim; fill both your hands with burning coals (*Embers of Purification*) from among the cherubim, then scatter them over the city (*Jerusalem*)."  
(Ezek. 10:2a)
      - (a) The Man Obeys
  - c) Ezekiel Sees the Glory of God Departing the Temple  
(The Shekinah Glory of God Departs the Holy of Holies & Escorted Back to Heaven)
    - (1) The Lord's Glory Leaves the Mercy Seat Atop Ark of the Covenant & Waits at the Entrance of the Holy of Holies. "The glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherubim (*On Ark of the Covenant*), upon which it had been, to the threshold of the temple." (Ezek. 10:2b)
    - (2) The Man Enters the Temple (*Purifying the Way with Coals*). "As the man entered, the cloud filled the inner court," (Ezek. 10:3)
    - (3) The Glory Passes through the Temple Building. "and the glory of the LORD rose from over the cherubim to the threshold of the temple; the temple was filled with the cloud, and all the court was bright with

- the glory of the LORD.” (*Ezek. 10:4*)
- (4) The Glory Enters the Outer Courtyard. “The noise of the wings of the cherubim could be heard as far as the outer court; it was like the voice of God the Almighty when he speaks.” (*Ezek. 10:5*)
  - (5) The Man Escorts the Glory to Wheelwork.
    - (a) “When he had commanded the man dressed in linen to take fire from within the wheelwork, among the cherubim, the man entered and stood by one of the wheels.”
    - (b) “Thereupon its cherub stretched out his hand toward the fire that was among the cherubim. He took up some of it and put it in the hands of the one dressed in linen, who took it and came out.” (*Ezek. 10:6-7*) (*Like a Royal Coachman, the Man Holds the Coach’s Door Open for His King.*)
  - (6) The Glory Leaves the Temple & Ascends to Heaven. “Then the glory of the LORD left the threshold of the temple and rested upon the cherubim. These lifted their wings, and I saw them rise from the earth, the wheels rising along with them. (*Accompanied by the Cherubim*)” (*Ezek. 10:18-19*)
- d. Babylon’s Final Conquest of Judah, Ending the Reign of King Zedekiah (aka Mattaniah) (597-586 BC) & the Kingdom of Judah  
2 Kings 24:18 – 25:26, 2 Chron. 36:11-21, Jer. 39:1-10, Jer. 52:1-30
- 1) Zedekiah Rebels Against Babylonian Authority (*Babylon was Used by God to Chastise His People, Giving Them a Last Chance to Repent.*)
    - a) The People Reject the Lord’s Correction. “Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy.” (*2 Chron. 36:15-16*)
  - 2) Babylonians Lay Siege to Jerusalem
    - a) Babylonian Army Enters Jerusalem
    - b) Zedekiah & His Army Flee the City
    - c) Babylonians Pursue & Capture Zedekiah
      - (1) Bring Zedekiah Before their King, Who:
        - (a) Kills His Sons Before His Eyes
        - (b) Blinds Him, Takes Him to Babylon & Imprisons Him
  - 3) Babylon Destroys Jerusalem & the Temple  
*The Temple was Destroyed on the 9<sup>th</sup> Day of Av 586 BC.*
    - a) Temple & City Destroyed. “.... Nebuzaradan, captain of the bodyguard, came to Jerusalem as the representative of the king of Babylon (*Nebuchadnezzar*). He burned the house of the LORD, the palace of the king, and all the houses of Jerusalem; every large building was destroyed by fire. Then the Chaldean troops who were with the captain of the guard tore down the walls that surrounded Jerusalem.” (*2 Kings 25:8-10*)
    - b) Temple Plundered. The bronze pillars that belonged to the house of the LORD, and the wheeled carts and the bronze sea in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans broke into pieces; they carried away the bronze to Babylon. They took also the pots, the shovels, the snuffers, the bowls, the

pans and all the bronze vessels used for service. The fire-holders and the bowls which were of gold or silver the captain of the guard also carried off.” (2 Kings 25:13-15)

*(The Ark of the Covenant is Not Mentioned as Part of the Booty Taken by Babylon. Its Whereabouts is Unknown. Some Believe that the Prophet Jeremiah Hid the Ark & Other Sacred Articles During Babylon’s 18 Month Siege of Jerusalem.)*

- c) Chief Priests & Temple Guards Executed
- d) People Taken Captive & Deported to Babylon
  - (1) Poor Left in Judah to Serve as Vinedressers & Farmers
- 4) Jerusalem & Territories of Judah are Governed by Babylon
  - a) First Governor Assassinated by Judeans
  - b) Many Refugees Flee to Egypt

Comment.

*Israel/Judah were conquered and their people taken into Assyrian/Babylonian Captivity because of their persistent and unrepentant idolatry. Babylon (which Includes Assyria) is the beginning, center and source of the World’s Idolatrous Religions (e.g. Gen. 11:1-9; Isa. 13:1 – 14:23; Dan. 2; Dan. 3:1-97; Rev. 17).*

*There is No Scriptural Reference that the Jews ever practiced idolatry after returning to the Promise Land from their Babylonian Captivity.*

5. Postscript to the Destruction of the Temple

a. Jeremiah & the Ark of the Covenant

1) Judas Maccabeus Cites an Archival Document in His Letter (164 BC)

*(Re: 2 Macc. 1:10b – 2:18)*

a) Jeremiah Gave Sacred Fire & the Law to Jews Being Deported to Babylon  
2 Macc. 2:1-3

- (1) Admonishing Them to Remain Faithful to the Lord in Exile
- (2) Anticipating Resumption of Tabernacle/Temple Worship

b) Jeremiah Hid the Ark of the Covenant & Other Sacred Articles Before  
Destruction of the Temple 2 Macc. 2:4-8

- (1) “The same document also tells how the prophet, following a divine revelation, ordered that the tent and the ark should accompany him and how he went off to the mountain which Moses climbed to see God’s inheritance.
- (2) “When Jeremiah arrived there, he found a room in a cave in which he put the (Tabernacle) tent, the ark (Of the Covenant), and the altar of incense; then he blocked up the entrance. Some of those who followed him came up intending to mark the path, but they could not find it.
- (3) “When Jeremiah heard of this, he reproved them: ‘The place is to remain unknown until God gathers his people together again and shows them mercy. Then the Lord will disclose these things, and the glory of the Lord will be seen in the cloud, just as it appeared in the time of Moses and when Solomon prayed that the Place might be gloriously sanctified.”

