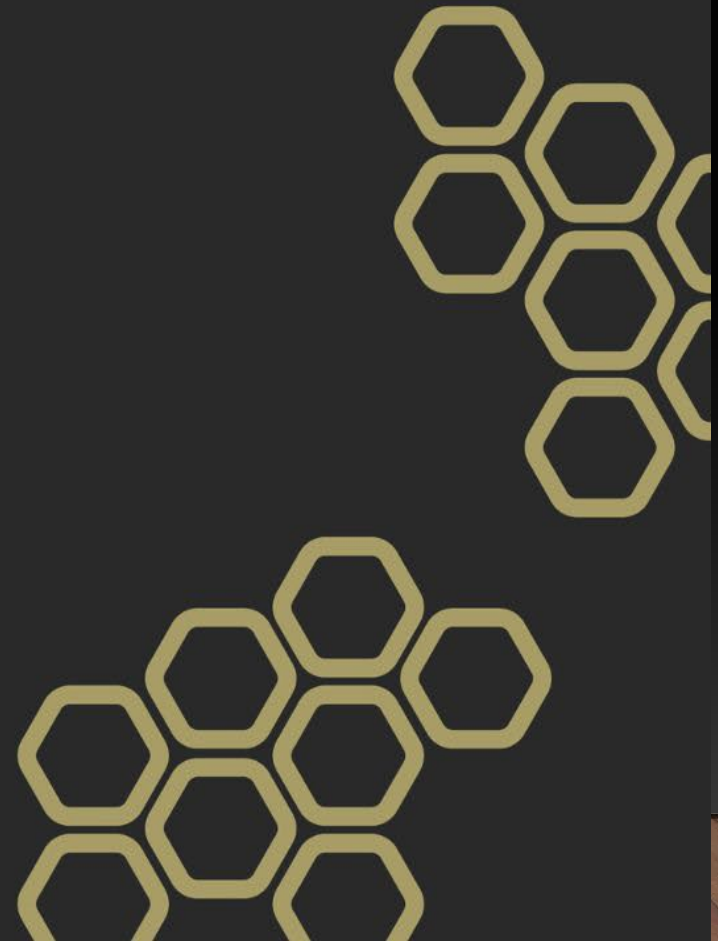


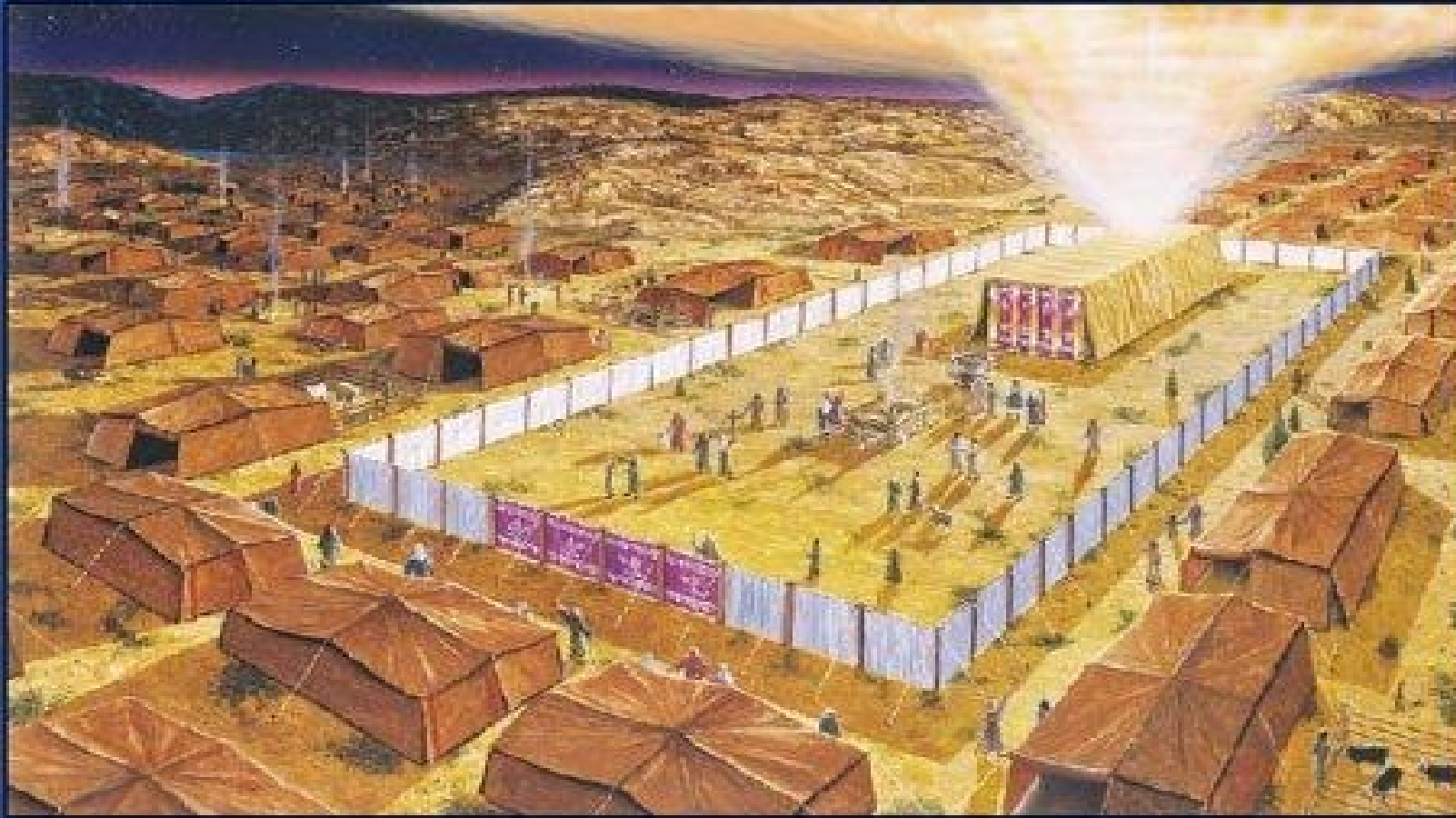
“YOU ARE THE TEMPLE”

