

# THE SANCTUARY

## KEY TO THE BOOK OF REVELATION

### THE GOSPEL WAS PREACHED TO OLD TESTAMENT ISRAEL

Hebrews 4:2 "Unto us was the gospel preached as well as unto them." "... and those to whom it was first preached did not enter (His rest) because of disobedience."

Sin results in death. This lesson is clearly taught in the symbolism of the Old Testament Sanctuary. God has provided a means of forgiveness. This lesson also is clearly taught. We may come before God, but only after confession and cleansing by water and by blood. By means of the atonement (covering) man is privileged to find at-one-ment with God. We eat the "bread of life," our prayers are heard, we are filled with the Spirit and shine like the ancient lamps filled with oil.

The gift of God's Son, His death, resurrection, ascension to the right hand of God, His work as High Priest, standing before the Father, the work of the angels, the role of man, even the final end of Satan - all are symbolized in the Sanctuary and its rites. God gave to the world a compacted prophecy. For 1500 years, from the first Passover to Calvary, this prophecy was reenacted.

Looking again at the perfect fulfillment of the Passover prophecy, we feel a growing confidence, that the final events portrayed by the Fall Festivals will indeed take place in God's own appointed time.

### CHRIST GAVE INSTRUCTION

Christ Himself, on Mt Sinai, gave instruction for the building of the Sanctuary. This instruction was given to Moses in the most minute detail. Every measurement, every color, every material, every ingredient was carefully outlined because every detail symbolized some aspect of Christ's work of redemption.

Hebrews 3:3 "For this One (Christ) has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house."

*For a study about Christ as the Mediator between God and man, during the Old Testament period, please see "The Mediator: Christ in the Old Testament" at this web site.*

### THE WILDERNESS SANCTUARY WAS A COPY, IN MINIATURE OF THE HEAVENLY TABERNACLE

Hebrews 9:1 "Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary."

Hebrews 9:11 "But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation."

Hebrews 9:23 "Therefore it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these (animal sacrifices), but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these (the blood Christ). For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself..."

Hebrews 4:14 "Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God

let us hold fast our confession.

Hebrews 6:20 "where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

Hebrews 7:25-27 "For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself."

## **THE FURNITURE OF THE SANCTUARY**

Exodus chapters 25-40

THE COURTYARD HANGINGS

GATE (into the courtyard)

THE ALTER OF SACRIFICE

THE LAVER OF WASHING

THE COVERINGS AND CURTAINS OF THE HOLY PLACE AND MOST HOLY PLACE

THE TABLE OF SHEW BREAD

THE SEVEN BRANCHED CANDLESTICK

THE ALTER OF BURNT INCENSE

THE BRASS CENSORS

THE VEIL SEPARATING THE HOLY PLACE FROM MOST HOLY PLACE

THE SCROLL OF THE LAW OF SACRIFICES/ IN A POCKET ON THE SIDE OF THE ARK

THE GOLDEN CENSOR (used only on the Day of Atonement)

THE VEIL EMBROIDERED WITH ANGELS

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

### INSIDE OF THE ARK

TEN COMMANDMENTS WRITTEN ON STONE	
AARON'S ROD THAT BUDDED	The dead branch came back to life, as did
POT OF MANNA	Christ the "hidden manna."

TWO GOLDEN COVERING CHERUBIM - ON THE TOP OF THE ARK -

(2 at the tomb, 2 At the ascension, 2 with the Lord when He visited Abraham, Lucifer was the original (Ezekiel 28:14 (It may be that it took two angel beings to replace Lucifer).

PRIESTS FROM THE TRIBE OF LEVI

THE HIGH PRIEST

# THE SACRIFICES

## THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM DID NOT BEGIN AT SINAI

Able offered a lamb sacrifice (Gen. 4:1-8), Noah offered sacrifices (Gen. 8:20), Job offered sacrifice (Job 1:5), Abraham offered sacrifices (Gen. 22), Jacob offered sacrifices (Gen. 33:20; 35:1,3,7), Moses asked that the Children of Israel be allowed to leave Egypt so that they could offer sacrifices to their God (sheep were abominable to the Egyptians) Exo. 8:27). The first-born male became the priest who offered sacrifices to God for the members of his extended family. This was the birthright which Jacob desired.

The sacrificial offering did not begin at Mt Sinai, but it certainly was continued in the instructions which God gave to Moses.