b. Babylonian King Profanes the Temple’s Sacred Vessels Dan. 5

1) King Belshazzar Gave Great Feast

- a) Gives Sacred Vessels from the Temple to His Guests to Use

- (1) “Under the influence of the wine, he ordered the gold and silver vessels which Nebuchadnezzar, his father, had taken from the temple in Jerusalem, to be brought in so that the king, his lords, his wives and his entertainers might drink from them.
- (2) “When the gold and silver vessels taken from the house of God in Jerusalem had been brought in, and while the king, his lords, his wives and his entertainers were drinking wine from them, they praised their gods of gold and silver, bronze and iron, wood and stone.” (*Dan. 5:2-4*) (*Sacred Vessels Being Used for Common Purpose & Praising Idolatrous Gods*)
- 2) Fingers of a Human Hand Appear Writing on Palace Wall
  - a) “Suddenly, opposite the lampstand, the fingers of a human hand appeared, writing on the plaster of the wall in the king’s palace.....” (*Dan. 5:5*)
  - b) King Sees the Hand & Becomes Terrified
  - c) King Calls Enchanters & Astrologers to Read & Interpret the Writing
    - (1) They were Unable to Read Writing or Interpret its Meaning
- 3) Queen Recommends Jewish Exile Daniel
  - a) King Asks Daniel to Read & Interpret Writing
- 4) Daniel Translates the Writing on the Wall
  - a) Reminds the King:
    - (1) “The Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar a great kingdom and glorious majesty.” (*Dan. 5:18*)
    - (2) God Humbled His Father When He Became Proud (*Re: Dan. 4*)
      - (a) “...until he learned that the Most High God rules over the kingdom of men and appoints over it whom he will.” (*Dan. 5:21*)
  - b) Rebukes the King for His Pride & Rebellion Against the Lord of Heaven
    - (1) “.....You had the vessels of his temple brought before you, so that you and your nobles, your wives and your entertainers, might drink wine from them; and you praised the gods of silver and gold, bronze and iron, wood and stone, that neither see nor hear nor have intelligence.
    - (2) “But the God in whose hand is your life breath and the whole course of your life, you did not glorify.
    - (3) “By him were the wrist and hand sent, and the writing set down.” (*Dan. 5:23-24*)
  - c) “This is the writing that was inscribed: MENE, TEKEL, and PERES. These words mean:
    - (1) “MENE, God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it;
    - (2) “TEKEL, you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting;
    - (3) “PERES, your kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and Persians.” (*Dan. 5:25-28*)
- 5) Babylon Invaded & King Belshazzar Slain that Same Night  
(*Babylon Overthrown by Medo-Persians 539 BC. The Jewish Exiles, then the Entire Promise Land Came Under Persian Domination.*)

## E. The Second Temple

### 1. The Temple Rebuilt in Jerusalem

*The Temple in Jerusalem was Rebuilt by Jews Returning from Exile. The Promise Land was Under Persian Rule at that Time.*

- a. Persian King Cyrus Issues a Decree (539 BC): 2 Chron. 36:22-23; Ezra 1
  - 1) Rebuild Lord's Temple in Jerusalem. "...the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: 'All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah.'" (*Ezra 1:1-2*)
    - a) Cyrus Refers to a Prophecy Naming Him as God's Liberator of Israel, Written Years before His Birth. Isa. 44:24 – 45:3
      - (1) "I (*Lord God of Israel*) say of Cyrus: My shepherd, who fulfills my every wish; He shall say of Jerusalem, 'Let her be rebuilt,' and of the temple, 'Let its foundations be laid.'" (*Isa. 44:28*)
    - 2) Release Jews to Return to Jerusalem to Rebuild their Temple
    - 3) Provide Materials for the Temple
      - a) Orders His Subjects to Contribute. "... silver, gold, goods, and cattle, together with free-will offerings for the house of God in Jerusalem." (*Ezra. 1:4*)
      - b) Returns the Sacred Vessels/Utensils Plundered by Babylon to the Jews
      - c) Entrusts the Materials to Sheshbazzar, Prince of Judah (*Sheshbazzar was the Babylonian Name Given to Zerubbabel in Exile. Zerubbabel is a Descendant of David, Solomon & Kings of Judah.*)
        - (1) "... sacks of goldware, thirty; sacks of silverware, one thousand and twenty-nine; golden bowls, thirty; silver bowls, four hundred and ten; other ware, one thousand pieces." (*Ezra 1:9-10*)
- b. Sheshbazzar (*Zerubbabel*) Leads Jews Back to Jerusalem Ezra 2
  - 1) 42,360 Jews Return to Jerusalem, with:
    - a) 7,337 Slaves
    - b) 200 Singers
    - c) Horses, Camels & Pack Animals Laden with Goods
  - 2) Family Heads Contribute to Temple Treasury. "When they arrived at (*Ruins of*) the house of the LORD in Jerusalem, some of the family heads made free-will offerings for the house of God, to rebuild it in its place." (*Ezra 2:68*)
  - 3) Priests, Levites & Some People Settle in Jerusalem
    - a) Others Settle in their Hometowns
- c. Jews Rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem (536 – 516 BC) Ezra 3 - 6
  - 1) Build Altar of Sacrifice Ezra 3:1-6
    - a) Priest Jeshua, Zerubbabel & Fellow Jews. "... set about rebuilding the altar of the God of Israel in order to offer on it the holocausts prescribed in the law of Moses, the man of God." (*Ezra 3:2*)
    - b) Mount the Altar on its Foundation
      - (1) Offer Holocausts & Sacrifices as Moses Prescribed
    - c) Celebrate Festival of Tabernacles (Booths) (*Re: Lev. 23:23-43*)
      - (1) "From the first day of the seventh month ("*Rosh Hashanah*") they began to offer holocausts to the LORD, though the foundation of the temple of the LORD had not yet been laid." (*Ezra 3:6*)

