

Exodus 54: Tabernacle of the Heavens

Exodus (Names) - Changing the World
Dr. Leon L. Sanders Exodus 26

The Tabernacle

Tabernacle - Outside



Tabernacle - Inside



Holy Place

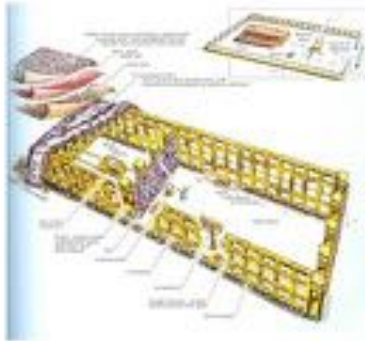
Holy of Holies

Tabernacle Representation of Heaven

- The myriad of details given emphasize that God sees this as a very important copy of Heaven and heavens
 - Practical details serve to make the Tabernacle portable
 - Tabernacle cannot be made from these details alone
 - Do not become lost in the details, look for its meaning
- Tabernacle made from the images God showed Moses

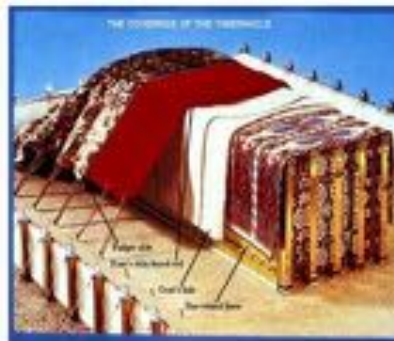
Inner Framework

- Frame provided support for the heavy coverings
- Intricately detailed with gold and wood works
- Structure sections dismantled, transported and easily reassembled



Layers of the Tabernacle

- Four layers of meaning
 - Skins (Goat) - Sinful aspects of this creation
 - Red Ram's skin - Blood sacrifice of Christ
 - Goats hair - Mourning and repentance for sin
 - Linen - Heavens



Clasps of Distinction

Gold

- Held together one pair of the linen coverings (Heaven)
- Denoted God's holiness and refinement
- Hagiazo process required to refine us like Him
(Heb 1:5-9)

Brass

- Held together pairs of the other coverings
- Three layers emphasized God's judgment of sin
- Fear of facing an angry God brings repentance
(Mat 3:14; He 10:31)

Goat Skin Outer Covering

- Mistranslated as dolphin or badger skins, Hebrew just says skins here (Ex. 25:1-9) and goatskins in our text
 - Goats specifically used in annual Yom Kippur sacrifice (Le. 16:5-22)
 - Represented sinful world caused by man and waiting for redemption as do His people (Bread of the Faces) (Nu. 9:19-20)
- Creation and man wait for God's complete redemption

Ram's Skin Covering

- Rams frequently used in Ascending offerings (10x: 12:7-13; Le. 16:1)
 - Ram's skins were dyed red to make this next covering
 - Red represents the blood of the atonement (Christ)
- This layer answers the sin issue of the outer covering but hidden from the Law until fullness of time (He. 3:21-26)
 - Christ's blood reached back to Adam and forward to us

Goat's Hair (Sackcloth) Covering

- Sack(cloth) is a transliteration of the Hebrew saq (שק)
 - This rough cloth, probably black, was:
 - Worn as a sign of mourning (10x: 37:14; 2Sa. 3:31; Joel 1:8)
 - Worn as a sign of repentance for sin (Le. 23:10; Joel 1:13; Jon. 3:5)
 - Worn by prophets warning of God's judgment (Repent) (Is. 49:2-32; 1:20; 1-2; Da. 9:3; Re. 11:3)
- Repentance of your sin essential to salvation (MR. 1:14-15; Re. 3:3)

Linen Covering

- Linen finest cloth known to Jews at this time
 - White {Purity} with three intermingled colors (He 1:13)
 - Purple - {Royalty} Lordship of Christ
 - Red - {Sacrifice} Blood of Christ's atoning redemption
 - Blue - {Heaven} From God comes our redemption (Ps 121:1-2)
- Cherubim were woven into the linen, announce and defend the holiness of God (Le 11:45; N 37:36; Et 1:5-14; Re 4:6-9)