The morning and evening sacrifice (offered daily for the sins of the people)

The whole burnt-offering

The meal and drink offerings

The peace offering

The sin offering:

The sinner himself or head of the family for a woman was to bring a lamb of the first year without spot or blemish. The sinner confessed his sin over the head of the animal, then killed the animal himself by slitting its throat. (The sinner acknowledged in symbol that his own sin necessitated the death of the substitute.) No bone of the animal was to be broken. (No bone of Christ's was broken that day, even though the legs of the two thieves were broken.)

The remains of the lamb were carried outside the camp and destroyed by fire. So Christ was crucified and entombed outside the city of Jerusalem. The blood was caught in a small bowl. The priest then washed at the Laver of Washing, before carrying the blood into the Sanctuary.

A small portion of the blood was touched to the corners of the Alter of Incense, (The special incense symbolizes the righteousness of Christ, which He offers before God, in place of our unrighteousness as we pray for forgiveness or blessing), and a small portion was sprinkled upon the veil which separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place. (The veil, which represented the flesh of the Savior, carried the record of all the sins which were committed. It may also represent the record books of Heaven.) The priest then carried the blood out to the Alter of Burnt Offering and poured it out at the base of the Alter (symbolizing Christ's blood poured out for us at Calvary.)

## THREE LEVELS OF MEANING ARE SYMBOLIZED IN THE SANCTUARY

1. CHRIST HIMSELF
2. THE EXPERIENCE OF EACH BELIEVER
3. THE THREE PHASES OF CHRIST'S MINISTRY FOR US

## CHRIST REPRESENTED IN THE SANCTUARY

The Gate: "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man cometh to the Father but by me." John 14:6

The Lamb: "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29

The Alter: Calvary

The Laver of Washing: "He would have given you living water." John 4:10

The Candlestick: "I am the light of the world" John 8:12

The Show Bread: "I am the bread of life" John 6:32,33,35,38,62,51-53.

The Incense: Represents the Righteousness of Christ add to our prayers.

The Ark: Represents God's throne.

The Ten Commandments: Jesus was the Law made visible.

The Veil: "His flesh, which was torn for us" Heb 10:20

The High Priest: Jesus Heb 7:25

The Sanctuary: JOHN 2:19-21 "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up, but He spoke of the temple of His body."

#### THE NUMBER FOUR IS SYMBOLIC OF CHRIST IN HIS HUMANITY

The world was four thousand years old at the death of Christ.

Christ spent 40 days in the wilderness of temptation.

Christ spent 40 days on earth after His resurrection.

There are four gospels, written by first person witnesses of Christ.

The Fourth Commandment was given by Christ and is an essential part of our relationship with Him.

Four (a symbolic number for humanity) + Three ( a symbol of Christ's divinity)= Seven - Symbol of perfection or completion

*Three is a symbolic number for Christ, because He "was and is and is to come." He was preincarnate, incarnate in humanity, and is now glorified.*

MULTIPLES OF FOUR ARE SYMBOLIC OF CHRIST'S FOLLOWERS		
Twelve tribes of Israel	Twelve foundations of the City	Twelve Disciples
Twelve gates of the City	Twelve stones in the Alter of Jacob	Twenty-four Elders of Sanctuary
Twenty-four Elders of Revelation	Seventy-two sent out by Christ	Seventy-two in Council of Elders
48 & 12,000 of Old Testament	Moses spent 40 years herding sheep	Moses spent 40 days on Mt Sinai
Israel spent 40 years in the Wilderness	144,000 of Revelation	Flood Rained 40 days & nights



#### THERE WERE FOUR COLORS USED IN THE SANCTUARY

- BLUE: symbolic of obedience and loyalty to truth (*Num. 15:37-40*)  
Israelites wore a border of blue on their garments.  
Story of Christ and the women who touched His hem. (*MATT 14:36, MATT 9:21*)
- WHITE: a symbol of purity (*Rev. 19:8*)
- RED: a symbol of sacrifice or suffering. (*Rev 19:13*)
- PURPLE: a symbol of royalty (*John 19:2,3*)  
Those who are purified by loyalty through suffering receive a crown. *ISA 48:10, II TIM 4:8*

#### THERE WERE FOUR COVERINGS OF THE SANCTUARY

1. Badger's skin, a brown sea animal, Christ had no outward beauty that men should desire Him. *ISA 53:2*
2. Ram's skin dyed red, symbolic of a suffering savior.
3. Goat's hair washed pure white, symbolic of righteous purity.
4. Blue, Purple, Scarlet Thread, with gold angels interwoven symbolic of a Divine Prince of heaven.