- d) Continue to Offer Ritualistic Sacrifices According to the Law
- 2) Lay Foundations for the Temple Ezra 3:7-13
- a) Hire Stonecutters & Carpenters
  - b) Acquire Lumber from Sidonians & Tyrians (*Cedars from Lebanon*)
  - c) Zerubbabel & Joshua Appoint Levites as Supervisors
  - d) Jews Lay the Temple's Foundations
    - (1) Priests & Levites Rejoice. "... the vested priests with the trumpets and the Levites, ... with the cymbals to praise the LORD in the manner laid down by David, king of Israel.
    - (2) People Rejoice. "..... all the people raised a great shout of joy, praising the LORD because the foundation of the LORD'S house had been laid.
    - (3) Elderly Recall the Splendor of Solomon's Temple. "Many of the priests, Levites, and family heads, the old men who had seen the former house, cried out in sorrow as they watched the foundation of the present house being laid...." (*Ezra 3:10-12*)
- 3) Opposition to Rebuilding the Temple Ezra 4:1-5 & 24
- a) Samaritans Interfere with the Jews Rebuilding their Temple  
(*Samaritans are Descendants of Gentiles Brought into the Promise Land by Assyrians/Babylonians Who Inbred with Remaining Israelites.*)
    - (1) Samaritans Ask to Participate in Building the Temple
    - (2) Zerubbabel, Jeshua & Elders Refuse. "It is not your responsibility to build with us a house for our God, but we alone must build it for the LORD, the God of Israel,..." (*Ezra 4:3*)
    - (3) Samaritans Stop the Jews from Building Temple
      - (a) Throughout the Rest of King Cyrus' Reign (*Cyrus Died 529 BC*), Up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Year of King Darius I (*520 BC*)
  - b) The Lord Calls for Construction of the Temple to Resume Ezra 5:1-2
    - (1) Prophets Haggi & Zechariah Deliver the Word of the Lord to Zerubbabel & Jeshua (*Re: Hag. 1 & Zech. 1:1-6*)
      - (a) The Lord Rebukes Jews for Suspending Reconstruction
        - People Dwell in Paneled Houses
        - Lord's House Remains in Ruins
        - Consider How the Lord Withheld His Blessings in the Past
      - (b) Zerubbabel, Joshua & People Listen & Fear the Lord
        - Haggai Gives the Lord's Assurance: "I am with you, says the LORD." (*Hag. 1:13b*)
        - The Lord Inspires Jews to Build His Temple
  - c) Persian Governor & Officials Confront the Jews Ezra 5:3-17
    - (1) Question the Jews: "Who issued the decree for you to build this house and raise this edifice? What are the names of the men who are building this structure?" (*Ezra 5:3-4*)
      - (a) Jews Claim they are Authorized by King Cyrus' Decree
    - (2) Persian Governor & Officials Report to King Darius I
      - (a) "...we have visited the province of Judah and the house of the great God: it is being rebuilt of cut stone and the walls are being reinforced with timber; the work is being carried on diligently and is making good progress under their hands.

- Asked the Jews: “....Who issued the decree for you to build this house and raise this edifice?” (*Ezra 5:8-9*)
- (b) Jews Claim that King Cyrus Decreed the Temple be Rebuilt
  - Ordering Temple’s Utensils Taken by Babylon be Returned
  - Naming Sheshbazzar (*Zerubbabel*) as their Governor
- (c) Ask Darius to Investigate the Validity of their Claim
- (3) Jews Continue Building While Waiting for Darius’ Response
  - (a) Protected by the Lord their God
- d) Darius Investigates Jewish Claim & Replies with a Decree *Ezra 6:1-12*
  - (1) Confirms King Cyrus’ Decree
    - (a) “.... King Cyrus issued a decree: The house of God in Jerusalem. The house is to be rebuilt as a place for offering sacrifices and bringing burnt offerings.
    - (b) “Its height is to be sixty cubits (*90’ or 27.4m*) and its width sixty cubits (*90’ or 27.4m*). It shall have three courses of cut stone for each one of timber.
    - (c) “The costs are to be borne by the royal palace.
    - (d) “Also, the gold and silver utensils of the house of God which Nebuchadnezzar took from the temple of Jerusalem and brought to Babylon are to be sent back: to be returned to their place in the temple of Jerusalem and deposited in the house of God.” (*Ezra 6:3-5*)
  - (2) Commands Persian Governor & Officials Not to Interfere with Jews Building their Temple
  - (3) Authorizes Reimbursement of Jewish Expenses from Royal Revenues
  - (4) Provides Sacrificial Animals for the Jews
  - (5) Imposes Death Penalty on Anyone Violating His Decree
- 4) Jews Finish Building the Temple *Ezra 6:13-18*  
(*The Second Temple was Very Modest in Comparison to Solomon’s Temple.*)
  - a) Jews Continue to Make Progress on the Temple
    - (1) Encouraged & Supported by Prophets Haggai & Zechariah
  - b) Temple Completed. “.... They finished the building according to the command of the God of Israel and the decrees of Cyrus and Darius..... They completed this house on the third day of the month Adar, in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius (516 BC).” (*Ezra 6:14-15*)
  - c) Temple Dedicated. “The Israelites—priests, Levites, and the other returned exiles—celebrated the dedication of this house of God with joy.” (*Ezra 6:16*)
    - (1) Offering Holocausts & Sacrifices to the Lord
  - d) Priesthood Reestablished & Temple Worship Reinstated
- 5) Jews Celebrate Passover at the Rebuilt Temple *Ezra 6:19-22*

Comments.

