

THE DIVINE PURPOSE OF THE TABERNACLE

Exodus 25:8
Exodus 29:46-47

CLOTHED WITH POWER FROM ON HIGH

Learning to Prophecy

Session 2



CTF CONNECT GROUP LEARNING TO PROPHECY

WELCOMES YOU TO OUR SPRING SEMINAR
CLOTHED WITH POWER FROM ON HIGH
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God places great emphasis on describing His Dwelling Place among His People

- In Genesis 1 -2
- God made a dwelling place for man when he created the earth.
- God `s dwelling place is well covered in Exodus, Leviticus, Hebrews, Revelation.

We will invest
some time
finding what the
Tabernacle of
Moses
represents

- Proverbs 25:2 (NKJV)
- ² *It is the glory of God to conceal a matter,
But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.*
- God since the beginning has desire to dwell with and amongst His people.
- This started with the dwelling places in the Old Testament and culminated with the Word of God made flesh to leave among us

God wants to dwell among His people.

- **Exodus 25:8 New King James Version (NKJV)**
- *⁸ And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.*
- **Exodus 29:46 New King James Version (NKJV)**
- *⁴⁶ And they shall know that I am the LORD their God, who brought them up out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them. I am the LORD their God.*

Steps in the dwelling of God with man

- God dwelled with man before the entrance of sin in Eden's tabernacle
God walked and talked with Adam and Eve. **Gen 3:8- 24**
- God talk and walked with Noah . **Gen 6:9**
- God appeared to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob **Gen 17:1; 26:24; 35:1**
- God dwelled with redeemed Israel in the Tabernacle of Moses. **Exodus 25:8,22**
- God dwelled in the Tabernacle of King David and gave more revelation. **1 Chron 17:1-6; Acts 15:15-18**
- In the Temple of Solomon, God gave even more revelation.
II Chronicles 5

Steps in the dwelling of God with man

- God gave fullest and perfect revelation in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ
- He is the “fullness of the Godhead Bodily”. **Col 1:19; 2:9**
- He is God in Human form. He is The Tabernacle and The Temple. **John 2:19-21**
- He is the Word made flesh “and dwelt among us, and we beheld His Glory .” **John 1:14-18**
- God was in Christ. **II Corinthians 5:18-19**

Steps in the dwelling of God with man

- God now dwells in the tabernacle or dwelling place of the Church.
- He dwells individually in every believers heart . **II Corinthians 1:5; Ephesians 3:17; II Peter 1:13-14**
- He also dwells corporately or collectively in the Church as a body. **I Timothy 3:15; John 14:23; I Peter 2:5**
- We have seen that God has dwelt with men, amongst men, and finally in men.
- God can only dwelt with man on His own terms. He is a Holy God, and he expects us to be as He is. **Leviticus 11:44; 1 Peter 1:15-16**

The final revelation of the Dwelling place of God is given in The New Jerusalem.

- **Revelation 21:3 (NKJV)** ³ *And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.*
- **Hebrews 8:2 (NKJV)** ² *a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.*
- **Hebrews 8:5 (NKJV)** ⁵ *who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."^[a]*

Names and Titles given to the Tabernacle.

- **The Tabernacle** (Exodus 25:9) Tabernacle = tent, dwelling place.
The Tabernacle was the dwelling of the "Most High".
- **The Sanctuary** (Exodus 25:8) Sanctuary = a holy place, place set apart.
A place set apart for the habitation of a Holy God.
- **The Tent of Testimony/Witness** (Numbers 9:15, 17:7, 18:2)
Because it contained the Ark of the Covenant,
containing the Tablets of the Law,
called as well "The Testimony"
with moral standards for redeemed Israel

Names and Titles given to the Tabernacle.

- **The House of God** (Exodus 34:26; Deuteronomy 23:18; Joshua 9:23; judges 18:31)
This was God's house, in which He was Lord.
- **The Tent of the Congregation** (Exodus 40:34-35)
The place where the congregation gathered together at the door for festival days and worship.
- They gathered at the door of the tabernacle, we gather at **the Door**
Jesus said: "I am the door."

The Tent of Testimony The Tent of the Congregation.