#### THERE WERE FOUR MATERIALS USED IN THE FURNITURE

1. BRASS: symbol of strength,, stability, endurance, victory through suffering. Was an alloy of copper and zinc - only formed in a furnace.  
Fine brass was more valuable at that time than gold *Isa. 48:10* "I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction."  
*Rev. 1:15* Christ's feet the color of fine brass.
2. SILVER: a symbol of redemption every Israelite paid a redemption price to the Temple of one-half shekel of silver.  
Jesus was sold for 30 pieces of silver.
3. BEATEN GOLD: a symbol of suffering divinity: Father and Son have shared in the suffering which sin has brought.
4. WOOD: a symbol of humanity. The Ark, Table of shew bread and Alter of incense, were made of wood overlaid with beaten Gold, symbolizing Christ's divine/human nature.

#### THERE WERE FOUR INGREDIENTS IN THE SHEW BREAD

1. FLOUR: ground fine, a symbol of suffering, or the harvest
2. OIL: symbolizing the Holy Spirit
3. SALT: symbolizing preservation, incorruption, wisdom (*Col 4:6, Mark 9:50, Matt 5:13*)
4. WATER: the cleansing of the Word. (*Ps 119:9, Eph 5:26*)

## THERE WERE FOUR INGREDIENTS IN THE INCENSE

1. STACTE (MYRRH)
2. ONYCHA
3. GALBANUM
4. FRANKINCENSE

All were "beaten small" symbolizing the suffering of the Holy Spirit, who "maketh intercession for us with groanings".  
*ROM 8:26*

Only the High Priest burned incense in the Holy Place. Only Christ offers our prayers before God.

The incense ascending with the prayers of Israel represents the merits and intercession of Christ, his perfect righteousness, which through faith is imparted and imputed to the believer. The incense was offered with the morning and evening sacrifice. *Ex 29:38,39 Ex 30:7,8.*

Four pillars supported the gate into the courtyard, and the veil separating the courtyard from the Holy Place. Four pillars support the veil separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place.

## THE HIGH PRIEST'S GARMENTS

1. Plain white linen inner garment down to the foot. *EX 28:4*
2. Plain white linen inner girdle passed over the shoulder, crossed over the chest, passed under the arms, twice around the body and tied in front. (The ordinary priest wore numbers 1 and 2.)
3. Brodered Coat - with no rent or ma. (Christ's coat was not torn. *John 19:23,24.*)

The High Priest who rent his garment when he condemned Christ, *JOHN 19:23,24*, also pronounce sentence upon himself, because to tear that coat was to separate oneself from God. The symbolism of perfection was spoiled.

*LEV 21:10; LEV 10:16*

4. Girdle of fine twined linen with blue, purple and scarlet needlework. *EX 28:39; 39:29*
5. Blue Robe of the Ephod: with a hem border of bells and pomegranates (Our words should equal our works.). (On the day of Atonement the people listened for the tinkle of the bells, which would tell them that the the High Priest had safely emerged from the Most Holy Place and changed his garments. *EX 28:33-35*)
6. The Ephod: *EX 39:3* "gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twined linen"
7. The Breast Plate of Judgment: Twelve precious stones, one for each tribe, and the Eurim and Thumin. *EX 39:13; 28:15; 28:12-19.*
8. Plain white linen: tunic, trousers, sash, turban. This was the attire to be worn in to the Most Holy Place by the High Priest on the Day of Atonement, when he entered the Most Holy Place of the Sanctuary (Lev. 16:1-4).

## THE PRIESTHOOD

The priesthood was unbroken in Aaron's line until Eli's wicked sons. Samuel, not a Levite, then served as priest until Zadok, the grandson of Eli became old enough to assume the office in David's time. By the time of Christ, the priesthood was bought and sold. The high priest's garb was kept locked up by the Roman's and released on high holy days.

Rueben was the first born of Jacob and therefore should have inherited the birthright, but having failed, the birthright was divided: A double portion of wealth went to Joseph's sons, the priesthood went to Levi's descendants after the golden calf incident, and the progeny of the Messiah went to Judah.