Linen Covering Represented Creation

- Tabernacle {Tent} represented God's creation which was a copy of Heaven over His throne
 - Heavens declare God's glory to man (Ps 19:1-6)
 - God made this creation as a garment {Tabernacle} which will wear out when its purpose is accomplished (He 1:10-12)
- Tabernacle was to remind them, and us, that they {we} were {are} strangers waiting for eternity future (He 11:13-16; Re 21:3-2)

First Tabernacle Made (Co 1:15-17; Re 4:13)

- Christ and Spirit building tabernacle of this creation
 - Darkness, void of chaos of sin already present {Satan}
 - Christ brings order, erecting tabernacle as He planned
 - His shekinah shines forth into the darkness {Holiest}
 - Spirit present from Father guiding Son and man {Holy}
 - Heavenly bodies created for signs and seasons {Hope}
 - Angels sang for joy at His purpose {Cherubim in Linen}

Night to Remember (Lk. 2:8-20)

Shepherds

- Angels appeared to them at night singing of Christ
- They were awake watching their sheep (Almonds)
- Given news of Messiah
- Went to worship Him

Priesthood/Rulers

- Temple within ear shot of shepherds, missed the msg
- Not waiting or watching for God (Religion)
- Missed the news of Jesus
- Refused to worship Him

Christ's First Advent (Jn. 1:1-18)

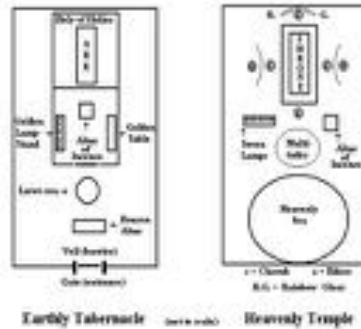
- Christ active agent of the first creation
- He is the life and synonymous with light (Shekinah)
- Light shines into the darkness revealing men's sins
- Jews largely rejected and then killed Him
- By God's will some were saved and being saved by Him

Second Creation (Rev. 21)

- There is no Tabernacle as His people are covered with His righteousness
- There is no night or heavenly bodies as He is literally the Light of creation
- The first creation was about separation but this creation is about unification, by His redemption

Tabernacle of Testimony (Nu 9:15-16; Re 15:5)

- Tabernacle of Testimony is Heaven containing:
 - God's Throne
 - Cherubim about throne
 - Altar of Sacrifice
 - Altar of Incense
 - Bronze Laver (Basin)



Cherubim in Tabernacle (Re 15:5-16:1)

- The cherubim in the Tabernacle of Testimony will be released to:
 - Defend God's holiness pouring the phials of God's judgment on earth preparing it for Christ's Return
 - Sinners refuse to repent and persecute Christ's True Jews and those Gentiles who also believe

Jews Missed the Imagery

- David upset that God lived in a tent while he lived in a building (2Sa 7:1-7)
- Solomon built the Temple in 7 years but his house took 13 years showing his emphasis - Self (1Ki 6:38-7:1)
- God destroyed the Temple [Twice] but His tabernacle was *abandoned* by His people (Babylonians, Romans)

Christians Miss the Imagery

- Our bodies are individual tabernacles indwelt by the Holy Spirit (1st 2:18-22; 1C^{or} 3:16-17; 6:18-20)
- We long to lose our mortal tabernacles (1C^{or} 15:42-49; 2C^{or} 5:1-8)
 - Not to be disembodied spirits - Naked (Gnosticism)
 - But to put on our immortal, spiritual, bodies

David Was a Creation Too Soon

Tabernacle

- Temporary structure of a temporary creation
- Pointed to:
 - Christ's coming redemption
 - Man's necessary repentance

Christ's New Body

- His new body is His tabernacle as ours will be
- Points to:
 - Finished work of Christ in redemption
 - Man's willingness to worship Jesus as Lord

Make It Exactly As Instructed (11: 8,9)

- Moses made the Tabernacle exactly as instructed though he, nor anyone, did not realize its significance
- Tabernacle of Testimony in Heaven exists, ready to purify this creation during the Great Tribulation (Re^v 15:5-8)
- The entire Gospel message from eternity past to eternity future is contained in its imagery {Heaven}