

Worship God's Way The Most Holy Place

Exodus 25:10-11; 16-22 "And they shall make an ark of acacia wood; two and a half cubits *shall be* its length, a cubit and a half its width, and a cubit and a half its height. ¹¹ And you shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and out you shall overlay it, and shall make on it a molding of gold all around... ¹⁶ And you shall put into the ark the Testimony which I will give you. ¹⁷ "You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold; two and a half cubits *shall be* its length and a cubit and a half its width. ¹⁸ And you shall make two cherubim of gold; of hammered work you shall make them at the two ends of the mercy seat. ¹⁹ Make one cherub at one end, and the other cherub at the other end; you shall make the cherubim at the two ends of it *of one piece* with the mercy seat. ²⁰ And the cherubim shall stretch out *their* wings above, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and they shall face one another; the faces of the cherubim *shall be* toward the mercy seat. ²¹ You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the Testimony that I will give you. ²² And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which *are* on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel.

Why have we never found the ark? I don't think it is on the earth.

- **Revelation 11:19** Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

The Holy of Holies

3 veils:

- Veil of the outer court – Entrance is through Jesus.
- Veil of the Inner court is the veil that takes us into the Holy Place.
Only priests allowed.
 - **1 Peter 2:9-10** But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into

His marvelous light; ¹⁰ who once *were* not a people but *are* now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

- Final veil is before the Holy of Holies. This veil has cherubim on it.
 - Angels are surrounding the throne constantly praising God
 - **Isaiah 6:1-3** In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His *robe* filled the temple. ² Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy *is* the LORD of hosts; The whole earth *is* full of His glory!"
 - **Revelation 4:2** Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and *One* sat on the throne.
 - **Revelation 4:8** *The* four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"
- Only the high priest could go in on the Day of Atonement. (Lev 16)

Can we enter the Holy of Holies if only the High priest could enter? Especially if Jesus is our high priest?

- **Matthew 27:51** Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,
 - The Veil was torn from top to bottom – 60ft high, 4 inches thick – only God could do this
 - This was God tearing down the separation.
- **Hebrews 10:19-23** Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and *having* a High Priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast

the confession of *our* hope without wavering, for He who promised *is* faithful.

- Have boldness to enter the holiest – by the blood of Jesus
- Through the veil – His flesh (His life broken for us)
- Draw near – The purpose of the tabernacle is that it is the place where God would meet with His people.
 - **Exodus 25:8-9** And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. ⁹ According to all that I show you, *that is*, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make *it*.
- let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience
 - Forgiveness of sin
 - Sin-consciousness
- bodies washed with pure water – Laver – Wash off the junk of the world. The Word of God.
- Here we experience the Life of Christ in us. The Holy Spirit speaking and guiding us, and we pray prayers we know will be answered.
- And come into the Holy of Holies to meet with the Father.

What is in the Holy of Holies?

The Ark of the Covenant

- 45in w x 27in d x 27in h
- Acacia wood – Jesus' humanity - Gold – Jesus' deity

Mercy Seat

- Symbolic of God's throne.
- 2 Cherubim on the mercy seat all gold.
- The lid is 100% gold. Mercy seat. The place where God dwells.

Hebrews 9:3-5 and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, ⁴ which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which *were* the golden pot

that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; ⁵ and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

- It is called the Ark of the Covenant because it is symbolic of God's covenant with His people
- So the items in the ark are all covenantal promises of God.

The Tablets of Covenant

10 commandments are a sign of the covenant

- **Romans 9:4** who are Israelites, to whom *pertain* the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises;

Jesus becomes High priest and offers His own blood.

- **Leviticus 16:15-16** "Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering, which *is* for the people, bring its blood inside the veil, do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat. ¹⁶ So he shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel, and because of their transgressions, for all their sins; and so he shall do for the tabernacle of meeting which remains among them in the midst of their uncleanness.
- **Hebrews 9:11-15** 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. ¹² Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. ¹³ For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, ¹⁴ how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? ¹⁵ And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

So the 10 Commandments actually represent God making Covenant with us.

- **Hebrews 8:1-2** Now *this is* the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, ² a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.
- **Hebrews 8:6** But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.

Manna

Manna represents God's covenant to provide for His people.

- **Psalm 81:10** I *am* the LORD your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt; Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.
- **Romans 8:31-32** What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?
- But not just physical provision. Provision in every way.
 - **2 Peter 1:3-4** as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.
- **John 6:32-33** Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."
- **Deuteronomy 8:3** So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread

alone; but man lives by every *word* that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.

- Manna – Rely fully on God, both spiritual and physical
- **Jesus is the bread of life – Manna represents Jesus – His life in us.**

Aaron's Rod that Budded

Num 16-17 – People complained that Moses and Aaron were taking too much on themselves. Basically, accusing them of spiritual superiority.

- **Numbers 16:3** They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "*You take* too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation *is* holy, every one of them, and the LORD *is* among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"

God has the earth open up and swallow them, then fire consume their supporters.

Numbers 17:1-5 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²"Speak to the children of Israel, and get from them a rod from each father's house, all their leaders according to their fathers' houses—twelve rods. Write each man's name on his rod. ³And you shall write Aaron's name on the rod of Levi. For there shall be one rod for the head of *each* father's house. ⁴Then you shall place them in the tabernacle of meeting before the Testimony, where I meet with you. ⁵And it shall be *that* the rod of the man whom I choose will blossom; thus I will rid Myself of the complaints of the children of Israel, which they make against you."

Aaron's rod – Represents God's approval of Aaron being high priest.

- Represents being chosen by God
- God chose Aaron – He was marked.
- We are marked.
- **Ephesians 1:13-14** In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed,

you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Aaron's rod represents the Holy Spirit – dwelling in us.

All 3 members of the Trinity are there. And they are there in a capacity related to us. We are designed to be in God's presence.