1 COR. 3:16-17

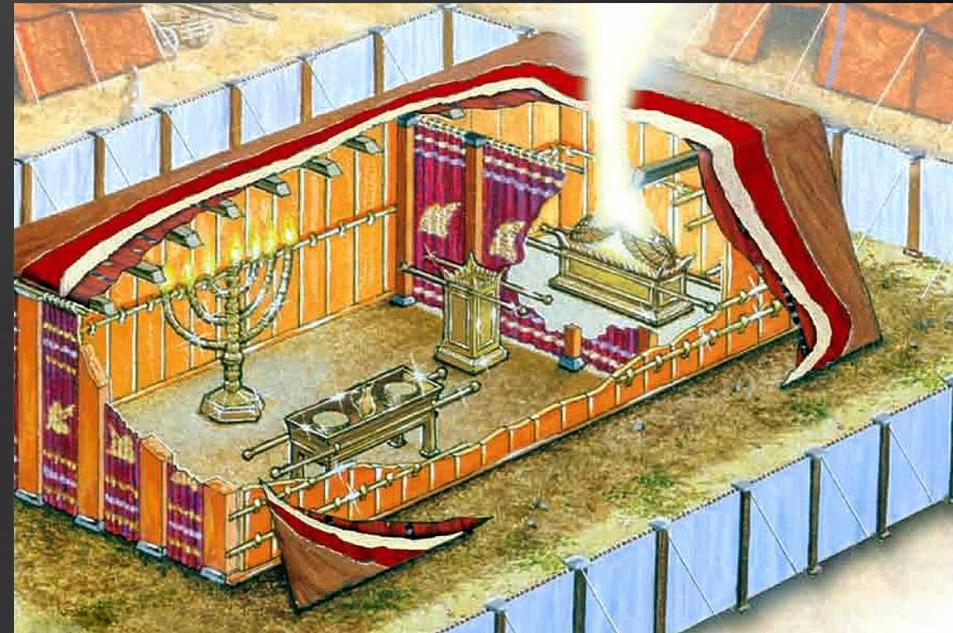
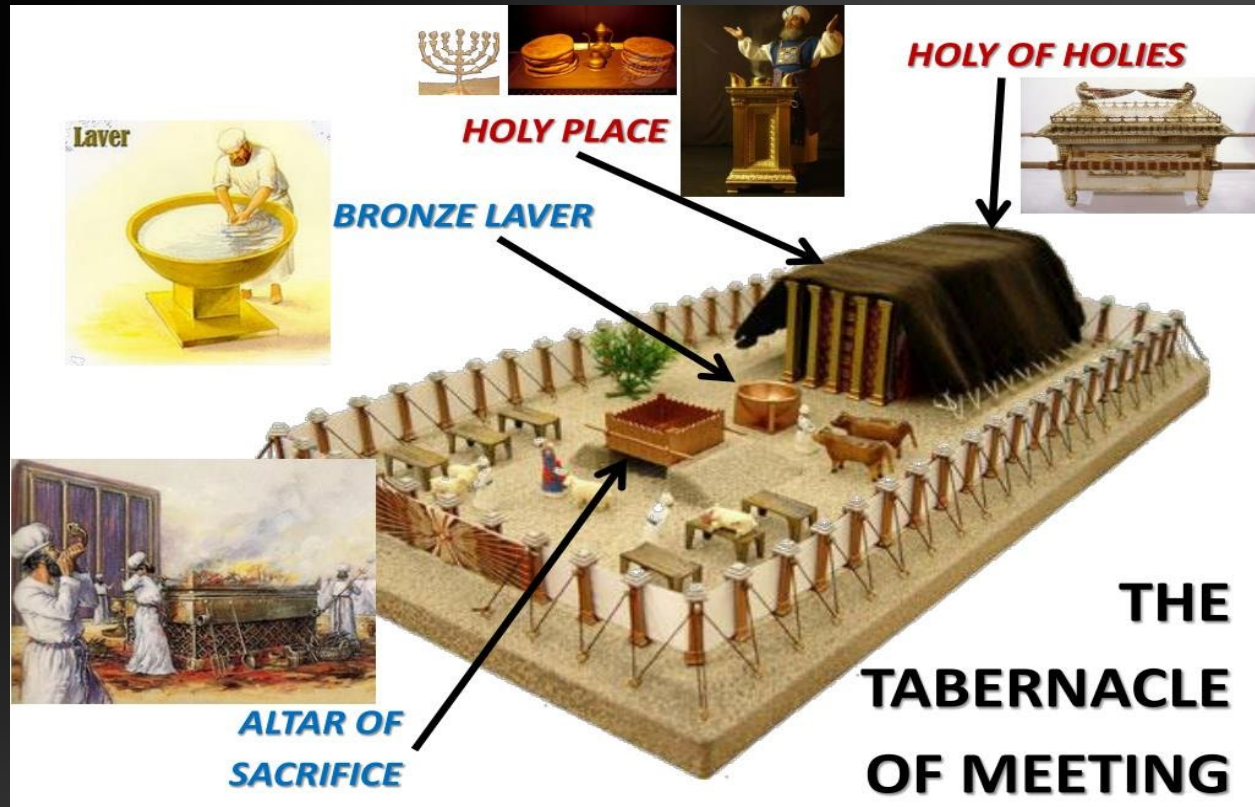


