

Israel at Mt. Sinai (3)  
**The Tabernacle**

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**Exodus 25-40**

# The Tabernacle

Recorded – **Exodus 25-27**, while on Mt. Sinai

**Exodus 36-38** – the tabernacle is being rebuilt

Tabernacle means “tent”. Implies an easily movable structure, but this was much more than a simple tent.



## Preparations for the Tabernacle

**Exodus 25:1-9**, the people are instructed to bring various precious materials to build the tabernacle

**Exodus 25:9** – “according to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle...” At least 26x in Exodus - following the LORD’s commands - is mentioned.

The people bring abundantly - likely from what they received in Egypt – **Exodus 11:2-3, 12:35-36**

## Preparations for the Tabernacle

**Exodus 31:1-3, 6ff**, Bezalel and Aholiab are filled with the Spirit of God to direct the building of the tabernacle and its furnishings. God is in COMPLETE control!

**Exodus 35** – the people encouraged to give voluntarily (**vs. 5**), and to volunteer their talents in the building (**10**)

**Exodus 36:2-7**, the people give too much



# The Tabernacle

## **Exodus 36:8ff,**

The tabernacle was a rectangle, approx.  
45 ft (length) x 15 (width) x 15 (height)

Measured in cubits (18in).

Its structure consisted of 20 panels on each long side (15 ft high x 2¼ ft wide)

The back wall was 6 panels plus 1 in each corner.  
All were assembled with rings, and a system of bars.

# The Tabernacle

## **Exodus 36:8ff,**

Inside the tabernacle were 2 chambers.

The holy place – 30 x 15 ft.

The Holy of Holies – 15 x 15 ft.

## The Tabernacle

**Exodus 27:9-19, 38:9-20,**

The outer court yard measured,  
150 ft x 75 ft (3x longer and 5x wider than  
the tabernacle.)

The linen walls of the court were  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet tall  
( $\frac{1}{2}$  the height of the tabernacle).



## INSIDE THE TEMPLE

(Cutaway view)

1. Holy of Holies
2. Ark
3. Veil
4. Altar of Incense
5. Lampstand (Menorah)
6. Holy Place
7. Table of Shewbread
8. Outer Veil

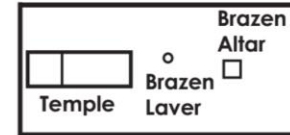
Pillar of  
Smoke

The  
Temple

Pillar

American  
Football Field

Size comparison  
(approximate):



Court of the  
Tabernacle

Brazen  
Laver

Court of the  
Tabernacle

Brazen  
Altar

Slaughter  
Tables

Entrance  
Curtain

Curtain  
enclosure

## TEMPLE COVERINGS AND CURTAINS

9. Outer covering of badger skins
10. Covering of Ram's skin dyed red
11. Curtain of goat's hair
12. Curtain of fine linen

# The Tabernacle

This portable temple was built in the wilderness by the Israelites circa 1450 BC after they were freed from Egyptian slavery. The Tabernacle was the first temple dedicated to God and the first resting place of the Ark of the Covenant. It served as a place of worship and sacrifices during the Israelites' 40 years in the desert while conquering the land of Canaan.

Lexham Press. *Logos Bible Software Infographics*. Lexham Press, 2009.

The Tabernacle,  
via Logos Bible  
Software



# The Furnishings for the Tabernacle

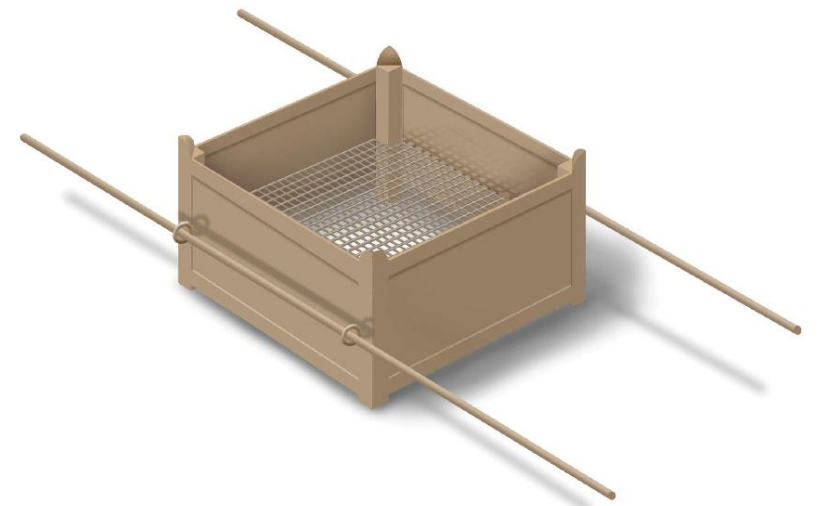
**Exodus 27:1-8,**

The altar of burnt offering  
7 ½ ft square, 4 ½ ft high.