*There is no record in Scripture of the Shekinah Glory of God filling the Second Temple. Jerusalem was primarily under domination by foreign/pagan nations during the time of the Second Temple. The Lord God Almighty will not share nor compromise His Sovereign and Supreme Rule.*

*There also is no Scriptural account of the original Ark of the Covenant being retrieved, or a new Ark being made, for the Second Temple. If a new Ark was manufactured, the Lord apparently did not consider it sufficiently relevant to have it mentioned in His Holy Word.*

## 2. Desecration & Restoration of the Second Temple

*Alexander the Great Conquered Persia, Occupying the Promise Land in 333 BC. After Alexander's Death (323 BC), His Empire was Divided Among His Generals (1 Macc. 1:1-9). Ptolemy Ruled Egypt, Cyrene, Cyprus & the Land of Israel; and Seleucus Ruled Babylon then Syria and Asia Minor. The Promise Land Became a Battlefield in a Series of Wars Between Ptolemaic and Seleucid Empires. Israel was Eventually Ceded to Seleucid King Antiochus III in 200/199 BC. One of His Successors, Antiochus IV – Epiphanes (175 – 163 BC) Severely Persecuted the Jews, Desecrating the Temple in Jerusalem, Blaspheming the Lord God of Israel and Enforcing Pagan Worship on God's People. The Jews Revolted Under the Leadership of the Maccabean Family, Freeing Jerusalem and Rededicating the Temple in 165 BC.*

- a. King Antiochus IV – Epiphanes' Attempt to Eradicate Judaism 1 Macc. 1:10-63
  - 1) Antiochus Introduces Pagan Culture into Judah  
(Influencing Jews to Assimilate into the Greek/Pagan Culture)
    - a) Using Unfaithful Jews to Promote & Facilitate His Objective
  - 2) Antiochus Invades & Defeats Egypt
  - 3) Antiochus Enters Jerusalem, Returning from Egypt
    - a) Plunders the Temple
      - (1) “He insolently invaded the sanctuary and took away the golden altar (Of Incense), the lampstand (Menorah) for the light with all its fixtures, the offering table (Of Showbread), the cups and the bowls, the golden censers, the curtain (Veil), the crowns, and the golden ornament on the facade of the temple. He stripped off everything, and took away the gold and silver and the precious vessels; he also took all the hidden treasures he could find. (Ark of the Covenant Not Mentioned)
      - (2) “Taking all this, he went back to his own country (Syria), after he had spoken with great arrogance and shed much blood” (1 Macc. 1:21-24)
    - b) Jews throughout the Land Lament & Mourn
  - 4) Antiochus Dispatches a Commander to Secure Jerusalem
    - a) Attacks & Plunders City of Jerusalem
    - b) Builds a Citadel as a Stronghold in the City of David
      - (1) Housed with Troops
      - (2) Arsenal of Weapons & Supplies
      - (3) Storehouse for Booty
    - c) Defiles the Temple. “The citadel became an ambush against the sanctuary, and a wicked adversary to Israel at all times. And they shed innocent blood around the sanctuary; they defiled the sanctuary.” (1 Macc. 1:36-37)
    - d) Jews Flee Jerusalem Abandoning the Temple. “Her sanctuary was as desolate as a wilderness; her feasts were turned into mourning,.....” (1 Macc. 1:39)
  - 5) Antiochus Outlaws Judaism & Imposes Paganism  
(Forcing Jews to Assimilate into the Greek/Pagan Culture)
    - a) Ordering Them: “to prohibit holocausts, sacrifices, and libations in the sanctuary, to profane the sabbaths and feast days, to desecrate the sanctuary and the sacred ministers (Priests & Levites), to build pagan altars and temples and shrines, to sacrifice swine and unclean animals, to

leave their sons uncircumcised, and to let themselves be defiled with every kind of impurity and abomination, so that they might forget the law and change all their observances.” (1 Macc. 1:45-49)

- (1) Under Penalty of Death
  - b) Appoints Officials to Enforce Prohibitions
  - c) Profanes the Temple. “.....the king erected the horrible abomination upon the altar of holocausts, .....” (1 Macc. 1:54)
    - (1) Requiring Unholy Sacrifices on that Altar Every Month
  - d) Forbids Jews to Observe the Torah (*The Law*)
    - (1) Under Penalty of Death
  - e) Many Jews Defy the King’s Order & Remain Faithful to Lord
- b. Rebellion Birthed in Judah 1 Macc. 2
- 1) Priest Mattathias & His Sons Leave Jerusalem & Settle in City of Modein
    - a) Mourn Defilement of the Temple
  - 2) King’s Officers Come to Modein to Enforce Paganism
    - a) Many Jews Acquiesce Under Gentile Pressure
    - b) Mattathias Refuses to Forsake the Lord & His Laws
    - c) Mattathias Kills a Jew Sacrificing on Pagan Altar
      - (1) Kills King’s Official Overseeing Pagan Sacrifices
      - (2) Tears Down Pagan Altar
  - 3) Mattathias Summons Faithful Jews: “Let everyone who is zealous for the law and who stands by the covenant follow after me!” (1 Macc. 2:27)
    - a) Flees to the Mountains with His Sons
    - b) Other Faithful Jews Flee to the Desert
      - (1) Gentile Troops Pursue & Massacre 1,000 Jews
        - (a) Jews Refuse to Fight on the Sabbath
  - 4) Mattathias Gathers an Army of Devout Jews
    - a) Instructs Them to Defend Themselves on Sabbath
    - b) Strikes Down Lawbreakers & Tears Down their Pagan Altars
      - (1) Survivors Flee to Gentiles for Protection
  - 5) Mattathias Appoints His Son Judas Maccabeus as Leader Before Dying
- c. Judas Maccabeus Leads a Revolt 1 Macc. 3:1 - 4:35  
*Judas Maccabeus & His Rebel Forces are Victorious Over the Gentile Armies in a Series of Battles, even though they were Greatly Outnumbered.*
- *Trusting in the Lord. “It is easy for many to be overcome by a few; in the sight of Heaven there is no difference between deliverance by many or by few; for victory in war does not depend upon the size of the army, but on strength that comes from Heaven.” (1 Macc. 3:18-19)*
  - *Keeping Clear Objectives. “Let us restore our people from their ruined estate, and fight for our people and our sanctuary!” (1 Macc. 3:43)*

*Jewish Rebels Finally Defeat the Main Gentile Army, Who Retreat to Antioch (Syria) to Recruit Mercenaries for a Return Incursion into Judea.*

*In the Meantime, Judas Maccabeus Enters Jerusalem & Restores the Temple.*

- d. Restoration & Rededication of the Temple 1 Macc. 4:36-61; 2 Macc. 10:1-9
  - 1) Judas’ Directive: “Now that our enemies have been crushed, let us go up to purify the sanctuary and rededicate it.” (1 Macc. 4:36)
  - 2) Jewish Army Assembles at Temple Site. “They found the sanctuary desolate,

the altar desecrated, the gates burnt, weeds growing in the courts as in a forest or on some mountain, and the priests' chambers demolished.

