

Exodus 56: Courtyard of Separation

Exodus (Names) - Changing the World
Dr. Leon L. Sanders Exodus 27:9-19

The Courtyard - Boundaries

- The curtains defined the boundaries of Tabernacle
- All within the courtyard considered holy
- All outside the courtyard considered worldly



Simple Structure

- Dimensions
 - North and South sides were 100 cubits
 - West side was 50 cubits
 - East side was (50)
 - Gate of 20 cubits
 - Each side of gate was 15 cubits
- Grace - Multiples of five throughout these dimensions

White Linen

- The curtains were white linen for the purity of Heaven
- The gate was like the curtain between Holy and Holiest places in Tabernacle, threads of:
 - Blue - Heaven
 - Purple - Royalty
 - Scarlet - Blood of sacrifice

Supporting Posts

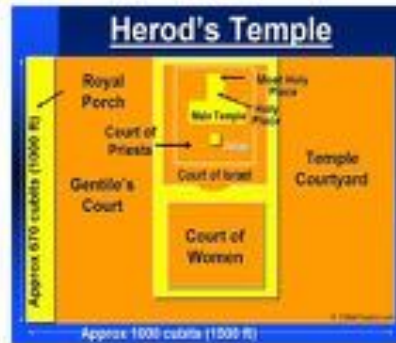
- Everything pointed to holiness of God, sin of man
 - The posts were five cubits high; lower than Tabernacle
 - The posts were banded with silver and had silver hooks
 - The bases of the posts were bronze, as were all utensils
 - Silver is preciousness requiring work (Tarnishes black)
 - Bronze is the metal of judgment (Tarnishes green)
 - White linen exposed to desert dirties quickly (Washing)

Not Much Glamour as Priest

- Priestly Duties
 - Butchers - Animal sacrifices at least twice **daily**
 - Lamp trimmers - Prepping the Menorah twice **daily**
 - Launderers - Cleaning curtains and uniforms **daily**
 - Polishers - Silver and bronze polishing **daily**
- Working for God was hard work around the clock

Temple Caused Divisions

- Tabernacle did not have divisions of the people
- Temple divided people creating worshiper classes
- Further from the altar, the lower the class
- These were man's rules



Meaning Lost in Temple

- Much symbolism lost when Israel built the Temple, shunning the Tabernacle
 - The symbolism of the curtains was especially vital
 - The Temple designed to segregate different peoples, favoring the few
 - Tabernacle included everyone who entered, giving God's salvation message to everyone who comes

Gen. 3:25-29; Ro. 21:17

Gospel Message in the Tabernacle

- Tabernacle only place on earth where anyone who came could find salvation
 - Courtyard curtains announced God's holiness
 - Altar pronounced judgment on one's sin - death
 - Gate defined the Gospel: Salvation through blood
 - Holy and Holiest places - Heaven on earth

Christ Hated the Temple Message

- Christ “cleansed” the Temple near the beginning and end of His ministry (J= 2:13-17; Mk 11:15-19)
 - The Temple was to be a light of salvation in the midst of a lost, dying world to everyone (Is 56:6-8)
 - Jews made it into a house of trade profaning the gospel message to the world (J= 7:5,11)
 - Priesthood allowed world into the Tabernacle/Temple

Beacon of Darkness to the World

- Paul described their failure beautifully (Ro 2:12-13, 17-24)
 - Most Jews did not practice the Law, like today
 - They preached the Law but broke the Law (Ro 16:6-12; 13: 20-46; 47)
 - Jews substituted traditions for the Law (Talmud) (Mt 7:1-7)
 - They were condemned by their own words and deeds
 - Most men rejected God based on priest's/Jew's behavior
- Christendom commits *same* error profaning the Gospel

No Boundaries in Heaven

- Heaven itself is a boundary - No sin enters Heaven since the sacrifice of Christ (1K 10:17-20; J= 12:27-32; 16:7-11; Ro 12:7-9)
- Courtyard - Differentiates holy from unholy (Exodus)
 - Body of flesh (Ro 7:5, 18; 8:7-8; 1Co 15:50; 2Co 10:5)
 - In the world (1J= 2:9)
- Believers must be *in* the world, not *of* the world (Jo 12:16-19)

World – Outside the Tabernacle

- The world is given over to the Gentiles in these last days (since the ascension of Christ), even Jerusalem (He 1:12, Re 21:12)
- The world becomes more violent (rebellious) from the individual to the international level revealing their sin which people love and defend (Mt 26:38, Jc 1:17-21, Jc 4:1-9)
- Violence not judgment of God – Fruit of sin (Ro 1:18-32)

Worship is Continuous

- Fallacy – Worship is what you do at Tabernacle (Old Testament) or Church (New Testament)
- Truth – You are in a state of worship all the time
 - The issue is NOT worship but *WHAT* you worship (Mt 6:24)
 - Worship is the source of one's worldview at every time
 - The lost can only worship from Satan's worldview (Re 13:5-8)

What is Worldliness

- Down through the years man has sought to define worldliness by specific actions, led to many errors
- However, I believe worldliness is not actions but the source of one's values at any moment in time
- Worldliness is *anything* that is derived from the flesh (sin) {Satan}; only Christian is posed between sin and grace {Maturity is living in grace (humility)}

Aaron's Sons Not Immune

- Very soon after receiving the Law the Priesthood began to stray from the precepts of God (Le 10:1-3)
 - Aaron's sons offered strange fire, polluting the message
 - God struck them dead; yet, the priesthood continued to mix God's message with worldliness (Jr 17: 15- 2:12-17)
 - In Christ's time the High Priesthood was bought with:
 - Loyalty to the Romans, not God
 - Money

Church is Not Immune!

- The letters of Christ to the churches show that most churches worshiped a corrupted gospel and christ
 - Ephesus (Re 2:1-5)
 - Pergamum (Re 2:14-16)
 - Thyatira (Re 2:20-23)
 - Sardis (Re 3:1-3)
 - Laodicea (Re 3:15-17)

What is Your Worldview?

- The person who comes to worship God as a penitent sinner is justified regardless of the offering (Ps 51:16-17; Lk 18:13-14)
- The person who comes to pleasure oneself is guilty no matter what the offering (Mt 1:1-2:9; Lk 18:9-12)
- Only you can answer the question of your heart; yet, even you can be fooled (Mt 7:20-23)

Refuge on Earth

- Though man forsook the Tabernacle, God did not and in these last days has erected it for the Gentiles (Gal 3:13-19)
- Christ pitched His Tabernacle in these last days as the High Priest after the order of Melchisedec (Heb 8:12, 9:11-15)
- God's Tabernacle (New Jerusalem) will be in eternity future as point of contact between God and His own (Rev 21:3-9)

Always Boundaries Between Holy and Unholy

- There was a boundary between Lazarus (Paradise) and rich man (Hell) which could not be crossed but observed {Saved possibly in Heaven under altar} (Lk 16:19-31; Ep 4:7-10)
- When God's people populate the new Earth, the lost of this present age will be locked out of the new Earth and cast into the Lake of Fire for eternity (Rev 22:10-15)

Do You Have God's Boundaries?

- Is there a boundary between your:
 - New nature
 - Old flesh
- Are you captive to the world because it appears to be stronger, more effective than the ways of God? (1Co 1:18-31)
- God chose the weak of the world, do you want to be strong? (1Co 1:20-29)