Made of acacia wood and overlaid with bronze.

Animal sacrifices would be offered on it.

The Tabernacle,  
via Logos Bible Software



Altar of Burnt Offering

# The Furnishings for the Tabernacle

**Exodus 30:17-21,**

The bronze laver

Size uncertain.

Placed between the altar  
and the tabernacle  
entrance.

Priests were to wash before  
entering the tabernacle.

The Tabernacle,  
via Logos Bible Software



Bronze Basin



# The Furnishings for the Tabernacle

**Exodus 25:23-30, 26:35**

The table of showbread.

3 ft x 1½ ft x 2¼ ft tall

**Leviticus 24:5-9,**

Each Sabbath, 12 loaves of bread placed in 2 rows.

At conclusion of week, the priests could eat the bread

The Tabernacle,  
via Logos Bible Software



Table of Showbread

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# The Furnishings for the Tabernacle

## **Exodus 25:31-40**

The golden lampstand.

Measurements uncertain

The only piece that did not have rings for transport.

Olive oil was used and the lampstand was maintained twice each day (**Lev. 24:1-4**)

The Tabernacle,  
via Logos Bible Software



Golden Lampstand

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# The Furnishings for the Tabernacle

## **Exodus 30:1-10**

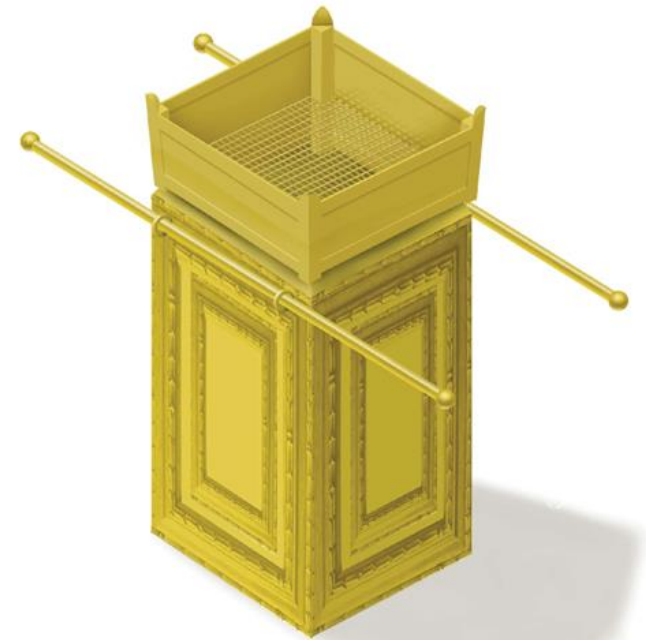
### The incense altar.

18 in square x 3 ft high

Placed in front of the veil.

Each morning and at twilight,  
Aaron (High Priest) would  
burn sweet incense.

The Tabernacle,  
via Logos Bible Software



Altar of Incense

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# The Furnishings for the Tabernacle

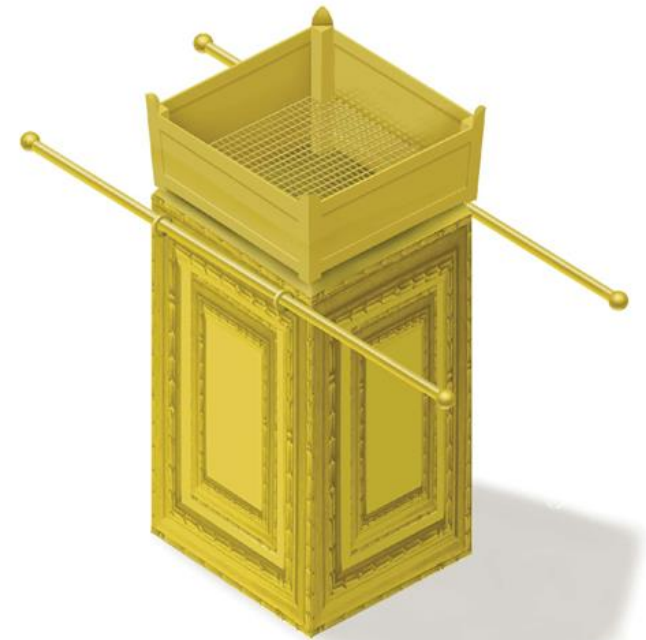
## **Exodus 30:1-10**

### The incense altar.

Once a year, blood for the atonement was placed on its horns.

The “recipe” for the incense given **Exodus 30:34-38**

The Tabernacle,  
via Logos Bible Software



Altar of Incense

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# The Furnishings for the Tabernacle

## **Exodus 25:10-22**

### Ark of the Covenant

4½ ft (l) x 2¼ ft (w) x 2¼ ft (h)

In the Holy of Holies

Within it was “the Testimony”.