- A tent is not a permanent home or place to live in.
- Those living in tents are pilgrims.
- A **pilgrim** (from the Latin peregrinus) is a traveler (literally one who has come from afar) **who is on a journey to a holy place.**
- The pilgrimage of Israel in the wilderness , points out to our pilgrimage in this world.
- **Hebrews 11:10 (NKJV)** *¹⁰for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.*

Requirements for building the Tabernacle

1. **By free will offerings.** Exodus 25:2 (NKJV) ² *"Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering.*
2. **By a people stirred up.** (Exodus 35:21-22,26; Exodus 36:2)
Exodus 35:21-22 New King James Version (NKJV) ²¹ Then everyone came whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and they brought the LORD's offering for the work of the tabernacle of meeting, for all its service, and for the holy garments. ²² They came, both men and women, as many as had a willing heart, and brought earrings and nose rings, rings and necklaces, all jewelry of gold, that is, every man who made an offering of gold to the LORD.

Requirements for building the Tabernacle

- 3. **By a people made willing.** (Exodus 35:5,21,22,29)
God's people need to be people willing to do His will.
- 4. **By a free-hearted people.** (Exodus 36:3)
People gave offerings freely as a heart response to God's goodness.
- 5. **By the wisdom of God.** (Exodus 36:1-8)
The Tabernacle was built by the wisdom of God through Moses.
Later the Temple was built by the wisdom of God through Solomon (I Kings 3:12-13).
The NT Church will be built by the wisdom of God.
Human wisdom of the world is foolishness to God.

Requirements for building the Tabernacle

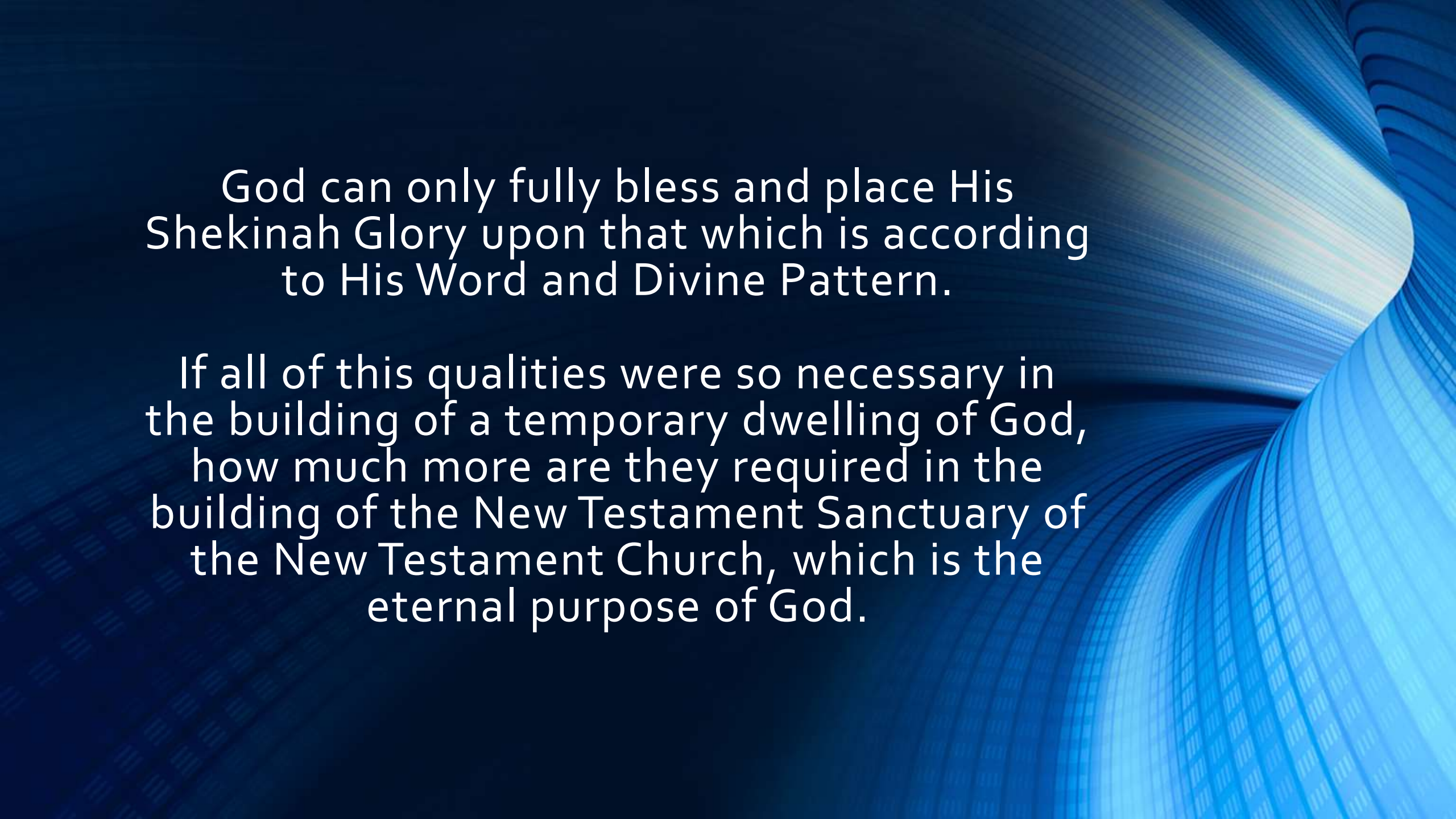
- 6. **By the Spirit of God.** (Exodus 35:30-35; 36:1-3)
The Tabernacle was built by the enabling and equipping of the Holy Spirit upon men.
The New Testament Church can be built only in the same way.
- 7. **According with the Divine Pattern.** (Exodus 25:40 NKJV) *4^o And see to it that you make them according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain.*

