

The Sanctuary Lesson 4 4Q 2013

Lessons from the Sanctuary

SABBATH

Read first paragraph, “The sanctuary...” thoughts?

Which direction should we go to direct the current of our study, use the OT sanctuary to understand the gospel, or use the gospel of Jesus to understand the sanctuary?

Which is better, to study a shadow to understand the object casting the shadow, or to study the object to understand its shadow?

One of the major problems with most OT theology and sanctuary teaching is that they study the shadow to try to understand Christ and His mission and ministry, rather than studying Christ to understand the OT sanctuary.

This is from a book called Christ’s Object Lessons, published in 1900, yet this idea is still not utilized to understand the sanctuary:

The significance of the Jewish economy **is not yet fully comprehended**. Truths vast and profound are shadowed forth in its rites and symbols. **The gospel is the key that unlocks its mysteries. Through a knowledge of the plan of redemption, its truths are opened to the understanding. Far more than we do**, it is our privilege to understand these wonderful themes. We are to comprehend the deep things of God. (133)

Thoughts?

Several points if you think this is right:

- At the time *Christ’s Object Lessons* was written (1900) the significance of the sanctuary service was not fully comprehended. Meaning – much of what was written before that was limited, partial, incomplete and perhaps misunderstood. Yet, we cling to descriptions from more than a century ago as if it is the clearest and final understanding of the sanctuary symbolism.
- The gospel is the key. We must first have a right understanding of the gospel to understand the symbols. If we misunderstand the gospel as paying legal penalty, we will necessarily misunderstand the sanctuary. The gospel, as we discussed last week is the Good News about God’s character as revealed in Christ. Only those who rightly understand the gospel will uncover the meaning of the sanctuary symbols. 2Cor 4:4-6
- We have much more to learn, truth is progressive. We need to stop resting complacent on ideas hundreds of years old and instead move forward in our understanding.

Thoughts?

In the lesson is a little diagram of the sanctuary. I thought this week we could explore some of the symbols and meaning of this system and how it was designed to teach the true gospel.

First, some general principles we will use to decode the symbols:

- The OT Sanctuary was a teaching tool. **Everything** in it was a symbol of something else. Not one element was to be taken literal. It was not to be taken concretely, but translated into its ultimate reality. Just as letters are symbols that make up words which represent realities, i.e TREE is not a tree, but is a symbolic representation of a tree. So too, all the symbols of the sanctuary represent other realities. It is these realities we seek.
- Some of the symbols may have more than one meaning, just like words can have more than one meaning, (lamp represents living and written Word)
- Some realities are represented by more than one symbol, just like objects can have more than one name. (Lamb and High Priest represent Jesus etc. daily priests and the vessels that carried the blood represent the converted working with God to share the gospel)

So let's examine the meaning of the various elements

THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL:

- The children of Israel represented what? The entire human race. The twelve tribes represent peoples from all nations, tribes and kindreds.
- The came out of Egypt, and Egypt represented what? The sinful world
- Pharaoh represented who? Satan
- Moses represented who? Jesus
 - The ark Moses was found in represented what? Jesus. Moses was to be drowned in the Nile, as all baby boys were (Ex 1:22). But the ark preserved Moses, representing Jesus the ark for the human race that saves the race from drowning in sin.
 - Moses also, was taken into the house of Pharaoh and raised there. Jesus came to earth and was raised in the domain of the prince of this world.
 - Moses went to the wilderness to overcome his self-dependence and came back to deliver the people from bondage. Jesus went into the wilderness to be tempted by Satan and overcome temptations to act in self-interest and returned to deliver the people from sin. As Jesus said:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, Because he anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor: He hath sent me to proclaim **release to the captives**, And recovering of sight to the blind, **To set at liberty them that are bruised, proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.** (Luke 4:17-19)

- They marched through the Red Sea – the waters of the Red Sea represent the grave. The cloud that hovered over them represented the Holy Spirit. Moses represents Christ holding the grave open. Their going through represented baptism, death to the old life, leaving the world of sin (Egypt) and rising from the water in new life. Thus the children of Israel were baptized when they when through the Red Sea.(1Cor10:2) Moses held up his hands represents Christ interceding in our behalf. The two assistants holding up Moses hands represents Christ's

human agents on earth spreading the gospel, living lives of love and truth, cooperating with God to restrain and keep open the way of salvation.