THE TABERNACLE

The Tabernacle



THE CONTENTS OF THE TABERNACLE



*WHY AREN'T WE OFFERING ANIMAL SACRIFICES TODAY?

Hebrews 10:1–4

- **10** For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. ² For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. ³ But in those *sacrifices there is* a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For *it is not possible* that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.

CHRIST WAS THE PERFECT SACRIFICE FOR MAN

- John 1:29 – The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”



*HOW ARE THE SAINTS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT SAVED IF CHRIST DIDN'T COME YET?

- Romans 4:2–3 - For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. 3 For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”
- Romans 4:5–8 But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, 6 just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: 7 “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; 8 Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.”

“IMPUTE” (ROM. 4:6,8)

- Impute – an accounting term; to place in someone’s account; “to enter into the books”; our sins are covered by the atonement of Christ.
- Rom. 4:6 – God’s righteousness imputed to believing men
- Rom. 4:8 – Man is blessed when sin isn’t imputed to them

1 COR. 3:16-17

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? ¹⁷ If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

I. THE TEMPLE OF GOD (1 COR. 3:16)

- A. The Center of Israel's Worship

1 Kings 5:3–5 - You know how my father David could not build a house for the name of the LORD his God because of the wars which were fought against him on every side, until the LORD put his foes under the soles of his feet. 4 But now the LORD my God has given me rest on every side; there is neither adversary nor evil occurrence. 5 And behold, I propose to build a house for the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD spoke to my father David, saying, “Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, he shall build the house for My name.”

*WHAT DID THE TEMPLE PROVIDE FOR ISRAEL?

- 1. **Central Worship** - God had commanded that there be a central place of worship, and building the Temple fulfilled that. It became the spiritual heart of Judaism.
- 2. **The Presence of God** - It housed the Ark of the Covenant, which held the stone tablets of the Ten Commandments. The Ark signified God's presence with Israel during their trek in the wilderness and in conquering the Promised Land.
- 3. **Place of Sacrifice** – the Temple is the location where people can bring sacrifices to the Lord. They could actively demonstrate their faith in God and obey his directive for a temporary sin covering.