Summarizing:

Moses did "as the Lord commanded" (Exodus 39:42-43)

"Moses finished the work" (Exodus 39:32, 42-43; 40:33)

"The Cloud of Glory filled the Tabernacle." (Exodus 40:34-38)

The background is a dark blue gradient with a glowing, tunnel-like effect on the right side. The light source is at the top right, creating a bright white and yellow glow that fades into the surrounding blue. The light rays are curved and create a sense of depth and movement.

God can only fully bless and place His Shekinah Glory upon that which is according to His Word and Divine Pattern.

If all of these qualities were so necessary in the building of a temporary dwelling of God, how much more are they required in the building of the New Testament Sanctuary of the New Testament Church, which is the eternal purpose of God.

Two main individuals involved in the construction of the Tabernacle.

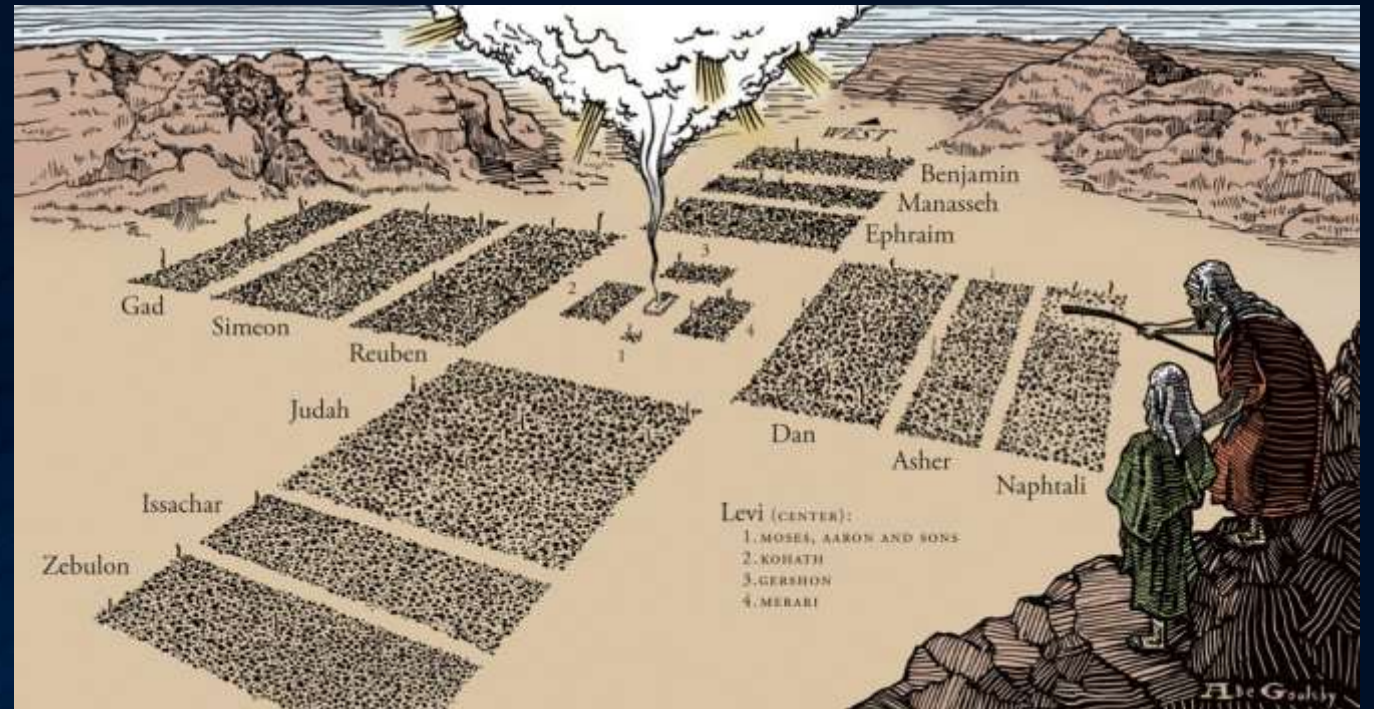
- **Bezaleel**, he was a man filled with the Spirit of God, with a vision of God's plan in his heart.
Exodus 31:2 (NKJV) *"See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah."*
- The other man was **Aholiab**. Exodus 31:6 (NKJV) ⁶ *"And I, indeed I, have appointed with him Aholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan; and I have put wisdom in the hearts of all the gifted artisans, that they may make all that I have commanded you:"*
- **Bezaleel means**: "In the shadow of God"; "God is my protection"
Aholiab means: "tabernacle or tent of my father"