- Pharaoh's army destroyed in the sea represents Satan's agents who die as a result of unrestrained and unremedied sin, when God withdraws His protective hand and allows the natural results to take its course.
- The people marched in order through the Red sea and on their journey in the wilderness: Judah the first tribe, Dan the last.
 - Judah is the tribe from which kings came, and from which Jesus descended, and thus leads Israel. Dan means God is judge and represents the final end when God's judgment is realized and sin is eradicated.
 - This also represents Jesus who is the King of kings and Lord of lords at the head of humanity and the righteous judge, as all judgment was placed in His hands, at the end of humanity. He is thus the beginning and the end, the alpha and omega, the first and the last. All graphically depicted in the symbolic way this drama is carried out.
- Then in construction of the sanctuary, God chose Bezaleel from the tribe of Judah and Oholiab from the tribe of Dan to be the two lead craftsmen to make the sanctuary and its items. Bazaleel from Judah and Oholiab from Dan, represent Christ, the first and the last, the King and the Judge, the Beginning and the End, the one who branched out from his place in heaven to build His sanctuary.
 - Tell him this is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Here is the man whose name is the Branch, and he will branch out from his place and build the temple of the LORD.¹³ It is he who will build the temple of the LORD, and he will be clothed with majesty and will sit and rule on his throne. And he will be a priest on his throne. And there will be harmony between the two.' Zech 6:12,13
- The tribes camped around the sanctuary on three tribes on each of the four sides with the Levites closest as a connecting link between the people and the other tribes.
 - This represents the world, the Levites represent those who have accepted salvation and are on God's team working to bring the gospel of God's kingdom to the rest of the world. The other twelve tribes represent the nations, tribes, and kindreds of the world, who will ultimately be saved from all parts of the world.
 - The 12 Tribes and The Outer Court represent the world
 Revelation 7:4 144,000 represent the saved from the 12 Tribes and Revelation 21:12 New Jerusalem 12 gates names of the 12 tribes

MOSES

Represents Christ prior to His incarnation (Moses goes into God's presents to speak with Him and from Moses comes all the instructions for the sanctuary. Represents Christ working with the Father in heaven to formulate and carry out the plan of salvation prior to Christ's incarnation.)

THE LAMB

Represents Christ in His human incarnation on this earth

- JN 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

THE HIGH PRIEST

- represents Christ after his resurrection and ascension (Heb 4:14 “Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.”)
- Christ didn’t become High Priest until after His incarnation, death and resurrection:
 - For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. Hebrews 2:17,18

In order to understand the meaning of the symbols, we have to determine the general lesson being taught. Are we viewing this through the penal, imposed law model or the natural healing model? What is the key? The gospel, which is what? Misunderstand the gospel and misunderstand the symbols.

What, in general, is the lesson that the sanctuary is to teach? Reconciliation with God. God’s plan to save humanity from sin.

What is the problem that needs resolving? Is the problem of sin a problem or defect in God or God’s law? Or is the problem/defect in humanity?

So, when we interpret these symbols are we interpreting them in ways that suggest something is being done to God and/or His law, or that something is being done to heal and restore man?

THE COURT

- Contains the Brazen altar and the laver both made out of bronze.
- **THE BRAZEN ALTAR**
 what does it symbolize?
 - The altar was constructed out of Shittam wood, which was symbolic of corruptible humanity, overlaid with bronze, symbolic of our defective condition being judged or diagnosed as such.
 - Thus the bronze altar represents the starting point in salvation process. Step one of the 12 steps – “we admit that we are powerless over alcohol and our lives have become unmanageable.” The first step in any healing process is admitting we have something wrong. It is the place of “judgment” or diagnosis, where we acknowledge something is wrong and we are powerless to cure ourselves and thus are in need of an external remedy or Savior. This is the first step, where we all must start, fall down and acknowledge our condition, our sinfulness, and our need of a Savior. The Bronze altar, step one in the salvation/healing process.
 - When an animal was slain the inner fat, the fat around the organs, was removed and burned on the brazen altar, representing the work of Christ in taking our sinful condition upon Himself and destroying the infection of fear and selfishness at the Cross when He was tempted to save self, but didn’t give in to those temptations. He cleansed the inner man.