- a) "Then they tore their clothes and made great lamentation; they sprinkled their heads with ashes and fell with their faces to the ground.
  - b) "And when the signal was given with trumpets, they cried out to Heaven."  
(1 Macc. 4:38-40)
- 3) Judas Appoints Men to Attack the Citadel
    - a) So Work Can Proceed on the Temple Without Interference
  - 4) Judas Commissions Priests to Purify the Temple
    - a) "these purified the sanctuary and carried away the stones of the Abomination to an unclean place." (1 Macc. 4:43)
    - b) Dismantled the Desecrated Altar
    - c) Built a New Altar of Sacrifice
    - d) "They also repaired the sanctuary and the interior of the temple and purified the courts.
    - e) "They made new sacred vessels and brought the lampstand, the altar of incense, and the table (Of Showbread) into the temple.
    - f) "Then they burned incense on the altar and lighted the lamps on the lampstand, and these illuminated the temple.
    - g) "They also put loaves on the table and hung up curtains....."  
(1 Macc. 4:48-51)
    - h) "They ornamented the facade of the temple with gold crowns and shields; they repaired the gates and the priests' chambers and furnished them with doors." (1 Macc. 4:57)
  - 5) Rededication of the Temple  
(25<sup>th</sup> Day of 9<sup>th</sup> Month in Jewish Calendar in the Seleucid Year 148 [165 BC].)
    - a) Offer Sacrifices to the Lord on the Altar, as Prescribed by Law
    - b) People Prostrate Themselves & Praise the Lord
    - c) Dedication Celebrated for 8 Days
      - (1) Offering Holocausts, Sacrifices of Deliverance & Praise
  - 6) Feast of Dedication ("Hanukkah") Established
    - a) Judas & His Brothers Declare Feast of Dedication be Observed Annually
      - (1) Starting on 25<sup>th</sup> Day of 9<sup>th</sup> Month & Lasting 8 Days
      - (2) Feast Commemorates Purification & Rededication of Second Temple
  - 7) Build High Walls with Strong Towers to Secure the Temple Site
    - a) Stationing Guards to Protect it from Gentiles
- e. Establishment of an Independent Jewish State  
*Judas Maccabeus, His Brothers & Successors Continue Fighting Gentile Armies, Establishing & Securing an Independent Jewish State Ruled by their Hasmonean Dynasty (165/164 - 37 BC). Rome Conquers the Promise Land in 63 BC, but Allows the Hasmoneans to Continue Governing Under their Authority.*

3. Enhancement & Expansion of the Temple in Jerusalem  
*Herod the Great (an Idumean) Gains Control Over the Hasmonean Realm in 37 BC, Ruling it Under Roman Authority. King Herod Expands and Enhances the Second Temple into a Magnificent Place of Worship for the Jews.*

4. Destruction of the Second Temple  
*The Jews Rebel Against Rome in 66 AD and War Ensues. This Results in Roman*

*Legions Sacking Jerusalem, Destroying the Temple and Dispersing the Jewish People. The Second Temple was Destroyed on 9<sup>th</sup> Day of Av 70 AD. Temple Worship, the Priesthood and Sacrifices Prescribed in the Law Cease at that Time!*

## **F. The Future Temple**

*Scripture Prophecies that there will be a New Temple in Jerusalem in the Future. This Study Looks at Two of these Prophecies.*

- *The Prophet Ezekiel Saw a Vision of the Glory of God Leaving Solomon's Temple Before its Destruction (See Ezek. 10 Above). 14 Years After the Temple was Destroyed, Ezekiel Sees a Vision of the Glory of God Entering a New Temple in the Future.*
- *The Prophet Haggai, Who Encouraged Jews Building the Second Temple (See Ezra 5:1-2 Above), Prophecies a New Grander Temple in the Future.*

### 1. Ezekiel's Vision of a New Temple

Ezek. 40 - 43

*Ezekiel was Given a Series of Prophecies Leading Up to His Vision of a New Temple:*

- *Restoration of the Promise Land in Preparation for Israel's Return* Ezek. 36:1-15
- *Gathering of Israelite People Back to the Promise Land* Ezek. 36:16 - 37:14
- *Uniting of Judea (Judah) & Samaria (Israel) into One Nation* Ezek. 37:15-28
- *Unsuccessful Invasions of Israel by Gentile Nations* Ezek. 38 - 39

*Ezekiel was then Given a Vision of a New Temple Filled with the Glory of God; with its Priesthood, Temple Worship & Sacred Laws.*

Ezek. 40 - 46

#### a. Ezekiel Sees a Man with a Measuring Rod

Ezek. 40:1-5

- 1) Sees a City Being Built in the Land of Israel (A New Jerusalem)
- 2) The Man had a Bronze Appearance
  - a) Standing in the City Gate
  - b) Holding a Linen Cord & Measuring Rod
    - (1) "The man was holding a measuring rod six cubits long, each cubit being a cubit and a handbreadth..." (Ezek. 40:5b)
  - c) Man Instructs Ezekiel: "Son of man, look carefully and listen intently, and pay strict attention to all that I will show you, for you have been brought here so that I might show it to you. Tell the house of Israel all that you see." (Ezek. 40:4)

*Comment. The units of measurement for the New Temple are different than the traditional Hebrew units used for the Tabernacle and subsequent Temples. As stated in the above text (Ezek. 40:5b), this "cubit" is a traditional cubit plus a "handbreadth" which totals about 21 inches (1.75' or 0.53m), making the "rod" about 10.5 feet (3.2m). Some scholars use 24 inches (2' or 0.61m) for this cubit, but the actual width of a hand would make it closer to 21 inches and is used below.*

#### b. The New Temple Revealed to Ezekiel

Ezek. 40:6 – 42:20

*The New Temple is Very Ornate, which is Described in Detail in the Bible Text. This Study Gives General Descriptions and Sizes of the Temple Complex.*

##### 1) **The Outer Court**

###### a) External Wall Surrounding the Outer Court

- (1) "Then I saw an outer wall that completely surrounded the temple..... the width (*Thickness*) and the height of the structure, each of which were found to be one rod (10.5' or 3.2m)." (Ezek. 40:5)

###### b) Main Entrance through East Gate of the Wall

Ezek. 40:6-16

- (1) "Then he went to the gate which faced the east, climbed its steps, and measured the gate's threshold, which was found to be a rod wide. The

cells were a rod long and a rod wide, and the pilasters between the cells measured five cubits. The threshold of the gate adjoining the vestibule of the gate toward the inside measured one rod.”