B. BELIEVERS ARE THE TEMPLE OF GOD

- 1 Corinthians 3:16 - Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

2 Cor. 6:16- “we are the temple of the living God”

Eph. 2:21 – “The whole building....develops into the holy temple of the Lord.”

1 Pet. 2:5 – “You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

IN THE OLD TESTAMENT (BEFORE CHRIST CAME)

Judges 3:10 - The Spirit **came upon** Othniel to judge Israel; discern right and wrong

Gen 41:38, Num 27:18- Moses and Joshua are **in** the Spirit

Ex. 31- Oholiab and Bezalel are **filled with** the Spirit to design the ark and tabernacle

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT (AFTER CHRIST CAME)

- John 14:16–17 - And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

***WITH THE SPIRIT, BELIEVERS FULFILL THE FUNCTION OF THE OLD TEMPLE**

- **Central Worship** – we can develop our own worship in our body and mind. The local church is great to worship corporately, but we can **worship individually in Spirit and truth**. We have a direct relationship with God and can personally be with Him.
- John 4:24 - God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

***WITH THE SPIRIT, BELIEVERS FULFILL THE FUNCTION OF THE OLD TEMPLE**

- **The Presence of God** – the Spirit in believers; We don't need a church or temple to experience the presence of God.
- 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

*WITH THE SPIRIT, BELIEVERS FULFILL THE FUNCTION OF THE OLD TEMPLE

- **A Place of Sacrifice** – we don't have to go anywhere, but **we can serve God with our temple** and the talents, abilities, resources and spiritual gifts that He gives

The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit teaches us all things brings things to our remembrance. Jn. 14:26
- The Holy Spirit testifies of Christ - Jn. 15:26
- The Holy Spirit guides you into all truth - Jn. 16:13
- The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, righteousness and judgment - Jn. 16:8-11
- You can't please God without having the Spirit I Cor. 2:10, 11

***HOW DO YOU KNOW WHEN YOU ARE WALKING WITH THE SPIRIT OF GOD?**

1. Is there evidence of the fruit of the Spirit in your life?
2. Are you wholeheartedly open to knowing and obeying God's plans for you?
3. Are you harboring any known sins in your life?
- 4. Is your life consistent with the Word of God?

II. DEFILING THE TEMPLE OF GOD (1 COR. 3:17)

17 If anyone **defiles** the temple of God, God will **destroy** him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

A. The Defiler will be destroyed by God

Gk. Phtheiro – “to destroy by means of corruption”; “bringing to a worse state”;

THERE ARE 2 WAYS THAT WE HINDER THE SPIRIT OF GOD WORKING IN US.

- 1. We “**quench**” the Spirit of God – 1 Thess. 5:19 – “Do not quench the Spirit of God”
- Gk. Sbennymi- of the going out of the light or lamp; to extinguish

*HOW DO WE QUENCH THE SPIRIT OF GOD FROM WORKING?

- We don't listen to the Spirit's convicting work in our lives.
- Quenching involves not yielding to the Spirit's leading. It is listening to your own fears, desires or wants over the Spirit's guidance. This is the Spirit's ministry to guide us into the Truth and to convict of sin.

THERE ARE 2 WAYS THAT WE HINDER THE SPIRIT OF GOD WORKING IN US.

- 2. We can “**grieve**” the Holy Spirit - Ephesians 4:30 -
And do not **grieve** the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
- Gk. Lupeo – to cause grief, pain or distress; to be made sorry;

BELIEVERS' FORGIVENESS & ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

- 1 John 1:9 – “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness?”
- John 10:27–29 - 27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand.

B. THE TEMPLE OF GOD IS HOLY

- 17 For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.
- **The Most Holy Place (Holy of Holies)** – keeps the Ark of the Covenant the shekinah glory of God rested on the lid of the Ark (Mercy Seat); the High Priest entered once a year to sprinkle blood on the Mercy Seat (pure gold w/ winged cherub on each side) to atone for his sins and the peoples' sins.

CONCLUSION

- 1. If you are a believer in Christ, you are the temple of the Holy Spirit. You house God in your body or vessel. Seek to live lives that are holy. We can't do it on our own. The Holy Spirit needs to work in our lives.
- 2. Be an Ambassador for Christ. You represent him everywhere you go. We won't be perfect, but seek to help others to know Him.
- 3. Don't let the flesh or the world defile or destroy the Temple. Seek to be led by the Spirit as He leads us according to the Word of God.