- The blood represents the perfect character of Christ and the truth about God. The blood was poured out at the base of the altar and applied to the horns. This represents a complete cleansing of the heart and renewal in the truth about God as the foundation of salvation or healing, and then the character transformation as the blood is applied to the horns. Our thoughts being brought into harmony with His etc.
 - "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink." John 6:53-55
 - "For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life." Leviticus 17:11
 - The leaven of truth works a change in the whole man, making the coarse refined, the rough gentle, the selfish generous. By it [the truth] the impure are cleansed, washed in the blood of the Lamb. {COL 102.3}
 - In the study of the Bible the converted soul eats the flesh and drinks the blood of the Son of God, which He himself interprets as the receiving and doing of His words, that are spirit and life." Fundamentals of Christian Education 378.1

• **THE HORNS**

represent the power of sin in our lives, the defects of character that are in need of removal and transformation by the work of God through Christ in our lives.

- "To the arrogant I say, 'Boast no more,' and to the wicked, 'Do not lift up your horns. Do not lift your horns against heaven; do not speak with outstretched neck.' "Ps 75:4,5
- The sin offering for the non-priest Jew would have the blood placed on the horns of the brazen altar, in addition to being poured out at the base. Representing what? The conversion of the life and the removal of character defects and renewal in Christlike character

• **THE FIRE**

God the HS, on altar before blood applied the working of HS to bring conviction and draw to conversion, and after blood applied to bring transformation, consuming of the old man and regenerating the new.

- Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers;
- Luke 24:32 They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"
- Acts 2:3,4 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

• **THE LAVER:**

The washing of the HS and Truth

- Only the Priests and High Priest washed in the laver
- The laver was made out of solid bronze with no wood and filled with water. The water is symbolic of God the Holy Spirit, which fills the laver. The laver represents

the Word of God. The laver was constructed out of the mirrors the women brought out of Egypt (Ex 38:8). This aptly represents the purpose of God's Word to expose our defects and diagnose our condition. (James 1:22-25)

Titus 3:4-7 "But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. **He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit**, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life."

Individual sacrifice

Eph 5:25-27 "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, **cleansing her by the washing with water through the word**, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless." Corporate sacrifice

We find this theme of washing with the word of God to cleanse our characters carried over by Jesus in the foot washing service.

- Our feet symbolize our journey through life
- Naked feet symbolize revealing truthfully our life journey to our brothers and sisters in Christ
- Washing by another symbolizes others, directed by the Holy Spirit, using God's Word, methods and principles to help us clean up our journey, removing the impure practices from our lives and to experience cleansing of character
- Washing other's feet reveals our willingness to help others who reveal their life journey and share how they have gotten themselves dirty with sin, clean up their lives and characters by the application of Gods' Word, methods and principles

- **THE VESSELS THAT CARRIED THE BLOOD FROM SACRIFICE TO APPLICATION POINT:**

Represent the believers who take the truth about God and the character of Christ, in action, deed, the way they live and the gospel preached to others.

- Acts 9:15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:"
- 2Tim 2:21 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. 21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and* prepared unto every good work.

- **THE DAILY PRIEST**

- The priesthood of believers
- JN 20:21 Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."
- 1PE 2:5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

- **WHITE ROBES:**

- The character of Christ reproduced within the believer
- Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. The angel said to those who were standing before him, "**Take off his filthy clothes.**" Then he said to Joshua, "**See, I have taken away your sin, and I will put rich garments on you.**" Then I said, "Put a clean turban on his head." **So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him**, while the angel of the LORD stood by. (Zech 3:3-5)
- Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes--who are they, and where did they come from?" And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. (Rev 7:13,14)
- Only the covering which Christ Himself has provided can make us [ready] to appear in God's presence. This covering, the robe of His own righteousness, Christ will put upon every repenting, believing soul...