*(Ezek. 40:6-7)*

(a) Outside Stairs Leading Up to Gate’s Threshold

(b) Threshold Leading into a Vestibule

- “The vestibule of the gate was toward the inside (*Of the Wall*).” *(Ezek. 40:9b)*
- Vestibule 50 Cubits (87.5’ or 26.7m) Long & 25 Cubits (43.8’ or 13.3m) Wide
- Both Sides of Vestibule with Interspersed Pilasters & Cells
  - Pilasters Decorated with Palms
  - Splayed Windows in the Cells

(c) Entrance Leads into Open Courtyard

(2) This Gate Lines Up with East Gate of the Temple’s Inner Court

(a) “..... the width of the court from the front of the lower gate to the front of the inner gate (*Of Temple Building*); it was one hundred cubits (175’ or 53.3m) between them.” *(Ezek. 40:19a)*

c) Paved Courtyard Ezek. 40:17-18

(1) “Then he brought me to the outer court, where there were chambers and a pavement. The pavement was laid all around the court, and the chambers, which were on the pavement,.....”  
*(Chambers Described Below)*

d) Side Gates for the Priests

(1) North Gate in the Wall Ezek. 40:19b-23

(a) “Then he proceeded north, where, on the outer court, there was a gate facing north, .....” *(Ezek. 40:19b-20)*

- Same Size & Construction as East Gate

(b) This Gate Lines Up with North Gate of the Temple’s Inner Court

- “The inner court had a gate opposite the north gate, just as at the east gate; he measured one hundred cubits from one gate to the other (175’ or 53.3m).” *(Ezek. 40:23)*

(2) South Gate in the Wall Ezek. 40:24-27

(a) “Then he led me south, to where there was a southern gate,.....”  
*(Ezek. 40:24)*

- Same Size & Construction as East Gate

(b) This Gate Lines Up with South Gate of the Temple’s Inner Court

- “The inner court also had a southern gate; from gate to gate he measured one hundred cubits (175’ or 53.3m).”  
*(Ezek. 40:27)*

e) An Altar Before the Temple Building’s East Entrance Ezek. 40:47b

(1) “The altar stood in front of the temple.”

*(See Ezek. 43:13-17 Below for a Description of the Altar)*

- a) Hearth for Burning Sacrifices 12 Cubits Square (21’ or 6.4m)
- b) Height Up to Hearth 4 Cubits (7’ or 2.1m)
- c) Stairs Leading Up to Hearth on its East Side

f) The Temple Building Located in Middle of the Open Courtyard

*(See Description of the Temple Building Below)*

- (1) Entrances into Inner Court of Temple Building
  - (a) Building's South Gate Ezek. 40:28-31
    - "...its vestibule was toward the outer court; .... it had a stairway of eight steps." (*Ezek. 40:31*)
    - Vestibule 50 Cubits (*87.5' or 26.7m*) Long & 25 Cubits (*43.8' or 13.3m*) Wide
    - Both Sides of Vestibule with Interspersed Pilasters & Cells
      - Pilasters Decorated with Palms
      - Splayed Windows in the Cells
  - (b) Building's East Gate Ezek. 40:32-34
    - "...its vestibule was toward the outer court; .... it had a stairway of eight steps." (*Ezek. 40:34*)
    - Same Size & Construction as South Gate
  - (c) Building's North Gate Ezek. 40:35-37
    - "Its vestibule was toward the outer court; .... it had a stairway of eight steps." (*Ezek. 40:37*)
    - Same Size & Construction as South Gate
- (2) Area Outside the Building for Preparing Sacrifices Ezek. 40:38-43
  - (a) "There was a chamber opening off the vestibule of the (*North*) gate, where the holocausts were rinsed.
  - (b) "In the vestibule of the gate there were two tables on either side, on which were slaughtered the sin offerings and guilt offerings.
  - (c) "Along the wall of the vestibule, but outside, near the entrance of the north gate, were two tables, and on the other side of the vestibule of the gate there were two tables... . (eight tables), on which the sacrifices were slaughtered...."
- (3) Chambers Outside the Building's Gates Ezek. 40:44-46
  - (a) "He then led me to the inner court where there were two chambers, one beside the north gate, facing south, and the other beside the south gate, facing north." (*Ezek. 40:44*)
    - Chamber Facing South for Priests in Charge of Temple
    - Chamber Facing North for Priests in Charge of Altar
- g) Priests' Chambers within the Outer Court Ezek. 42:1-14
  - (1) Northern Chambers
    - (a) "Then he led me north to the outer court, bringing me to some chambers on the north that lay across the free area and which were also across from the (*Temple*) building. Their length was a hundred cubits on the north side (*175' or 53.3m*), and they were fifty cubits wide (*87.5' or 26.7m*)....there were three parallel rows of them on different levels." (*Ezek. 42:1-3*)
  - (2) Southern Chambers
    - (a) "To the south along the side of the free area and the (*Temple*) building there were also chambers, before which was a passage. These looked like the chambers to the north, just as long and just as wide, with the same exits and plan and entrances." (*Ezek. 42:10b-11*)
  - (3) Chambers Used as Sacristies  
(Apparently Certain Chambers are Connected to the Temple)

*Building, Giving Ministering Priests Access to its Inner Court through its North & South Gates.)*