Israel referred as the "Camp"

- This is a military term that speak to us about the reality of Israel as to be the "Armies of the Lord".
- Israel was under the leadership of the Lord. As long as they obeyed the Word of the Lord, there was assurance of victory in the camp.
- The Church is nowadays the Camp of the Lord. It is "*the camp of the Saints*" (Revelation 20:9)
- God ordered Moses to set the Camp in a very specific way. Israel had Twelve Tribes. These tribes were to be divided into four groups for their positioning around the Tabernacle. Each group of three Tribes have their own particular standard to camp under it.

The Revelation of the Cross in the arrangement of the camp

Numbers 1 - 4



On the East side towards the rising of the sun, under the emblem of the Lion

- **Tribe of Judah**, Nahshon the son of Amminadab *shall be* the leader, his army was numbered at 74,600.
- **Tribe of Issachar**, Nethanel the son of Zuar *shall be* the leader, his army was numbered at 54,400.
- **Tribe of Zebulun**, Eliab the son of Helon *shall be* the leader, his army was numbered at 57,400.
- Total armies: 186,400.
These shall break camp first.



On the South side, under the emblem of the Man



- **Tribe of Reuben**, leader Elizur the son of Shedeur, his army was numbered at 46,500.
- **Tribe of Simeon**, leader *shall be* Shelumiel the son of Zurishaddai, his army was numbered at 59,300.
- **Tribe of Gad**, leader *shall be* Eliasaph the son of Reuel, his army was numbered at 45,650
- Total armies: 151,450
They shall be the second to break camp.