This robe, woven in the loom of heaven, has in it not one thread of human devising. **Christ in His humanity wrought out a perfect character, and this character He offers to impart to us.** "All our righteousness are as filthy rags." Isa. 64:6. Everything that we of ourselves can do is defiled by sin. But the Son of God "was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin." ... By His perfect obedience He has made **it possible for every human being to obey God's commandments. When we submit ourselves to Christ, the heart is united with His heart, the will is merged in His will, the mind becomes one with His mind, the thoughts are brought into captivity to Him; we live His life. This is what it means to be clothed with the garment of His righteousness.** Then as the Lord looks upon us He sees, not the fig-leaf garment, not the nakedness and deformity of sin, but His own robe of righteousness, which is perfect obedience to the law of Jehovah. {COL 311.4}

THE COVERINGS OF THE SANCTUARY

- **ANGELS EMBROIDERED ON THE FIRST COVERING/LAYER**
the onlooking universe who are watching things both in heaven and on earth as well as ministering to us on earth (this first layer of the Tabernacle had 10 curtain panels, two sets of 5, woven from white linen thread, 1/3 dyed crimson and 1/3 dyed royal blue. The two sets were joined together with 50 gold clasps).
 - MT 18:10 "See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven."
 - HEB 1:14 Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?
- **GOATS HAIR CURTAIN**
 - Symbolic of human sinfulness, fallen human nature
 - Goats were often symbols of deception (Rebekah used a goat to deceive Isaac. David's wife Michal used goat's hair pillows to deceive Saul's messengers. In the judgment metaphor the wicked are described as goats.)

- Made of eleven curtain panels sewed together into two groupings, one of six and one of five, joined together with 50 bronze clasps (hooks and rings or similar).
- The one of six (six is the number of fallen man) had the front panel folded lengthwise (doubled in the bible) that hung over the opening to be seen from the court – symbolic of our sinful nature in constant and daily need of Christ's healing presence. It is to remind us that on this earth we are still in our fallen “tent” and in daily need of the renewing of God's grace.
- The one of five panels (five is the number of grace) is symbolic of Christ who took our fallen condition upon Himself in order to cure and overcome. In eleven instances goats were used as sin offerings, thus symbolizing Christ taking our sinful condition upon Himself to cure it.
- The combination of the five curtain panels (grace) and the six curtain panels (man) make eleven which is symbolic of the chaos of sin overcome by the grace of God through Christ
- **RAMS SKIN DYED RED**
 - Rams were the animals offered to consecrate the priesthood
 - Jesus is of course our High Priest who brings the healing solution.
 - The Rams skins were died red, symbolic of the perfect life of Christ, which He surrendered to remedy our sin condition. This red rams skin covered the goats hair curtain, symbolic of Christ's righteousness which will become our character and overwrite our sinfulness, when He writes His law on our hearts and minds
- **BADGER OR DUGON (SEA MANATEE) SKIN**
 (the meaning of the Hebrew word is obscure as badgers were uncommon in the Sinai desert, but manatees were plentiful in the Red Sea)
 - A tough, durable, impenetrable leather covering which withstood all that nature could throw against it, heat of the sun, rain, storms. Thus representative of Christ our righteousness and our shield of faith which withstands the attacks of the enemy. No matter what the prince of this world throws at Christ He withstood it, and no matter what Satan throws at us, when we are surrendered to Christ His victory will sustain us.