- (a) "... here the priests who draw near to the LORD shall eat the most sacred meals, and here they shall keep the most sacred offerings: cereal offerings, sin offerings, and guilt offerings; for it is a holy place.
- (b) "When the priests have once entered, they shall not leave the holy place for the outer court until they have left here the clothing in which they ministered, for it is holy. They shall put on other garments, and then approach the place destined for the people." (*Ezek. 42:13-14*)
- h) Size of the Outer Court. "Then he measured the court, which was a hundred cubits long and a hundred cubits wide (*175' or 53.3m*), a perfect square." (*Ezek. 40:47a*)
- 2) The Temple Building Ezek. 40:48 - 41:26
  - a) Structure of the Temple Building
    - (1) Front Entrance into Temple Building (*Through its East Gate*). "The vestibule was twenty cubits (*35' or 10.7m*) wide and twelve cubits (*21' or 6.4m*) deep; ten steps led up to it, and there were columns by the pilasters, one on either side." (*Ezek. 40:49*)
      - (a) Temple Floor Elevated Above Outer Court's Pavement
    - (2) Temple Building's Walls. "Then he measured the wall of the temple, which was six cubits thick (*10.5' or 3.2m*); the side chambers, which extended all the way around the temple, had a width of four cubits (*7' or 2.13m*)." (*Ezek. 41:5*)
      - (a) Superstructure Supporting the Building's Walls
        - "There were thirty side chambers built one above the other in three stories, and there were offsets in the outside wall of the temple that enclosed the side chambers; these served as supports, so that there were no supports in the temple wall proper." (*Ezek. 41:6*)
        - "There was a broad circular passageway that led upward to the side chambers, for the temple was enclosed all the way around and all the way upward; .... so that one could pass from the lowest to the middle and the highest story." (*Ezek. 41:7*)
    - (3) Overall Size of the Temple Building with its Superstructure. "He measured the temple, which was one hundred cubits long. The free area, together with the building and its walls, was a hundred cubits in length (*175' or 53.3m Square*)." (*Ezek. 41:13*)

Comment. *The Height of the Temple Building and its roofing are not described in this text.*

- b) **The Inner Court** ("Nave")
  - (1) Inside Dimensions of Inner Court. "He measured the length of the nave, which was found to be forty cubits, while its width was twenty." (*Ezek. 40:4b*)
    - (a) Inner Court 40 Cubits (*70' or 21.3m*) Long East to West, and 20 Cubits (*35' or 10.7m*) Wide North to South.

- (2) “The inner nave and the outer vestibule were paneled with precious wood all around, covered from the ground to the windows. There were splayed windows with trellises about them (facing the threshold).
- (a) “.... every wall on every side in both the inner and outer rooms were carved the figures of cherubim and palmtrees: a palmtree between every two cherubim. Each cherub had two faces: a man’s face looking at a palmtree on one side, and a lion’s face looking at a palmtree on the other; thus they were figured on every side throughout the whole temple.
- (b) “From the ground to the lintel of the door the cherubim and palmtrees were carved on the walls.” (*Ezek. 41:15b-20*)
- (3) A Table Before the Holy of Holies
- (a) “In front of the holy place (*Holy of Holies*) was something that looked like a wooden altar, three cubits in height (*5.25’ or 1.6m*), two cubits long, and two cubits wide (*3.5’ or 1.07m Square*). It had corners, and its base and sides were of wood.
- (b) “He said to me, “This is the table which is before the LORD.” (*Ezek. 41:21b-22*)
- (4) Double Door Entrances into the Nave & the Holy of Holies
- (a) “The nave had a double door, and also the holy place had a double door.
- (b) “Each door had two movable leaves; two leaves were on one doorjamb and two on the other. Carved upon them (on the doors of the nave) were cherubim and palmtrees, like those carved on the walls. Before the vestibule outside was a wooden lattice.” (*Ezek. 41:23-25*)
- Both Sides of Vestibule with Splayed Windows, and Decorated with Cherubim & Palmtrees
- c) **Holy of Holies** (“Space Beyond the Nave”)
- (1) Inside Dimensions of Holy of Holies. “He measured the space beyond the nave, twenty cubits long and twenty cubits wide (*35’ or 10.7m Square*), and said to me, ‘This is the holy of holies.’” (*Ezek. 41:4*) (*No Mention of the Ark of the Covenant.*)
- 3) Overall Temple Area *Ezek. 42:15-20*  
*(Including the Grounds Encircling the Outer Court)*
- a) “When he had finished measuring the inner temple area, he brought me out (*i.e. Outside Outer Court*) by way of the gate which faces east and measured all the limits of the court.
- b) “He measured the east side: five hundred cubits by his measuring rod. Then he turned and measured the north side: five hundred cubits by the measuring rod. He turned to the south and measured five hundred cubits by the measuring rod. Then he turned to the west and measured five hundred cubits by the measuring rod. Thus he measured it in the four directions, five hundred cubits long and five hundred cubits wide.”
- (1) Temple Area 500 Cubits on Every Side (*875’ or 267m Square*).
- c) “It was surrounded by a wall, to separate the sacred from the profane.” (*Wall Surrounding the Entire Temple Area*)

*The Measurements of the Interior Rooms (Inner Court & Holy of Holies) of the New Temple are the Same as those Rooms within Solomon's Temple; However, a Larger Cubit was Used for the New Temple Making them Larger. Both are Proportional to the Interior Rooms within the Tabernacle's Meeting Tent.*

*Access into the New Temple's Building, its Furnishings, External Structures and Surrounding Courts are Significantly Different than the Tabernacle and Solomon's Temple. The Following Summary Highlights those Differences.*

### **Tabernacle Specifications**

*Given to Moses (See Ex. 25 – 27 Above)*

#### **Outer Court**

One Entrance – East  
Altar of Holocausts/Sacrifices  
Laver for Priests' Cleansing

#### **MEETING TENT:**

##### **Inner Court (The Holy Place)**

One Entrance - East  
Table of Showbread – North Inside  
Lampstand (Menorah) – South Inside  
Incense Altar Before Veil  
Veil Separating Holy of Holies & Inner Court

##### **Holy of Holies (Most Holy Place)**

Ark of the Covenant  
God's Mercy Seat (Throne) Above Ark

### **New Temple Revelations**

*Given to Ezekiel (Ezek. 40 – 43)*

#### **Outer Court**

3 Entrances - East, North & South  
Altar in Front of Temple Building  
No Laver  
Priests' Chambers  
North & South Sides of Building

#### **TEMPLE BUILDING:**

##### **Inner Court ("Nave")**

3 Entrances - East, North & South  
No Table of Showbread  
No Lampstand  
Wooden Table of Lord Before Doors  
Double Doors into Holy of Holies

##### **Holy of Holies (Holy Place)**

No Ark of the Covenant  
Glory of God's Throne (Ezek. 43:1-9)

*Comment. It is evident that the New Temple in Ezekiel's vision is not the Second Temple, since the Table of Showbread and the Lampstand (Menorah) are furnishings within the Second Temple. There is also a relief of the Arch of Titus in Rome showing the Lampstand being carried away by Roman Soldiers after their destruction of the Second Temple in 70 AD.*