### THE SANCTUARY SYMBOLIZES THE EXPERIENCE OF EACH BELIEVER

"A place set apart for a special purpose".

*I Cor. 3:16-17* "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you." "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple you are."

*I Cor 6:19* "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"

*I Cor 6:16* "for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God and they shall be my people."

JUSTIFICATION:      THE GATE AND COURTYARD: We come to Christ and enter a relationship with Him.

THE LAMB: We confess our sins claiming Christ as our Lamb

THE LAVER: We are washed, baptized.

SANCTIFICATION:      THE HOLY PLACE: We grow in grace.

THE SHEW BREAD: We feed on the word.

THE ALTER OF INCENSE: We pray.

"Let my prayer be set forth before thee as INCENSE, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice."  
*PSALMS 141:2*

As the Alter of INCENSE was closest to the Most Holy Place, so prayer brings us closest to the Father. As the INCENSE was renewed at dawn and twilight so we should pray morning and evening.

The sweet incense represented the righteousness of Christ added to our prayers. To pray in the spirit and mind of Christ, means to submit to God's will as Jesus did. The Spirit will change our prayers to requests for that which is best for us, "for we know not what to pray for as we ought." *ROM 8:26,27*.

To come before God in our own righteousness is death. Nadab and Abihu (*LEV 10:1-5*) and the 250 princes who came with their own incense ("strange fire") were

consumed by “fire” which came out from the Most Holy Place, and from the Pillar of Cloud. (*NUM 16*).

THE LAMPSTAND: We let our light shine.

"Let your light so shine before men that they will see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." *MATT 5:16*

"Ye are the light of the world." *Matt 5:14*

"I will put my spirit (oil) within you and cause you to walk in my statutes."  
*EZE. 36:26-27.*

The individual that forms a part of God's church, will often feel the workman's hammer. For "we are His workmanship." *EPH 2:10, I PET. 4:12.* Only the High Priest trimmed the Lamps. So only Jesus trims us. As the Lamps were to burn continuously so we are to shine continuously.

GLORIFICATION: THE MOST HOLY PLACE:

THE ARK: We will keep the commandments of God, and receive a crown of obedience.

*REV 2:10* (The top of the Ark was

ringed with a crown.)

The Law will be written in the heart

*II Cor 3:3*

POT OF MANNA - God

will provide.

AARON'S ROD THAT BUDDERED - for those who bear the fruits of the Spirit.

We will be glorified at the second coming of Christ when we receive immortal bodies like His.

THE COVERINGS:

1. Brown: We should seek no

outward display.

2. Red: Though our "sins be as scarlet"

3. White:

"they shall be as white as snow." *ISA. 1:18*

4. Purple:

We shall be "kings and priests unto God." *REV 1:6*

**THE SANCTUARY SYMBOLIZES THE THREE PHASES OF CHRIST'S MINISTRY FOR US**

WAS THE ATONEMENT FINISHED ON

CALVARY?

1. If atonement was made on Calvary, by whom was it made? The making of the atonement was the work of a priest. At Calvary, Jesus was the Lamb, the offering. There was no priest at Calvary.
2. The killing of the lamb was not the atonement. The sinner killed the lamb in the courtyard. (*LEV 4:1-4, 13-15, etc*). After that, the priest took the blood into the sanctuary and made the atonement. Atonement (*LEV 4:5-12, 16-21*) was made in the Sanctuary, but Calvary was not the Sanctuary.
3. The Courtyard of the Temple symbolized earth. The covered Holy Place and Most Holy Place symbolized Heaven. Jesus, the Lamb was slain on the earth. He could not make atonement until He entered the Sanctuary (Heaven) as our High Priest.
4. Jesus could not be a priest while on earth because He was not descended from the tribe of Levi (*HEB 8:4*).
5. Therefore, Jesus did not begin the work of atonement, whatever the nature of that work may be, until after His ascension, when by His own blood He entered the Heavenly Sanctuary and began to apply the merits of that blood in our behalf.

THE COURTYARD:

Represents the earth where Jesus died.

THE ALTER OF BURNT OFFERING:

The cross where Christ died.

THE LAMB:

Christ

THE HOLY PLACE:

Jesus' continual ministry for us in heaven, after His ascension.