THE BOARDS IN THE SANCTUARY

- Consider the symbolism and lesson: to make boards for the sanctuary, trees had to be cut down, severed from their roots in the earth and stripped of all their branches, i.e. earthly fruits. The board represent the saved who become part of God's sanctuary, the building blocks of it. They must be cut away from their roots in the sinfulness of this world, and stop producing fruits of sin.
- The boards, representing the believers who compose the sanctuary, are wood, earthly, but covered in gold symbolizing being purified by Christ. We must be purified by Christ, have our roots in this world severed, and cut away our self-righteousness then be renewed in Christ's perfect character, in order to dwell in the house of the Lord forever.
- There were 10 boards on the north and south sides of the sanctuary, symbolic of completion. On the east end were six boards, with two corner boards that partially overlapped the first and last. Six symbolic of man, two symbolic of unity with Christ, equals eight, symbolic of New Beginning. Thus, man (6) when united in Christ (2) has a new beginning (8).

- The boards were to stand upright, which is symbolic of those renewed in Christ to stand upright for God's kingdom.
- Each soldier when registered had to give a half shekel of silver to the temple (regardless of whether the soldier was rich or poor). Silver is symbolic of at-one-ment. Being united back with God.
- It took 3,000 shekels to make one talent (about 120 pounds, silver having the same density/weight as lead), which was the weight of one socket (foundation). Each board stood upon two sockets, equivalent to the atonement money of 12,000 soldiers. Symbolically, that atonement, bringing us together again and uniting us to God cost God greatly. And we are only able to stand upright as we are anchored in what Christ has done for us.
- The boards were then held together with five poles (probably about 3 to 4 inches in diameter) made of the same acacia tree wood as the boards and covered in gold, symbolic of Christ's dual nature, human/divine. The five poles symbolized grace.
- Four poles went through solid gold rings, one per pole per board, attached to the outside of the boards. The middle pole did not. It went through holes bored into the middle of the boards pinning them all together from one end to the other, a fitting representation of "Christ in you the hope of glory."

THE HOLY PLACE

Represents the Church:

- The Door represents Christ our door, our gate, the way back into unity with the Father
- Through the door, the light of the lamp shone out into the courtyard. This represents Christ the light which comes from Christ and shines out from the church into the world. Through Christ, shines the light of truth which lightens all men, shining out into the world.
- Five pillars overlaid with gold and with gold crowns on the top, represent grace (the number five) of God through Christ. The pillars of wood, covered in gold crowned with gold, represent Christ, the means of bringing God's grace and healing solution.
- The curtain contained the same colors as the curtain to the Most Holy Place, significant in that what obstructed the view of God was similar in general appearance to Christ who is the door into God's presence. The counterfeit closely approximates the genuine. Lucifer in heaven a covering Cherub claimed equality with Christ.
- But notice that the door to the church (Holy Place), was open through Christ, but the way to ultimate unity with God was obstructed until Christ's death. Christ was NOT the obstruction to God, but was the new and living way through the obstruction. The obstruction was Satan's lies and our carnal nature. Christ destroyed both at the Cross.

THE LAMPSTAND

the Word of God – the written and living Word

- PS 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."
- The central stand represents Christ made from gold
- There were 7 lamps but six branches this represents the church, the six branches humans (six the number of a man) united with Christ the central stand makes seven lamps, the number of perfection.

- The bowl on the lampstand – the heart of the believer where the Word and Spirit burn within recreating Godlike character and the heavenly light as a witness for God – the bowl connect to the lamp is like branch connected to the vine
- The almonds carved on the lampstand represent the fruit of the Spirit which are manifest in the church
- The High Priest and only the High Priest trimmed the wicks each morning and evening, symbolizing Christ working in our hearts to trim away defects of character so we can shine more brightly for Him
 - MT 5:14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.
 - MT 25:7 "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'

THE OIL

the Spirit of God

- 1SA 16:13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah.
- Christ was anointed with the HS at the beginning of His ministry

THE TABLE

represents Christ

- Made of wood, covered in gold, represents Jesus our incarnate God, who took humanity (wood) upon Himself and perfected it (gold) and from who we receive all spiritual nurturance (bread)
- The table had a border or crown on it, measured a handsbreath high. The only measure in the sanctuary that wasn't in cubits. It surrounded the 12 loaves, which represents God's protective hand about His remedy for His people.