On top of it was the mercy seat, with 2 cherubim facing each other

The Tabernacle,  
via Logos Bible Software



Ark of the Covenant

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# The Furnishings for the Tabernacle

**Exodus 25:10-22**

Ark of the Covenant

Each year, the high priest would enter with blood of atonement for the sins of the people (**Leviticus 16**).

The Tabernacle,  
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Ark of the Covenant

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Completing the work on the tabernacle.

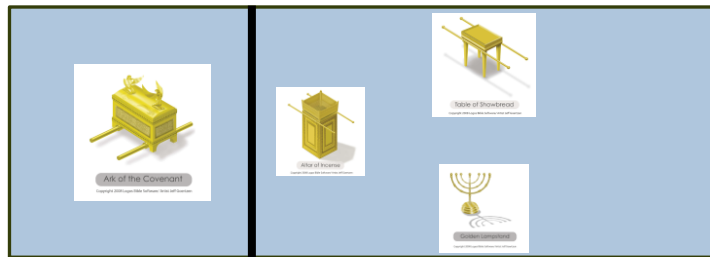
**Exodus 40**, records the completion of the tabernacle and its dedication.

Following its completion, the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle as a cloud covered it (**Exodus 40:34-38**).

# The Tabernacle – Lessons for Today

## The tabernacle is a type of the church

Holy of  
Holies

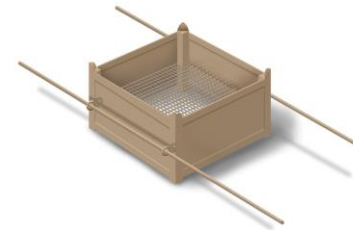


Holy Place



Bronze Basin

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Altar of Burnt Offering

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## The Tabernacle – Lessons for Today

**The tabernacle is a type of the church**

Recall, everything was built according to the pattern YHWH had given Moses and guided gifted artisans with the Spirit.

Consider **Ephesians 3:10-11**

Also, **Hebrews 8:4-6**, the tabernacle was a “copy and shadow” of heavenly things.

## The Tabernacle – Lessons for Today

**The tabernacle is a type of the church**

Notice **Hebrews 9:1-11, 23-24**

*The HS indicating the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing (vs. 8)*

The tabernacle was “symbolic” (vs. 9)

Christ came with “*the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands*” (11)

“*Copies of the true*” (23-24)



# The Tabernacle – Lessons for Today

**The tabernacle is a type of the church**

**ONLY** priests could enter the tabernacle –

We are now the priesthood of God - **1 Peter 2:5, 9**

The altar outside the tabernacle – for sacrifices.

Christ offered the needed sacrifice once for all  
(**Hebrews 7:26-27, 9:13-14, 10:11-14**)

We also put the old man to death!

## The Tabernacle – Lessons for Today

**The tabernacle is a type of the church**

The bronze laver – wash before entering.

We are washed by baptism – **Acts 22:16, 2:38, Romans 6:3-4**

The tabernacle (holy place) – the church!

**Acts 2:47, Revelation 21:3, cf.**

**Matthew 16:18-19** – church/kingdom



# The Tabernacle – Lessons for Today

**The tabernacle is a type of the church**

**The candlestick** – light within the tabernacle

God's word – **Psalm 119:105, 2 Peter 1:19**

Christ is our light – **John 8:12**

We are to be lights – **Matthew 5:14-16**

**The table of showbread** – a weekly memorial

**1 Corinthians 11:23-25, Acts 20:7** –

the Lord's Supper each week

## The Tabernacle – Lessons for Today

**The tabernacle is a type of the church**

The altar of incense – our prayers –

**Revelation 5:8**

The veil – separates us from access to God

**2 Corinthians 5:6-9** - we desire to be with the Lord



# The Tabernacle – Lessons for Today

**The tabernacle is a type of the church**

Holy of holies – heaven itself.

**Hebrews 9:24.**

Jesus is our High Priest – **Hebrews 9:11**

The ark of the Covenant – where we meet with God. His “mercy seat”

**Hebrews 10:12** – Jesus is now in heaven interceding for us. One day, we anticipate being with Him there – **1 Thessalonians 4:17**

# The Tabernacle – Lessons for Today

## The tabernacle is a type of the church



**God's eternal plan**  
Exodus 25:9  
Eph. 3:10-11  
Hebrews 9



# The Tabernacle – Lessons for Today

**God's pattern is important!**

Just as following God's pattern was important at Mt. Sinai, so today, we too must follow His pattern!

**John 14:15**

**cf. 2 Peter 1:3**

**2 John 9**

# The Tabernacle – Lessons for Today

## How is your giving?

The people gave so much they had to be restrained.

How does our giving compare?

**2 Corinthians 9:6-7**

**1 Corinthians 16:2**



Access to God today will  
be as part of His church

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**Are you in His church  
today?**



Let us pray!

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