- c. Consecration of the New Temple Ezek. 43
- 1) Glory of God Enters into the New Temple Ezek. 43:1-9
    - a) Ezekiel Sees Lord's Glory Enter the Temple. "Then he led me to the gate which faces the east (*New Temple's Eastern Gate*), and there I saw the glory of the God of Israel coming from the east. I heard a sound like the roaring of many waters, and the earth shone with his glory..... I fell prone as the glory of the LORD entered the temple by way of the gate which faces the east, but spirit lifted me up and brought me to the inner court. And I saw that the temple was filled with the glory of the LORD.
    - b) Ezekiel Hears the Lord's Voice from the Temple
      - (1) "Son of man, this is where my throne shall be, this is where I will set the soles of my feet; here I will dwell among the Israelites forever.
      - (2) "Never again shall they and their kings profane my holy name ..... (*Referring to Idolatry Practiced in and Around Former Temples*) .... and I will dwell in their midst forever."

- 2) The New Temple & its Laws Ezek. 43:10-17
- a) The Lord Instructs Ezekiel. "...describe the temple to the house of Israel (that they may be ashamed of their sins), both its measurements and its design; (and if they are ashamed of all that they have done,) make known to them the form and design of the temple, its exits and entrances, all its statutes and laws; write these down for them to see, that they may carefully observe all its laws and statutes."
- b) Sanctity of the Temple Area. "This is the law of the temple: its whole surrounding area on the mountain top shall be most sacred."
- c) The New Altar of Sacrifice Ezek. 43:13-17  
(Placed in Front of Temple Building's East Gate. See Ex. 40:47b Above)
- (1) "Its base was one cubit high and one cubit deep, with a rim around its edges of one span.
- (2) "The height of the altar itself was as follows: from its base at the bottom up to the lower edge it was two cubits high, and this ledge was one cubit deep; from the lower to the upper ledge it was four cubits high, and this ledge also was one cubit deep;
- (3) "the hearth of the altar was four cubits high, and extending from the top of the hearth were the four horns of the altar. The hearth was a square: twelve cubits long and twelve cubits wide.
- (4) "The upper ledge was also a square: fourteen cubits long and fourteen cubits wide. The lower ledge, likewise a square, was sixteen cubits long and sixteen cubits wide, with a half-cubit rim surrounding it. And there was a base of one cubit all around.
- (5) "The steps of the altar face the east."
- 3) The Altar & its Sacrificial Rituals Ezek. 43:18-27
- a) Lord Commands Ezekiel. "These are the statutes for the altar when it is set up for the offering of holocausts upon it and for the sprinkling of blood against it." (Ezek. 43:18)
- (1) Priests to be Descendants of Zadok from the House of Aaron
- b) Purification of the New Altar
- (1) Sacrifice Young Bull as Sin Offering on 1<sup>st</sup> Day
- (a) "Take some of its blood and put it on the four horns of the altar, and on the four corners of the ledge, and on the rim all around.
- (b) "Thus you shall purify it and make atonement for it."
- (c) Burn the Bull on the Altar "...in a designated part of the temple, outside the sanctuary (i.e. Outside the Temple Building)." (Ezek. 43:20-21)
- (2) Sacrifices on 2<sup>nd</sup> Day
- (a) Sacrifice a He-goat as Sin Offering to Purify the Altar
- (b) After Purification, Sacrifice a Young Bull & Ram
- (1) "...the priests shall strew salt on them and offer them to the LORD as holocausts." (Ezek. 43:24)
- (3) Sacrifice He-goats, Young Bulls & Rams for 7 Days
- (a) "...Thus atonement shall be made for the altar, and it shall be purified and dedicated" (Ezek. 43:26)
- c) Ongoing Sacrifices. "... from the eighth day on, the priests shall offer your holocausts and peace offerings on the altar. Then I will accept you, says the Lord GOD." (Ezek. 43:27)

- d. East Gate Closed After the Glory of God Enters the Temple Ezek 44:1-3
- 1) “Then he (*The Man*) brought me back to the outer gate of the sanctuary, facing the east; but it was closed.
  - 2) “He said to me: ‘This gate is to remain closed; it is not to be opened for anyone to enter by it; since the LORD, the God of Israel, has entered by it, it shall remain closed...’”

2. Haggai’s Prophecy of a New Temple

Hag. 2:1-9

*The Prophet Haggai Rebuked the Jews After They Suspended Work on the Second Temple, Exhorting Them to Complete its Construction (See Ezra 5:1-2 Above). Here Haggai Encourages the Jewish People and their Leaders, Prophesying a New and Grander Temple in the Future that will be Filled with the Glory of God.*

- a. The Lord Instructs Haggai. “...Tell this to the governor of Judah, Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel, and to the high priest Joshua, son of Jehozadak, and to the remnant of the people:
- 1) Remind Them of Solomon’s Temple. “Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? (*Referring to Solomon’s Magnificent Temple*) And how do you see it now? (*Temple in Ruins*)”
  - 2) Encourages Them to Complete the Second Temple
    - a) “Does it not seem like nothing in your eyes (*Referring to Modest Temple they are Building*)?”
    - b) “But now take courage, Zerubbabel, says the LORD, and take courage, Joshua, high priest, son of Jehozadak, And take courage, all you people of the land, says the LORD, and work! (*i.e. Finish the Temple*)
    - c) “For I am with you, says the LORD of hosts. This is the pact that I made with you when you came out of Egypt, And my spirit continues in your midst; do not fear!”
  - 3) The Lord Promises a Future Temple
    - a) He Will Subdue the Nations. “For thus says the LORD of hosts: One moment yet, a little while (*In the Future*), and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all the nations, and the treasures of all the nations will come in,
    - b) His Glory Will Fill the New Temple. “And I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts. Mine is the silver and mine the gold, says the LORD of hosts. Greater will be the future glory of this house than the former (*Grander than Solomon’s Temple*), says the LORD of hosts;
    - c) He Will Give His People Peace. “And in this place I will give you peace, says the LORD of hosts.”

*This Threefold Promise Will be Fulfilled in the Lord’s Time and on His Agenda!*