THE 12 LOAVES OF SHOW BREAD

(the bread of the presence) represent Christ – the bread of life, the truth of God as revealed in Christ in sufficient quantities for the entire worldwide church

- John 6:35 "Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."
- The loaves were made out of fine flour, with no lumps, and no leaven, representing the purity of Christ without sin
- The Hebrew for cakes *challah* according to Strong's is usually a cake that is punctured or perforated, symbolic of Christ's body which was pierced for us.
- Incense was placed on top of the two stacks of loaves and every Sabbath the priests would join with the High Priest who would burn the incense on the golden altar and then eat the loaves.

Which symbolizes what? Believers coming together on Sabbath, joining with their High Priest Jesus, offering prayers and praise to God (incense) and partaking of the Word (bread)

THE WINE

The truth about Christ which continues to provide the church and individual believers with spiritual nurturance

- Matt 26:29 "Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom."

THE GOLDEN ALTAR

Represents the converted heart which is a member of the body of Christ and growing in grace, because prayers are offered from the converted, not unconverted:

- PS 141:2 May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice.
- Rev 5:8 And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.
- INCENSE

Christlike character – burned by High Priest

- 2CO 2:14 But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. 15 For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.
- But to pray in Christ's name means much. It means that we are to accept His character, manifest His spirit, and work His works. {DA 668.2}

- FIRE

the HS working within the heart to enlighten, transform, heal, ennoble

- MT 3:11 "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

- HORNS

The remnants and vestigial defects of character and remaining elements of selfishness and scars from sin which are being cleansed and healed and purified by the continual partaking and application of Jesus

- The horns of the golden altar are smaller than the Brazen, symbolizing the growth in righteousness and transformation of character.
- When priests offered sin offerings the blood was placed on the horns of the golden altar, not brazen altar, symbolizing the continual need for Christ's transforming power in the hearts/minds of believers

- GOLDEN CROWN

Represents the crown of victory in Christ

- No crown on the brazen altar as it represents the unconverted heart

THE VEIL WITH EMBROIDERED ANGELS

Divided the Holy from Most Holy, obstructing the view of the Most Holy. This symbolizes the lies of Satan which separate us from God, and our carnal nature which Christ assumed and destroyed.

- 2 Cor 2:3,4 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
- Heb 2:14, John 17:3, Heb 10:20

MOST HOLY PLACE

Heaven and the believer in full unity and oneness with God

- THE ARK

The heart of the believer who has God's law written in the heart - Christlike character reproduced within, the living bread of heaven dwelling with and who through God's grace is a branch plucked from the fire through the victory and healing of Jesus Christ – it is no longer I that live but Christ lives in me.

- (HEB 8:10 "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.")

And the order of items placed in the ark – manna, then Law, then rod, we partake of Christ (manna) experience conversion and in trust open the heart, he writes His law upon the heart and mind, and we are transformed from being dead in sin to alive in Christ and bring forth fruits of righteousness (Aaron's rod that budded)

- SHIKINAH

God the Father who lives in unapproachable light

- THE MANNA

- Christ the bread of life – the pure heavenly truth without any remaining distortions in our minds
- John 6:48-51 "I am the bread of life. Your forefathers ate the manna in the desert, yet they died. But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

- THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

- Christ the true source of the Law of Love
- MT 5:17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."

- AARON'S ROD

- Christ, who took upon Himself our dead, defective humanity and by combining it with His divinity overcame the infection of selfishness which brings death and out of this dead humanity that He accepted from Adam He brings forth new life
- **THE LID (MERCY SEAT)**
 Christ – hilistereon the place and means of reconciliation –the one who through all things in the universe hold together:
 - The lid was made out of solid gold, fit representation of Christ’s perfect character. It also was not given any dimensions. This means it is boundless. Christ our Savior and His grace, mercy, love, healing power is boundless.
 - Romans 3:25 “God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished”
 - Eph 1:9, 10 “And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, 10 to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment--to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.”