THE ANGELS ON THE VEIL:  
salvation."

"sent forth as ministering spirits to those who shall be heirs of

THE TABLE OF SHEW BREAD:

God's throne; Father and Son

Jesus is sitting at the right hand of the Father in Heaven. *HEB 1:3*  
(Located on north side of Holy Place. *Ex. 40:22*. Lucifer vowed he would sit also "on the mount of the congregation on the farthest side of the north;" *ISA 14:12-15*)

THE OIL IN THE LAMPSTAND:

The Holy Spirit given by the Father, through the Son. The oil was placed in the 7 lamps of the lamp stand by the High Priest. So Christ places His Spirit within each believer.

THE ALTER OF INCENSE:

Jesus continual intercession for us through prayer. *EW 279*

THE VEIL:

The record books. The confessed sins of Israel were transferred to the sanctuary, via the blood sprinkled on the veil.

THE MOST HOLY PLACE: Jesus appearance for us at the final judgment.

THE ARK: God's throne in the Judgment

THE LAW: The standard in judgment,  
foundation of God's government.

THE PRIESTS: The 24 Elders "Kings and Priests after the order of Melchizedek" *Rev 4:4, 5:8-10*. (They were resurrected at the time of Christ's resurrection and are representatives for the human race now in heaven. *MATT 27:51-52*)

THE HIGH PRIEST: Jesus *HEB 4:14*

*(II Maccabees 2:1-8* Jeremiah hid the ark in a cave just before the Babylonian attack in 586 BC which destroyed Solomon's Temple.

### THE HISTORY OF MOUNT MORIAH The Mountain of God

*GEN. 22:2* Abraham directed to offer Isaac on this mountain. Satan held as a pagan stronghold for 400 years.

*II SAM. 5:6-9* Taken by King David's forces, it became the City of David.

*II CHRON. 3:1* The Angel with the drawn sword appeared to David, when the plague killed 70,000 of the Israelites after David took a census rather than trusting God for protection. David was directed to erect an altar and consecrate this place. Solomon later constructed the Temple on the site.

Satan once again holds this site. The Dome of the Rock stands where the Temple once stood. This will probably be the site for the appearance of Satan when he counterfeits the second coming of Christ.

*ZECH. 14:4-11* Mt Moriah will someday be the site of the New Jerusalem.

Christ will someday touch earth on this spot when He returns after the 1000 years. The Mt of Olives will divide and become a plain upon which the Holy City will settle.

Interestingly, an earthquake fault runs through this spot.

### THE SANCTUARY: KEY TO THE SYMBOLISM OF REVELATION

CHAP 1:6 "hath made us kings and priests unto God"

1:12 "seven golden candlesticks"

1:13 "garment down to the foot and girt about the paps with a golden girdle." (garment of High Priest)

3:12 "Him that over-cometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God."

4:4                   "24 elders" (24 courses of Elders served wilderness Sanctuary)

4:5                   "seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven spirits of God"

5:6                   "Lamb as it had been slain"

5:8                   "golden bowls full of incense = prayers of saints"

5:10                  "24 elders" are "kings and priests unto God"

7:15                  144,000 "serve Him day and night in His temple"

8:3                   "angel came and stood at the alter having a golden censer" incense, golden alter  
before the throne (*EW 279*)

11:1                  "measure the temple of God, and the alter, and them that worship therein"

11:2                  "but the court, that is without the temple leave out, it is given to the gentiles"

11:19                 "And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in His temple the ark of  
His testament."

15:8                  "the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God"  
                          "no man was able to enter into the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels  
were fulfilled."

16:17                 "There came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne saying, 'It is  
done.'"(*EW 279*)

The scene around God's throne.

*REV 4:2-3* The Father

*REV 4:4* The Twenty-four Elders (*Matt 27:51-53*) (*I Chron 24:4*) (*Eph 4:8*) *REV 4:5* The Holy Spirit

*REV 4:6* Representatives of other worlds

*Rev 5:1* The evidence (scroll)

*5:6* Jesus

*5:7* Jesus opens the scroll (He is the judge)

*5:11* The Angels

Compare this scene with the Sanctuary. The symbolism is clear.

As the Most Holy Place is the most important place in the Sanctuary so the Judgment is the most important event in heaven.

**“Thy way O God is in the Sanctuary.” Psalms 77:13; Hebrews 9:23.**