On the West side, under the emblem of the Ox

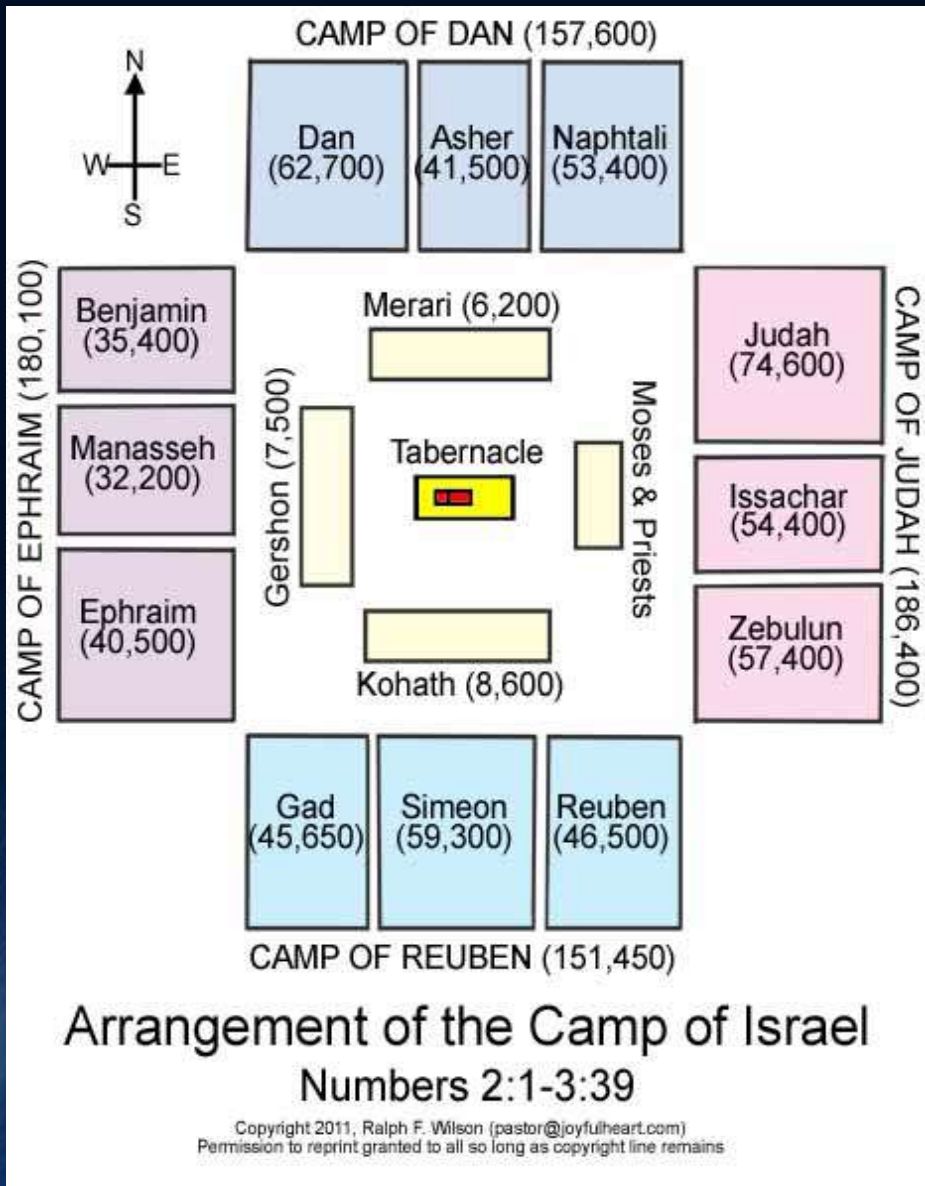
- **Tribe of Ephraim**, the leader *shall be* Elishama the son of Ammihud, his army was numbered at 40,500.
- **Tribe of Manasseh**, leader *shall be* Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur, his army was numbered at 35,200.
- **Tribe of Benjamin**, leader *shall be* Abidan the son of Gideoni, his army was numbered at 35,400.
- Total armies: 108,100
They shall be the third to break camp.



On the North side, under the emblem of the Eagle



- **Tribe of Dan**, leader *shall be* Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai, his army was numbered at 62,700.
- **Tribe of Asher**, leader *shall be* Pagiel the son of Ocran, his army was numbered at 41,500.
- **Tribe of Naphtali**, leader *shall be* Ahira the son of Enan, his army was numbered at 53,400
- Total armies: 157,600.
They shall break camp last.



The Levites position in the Camp

- Numbers 2:17 (NKJV)
- ¹⁷ *"And the tabernacle of meeting shall move out with the camp of the Levites in the middle of the camps; as they camp, so they shall move out, everyone in his place, by their standards."*

Numbers 1:50-51 (NKJV)

- *5⁰ but you shall appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of the Testimony, over all its furnishings, and over all things that belong to it; they shall carry the tabernacle and all its furnishings; they shall attend to it and camp around the tabernacle. 5¹ And when the tabernacle is to go forward, the Levites shall take it down; and when the tabernacle is to be set up, the Levites shall set it up. The outsider who comes near shall be put to death.*

Numbers 1:52-53 (NKJV)

- *5² The children of Israel shall pitch their tents, everyone by his own camp, everyone by his own standard, according to their armies; 5³ but the Levites shall camp around the tabernacle of the Testimony, that there may be no wrath on the congregation of the children of Israel; and the Levites shall keep charge of the tabernacle of the Testimony."*