READ THE MEANING

Let's examine the differences between the sin offerings for Priests and Non-priest Jews.

NON-PRIEST

- Confess on head of animal – sin happens in mind
- Sinner cuts the throat – once lies about God believed separate from source of life – death ensues
- Blood – represents the life, love, character of God
- Carried by priest in vessels – both represent believers sharing the truth
- The blood poured around brazen altar and applied to horns – the truth and character of Christ applied entirely to the uncovered heart
- The Brazen altar with blood applied – the newly converted heart/babe in Christ
- The washing of the organs – the cleansing of the mind from lies by the truth of God’s Word enlightened by the Holy Spirit
- Separating the fat the destruction of the carnal nature
- The burning of the organs the renewal of mind, recreation within, the elimination of old habits, conditioned responses etc.
- The Lamb’s meat eaten by the daily priests – the internalization of Christ’s character, truths, principles methods etc. and growth in spiritual strength as we minister the truth to others

PRIEST

- Confess on head of animal – sin happens in mind
- Sinner cuts the throat – once lies about God believed separate from source of life – death ensues
- Blood – represents the life, love, character of God

- Carried by priest in vessels – both represent believers
- Sprinkled before veil – removes the lies told by the believer, heals the church
- Placed on horns of golden altar – removes and heals residual defects of character
- Pour remainder at base of brazen – witness to the world of the grace of God
- Remove fat and burn, symbolic of destruction of carnal nature achieved by Christ
- Wash and burn organs – witness to the victory achieved by Christ over sin

SUNDAY

Read last paragraph, “Another purpose...” Thoughts?

Was this to teach about how God can stand to be near us, or how we can be healed to be near Him?

The sanctuary came down and was amongst them. Jesus came down from heaven and dwelt amongst us. He did this to provide the way and means of restoration to God. It wasn’t to enable God to dwell with us, it was to enable us to dwell with God.

MONDAY

Read first paragraph, “Exodus 40:9,10 shows us that...” thoughts?

Do you agree? I guess it depends on what we are separating from?

Holiness can mean separate and unique from the sinful world, but on the other side of that coin, it also means, unity and likeness to God. Jesus prayed that we would be one with Him and the Father, and all things are going to be brought together under one head, Jesus.

So, holiness separates from the world, but unites with God.

TUESDAY

Read second paragraph, “On top of the ark...” thoughts?

The Greek is hilisteron, which means lid or cover, to the ark. Luther translated it as *Gnadenstuhl*, German for Mercy Seat, and it was translated by Tyndale into English as mercy seat.

But it really means, Jesus is the place and means of reconciliation with God.

Here is my paraphrase of Romans 3:21-25:

But now God has revealed, a healthy state of being – a character that is right and perfect in every way, that did not come from the written code, but is exactly what the Scriptures and the 10 Commandments were pointing your minds toward.²² This perfect state of being comes from Christ and is created within us by God when we trust him. Our trust in him is established by

the evidence given through Jesus Christ of his supreme trustworthiness. There is no difference amongst any ethnic group,²³ for all humanity is infected with the same disease of distrust, fear and selfishness, and are deformed in character and fall far short of God's glorious ideal for mankind.²⁴ Yet all, who are willing, are healed freely by God's gracious remedy that has been provided by Jesus Christ.²⁵ God presented Jesus as the way and means of restoration. Now, through trust established by the evidence of God's character revealed when Christ died, we may partake of the remedy procured by Christ. God did this to demonstrate he is right and good, because in his forbearance he suspended, for a time, the ultimate consequence of being out of harmony with how he designed life to exist and has been falsely accused of being unfair.²⁶ So, he did it to demonstrate how right and good he is at the present time, so he would be seen as being right when he heals those who trust in Jesus.

Thoughts?

WEDNESDAY

Read first paragraph, "At the dedication..." thoughts?

What about a place for thanksgiving, rejoicing, dedication, prayer, communion with God, reconciliation, triumph, victory, renewal...?

FRIDAY

Read and discuss question 1