The families of Gershon, on the West side Numbers 3:21-26

- Those who were numbered were 7,500 men
- *²³ The families of the Gershonites were to camp behind the tabernacle westward. ²⁴ And the leader of the father's house of the Gershonites was Eliasaph the son of Lael.*
- *²⁵ The duties of the children of Gershon in the tabernacle of meeting included the tabernacle, the tent with its covering, the screen for the door of the tabernacle of meeting, ²⁶ the screen for the door of the court, the hangings of the court which are around the tabernacle and the altar, and their cords, according to all the work relating to them.*

The families of Kohath, on the South side

Numbers 3:27-32

- Those numbered were 8,600 keeping charge of the sanctuary.
- ²⁹ *The families of the children of Kohath were to camp on the south side of the tabernacle.*
- ³⁰ *And the leader of the fathers' house of the families of the Kohathites was Elizaphan the son of Uzziyah.*
- ³¹ *Their duty included the ark, the table, the lampstand, the altars, the utensils of the sanctuary with which they ministered, the screen, and all the work relating to them.*

Eleazar the Priest Chief over the leaders of the Levites

- 32 And Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest *was to be* chief over the leaders of the Levites, *with* oversight of those who kept charge of the sanctuary.

The families of Merari, on the North side Numbers 3:33-37

- Those who were numbered were 6,200.
- *35 The leader of the fathers' house of the families of Merari was Zuriel the son of Abihail.*
- *These were to camp on the north side of the tabernacle.*
- *36 And the appointed duty of the children of Merari included the boards of the tabernacle, its bars, its pillars, its sockets, its utensils, all the work relating to them, 37 and the pillars of the court all around, with their sockets, their pegs, and their cords.*

Moses, Aaron, and his sons, on the East side. Numbers 3:38-39 (NKJV)

- *38 Moreover those who were to camp before the tabernacle on the east, before the tabernacle of meeting, were Moses, Aaron, and his sons, keeping charge of the sanctuary, to meet the needs of the children of Israel; but the outsider who came near was to be put to death.*
- *39 All who were numbered of the Levites, whom Moses and Aaron numbered at the commandment of the LORD, by their families, all the males from a month old and above, were twenty-two thousand.*

- The Wall
- The wall was made of fine twined linen (white) and enclosed the courtyard and the sanctuary. If the biblical measurement of a "cubit" is indeed one and one half feet, then the wall formed a rectangle 150 feet long (half the size of a football field) and 75 feet wide (Exodus 27 9-15).
- If there was no wall then the graphic would communicate that all are born with close access to God. But the wall formed a barrier to God's presence. Simply put, God was on the inside and man was on the outside.
- The Son of God taught that there is a barrier between man and God: "Ye shall... die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come (John 8:21). God is pure and holy and man is impure and sinful.

Further revelation of the cross in the arrangement of furniture of the tabernacle

God gave express
instructions about the
positioning of the furniture



The Brazen Altar

Exodus 27:1-8

Leviticus 17:11

- Altar of acacia wood, square, five by five cubits, by three cubits height.
- Four horns in the corners, one piece with it. Overlay it with bronze.
- A grate of bronze, with four bronze rings at its four corners, midway up the altar.
- Poles of acacia wood, overlaid with bronze.
- As it was shown you on the mountain, so shall they make *it*.



Altar of Burnt Offering

The Altar of Sacrifice

- It is referred to in the Scripture as the "brazen," that is, *brass* altar. It was the first piece a worshiper will encounter when coming through the door
- Scholars are of the opinion that copper or bronze was the metal used.
- All offerings made by fire took place at this altar.
- The Altar of Burnt offering portrays the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ on Calvary.
- The sacrament of Communion, constantly remind us the atonement that Christ has made for our sins; our Passover Lamb.

The Bronze Laver

Exodus 30:17-21



- With its base also of bronze.
- It was between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar.
- Aaron and his sons to wash their hands and their feet.
- To enter the tabernacle, coming near the altar to minister a burn offering made by fire to the LORD.
- They shall wash with water, lest they die.
- A statute forever to him and his descendants throughout their generations.

The laver was for the washing of dirt. One had to be clean to serve.

Exodus 30:18-21

- This second piece tells us that God is not only interested in the forgiveness of our sin but also our daily cleanliness in living for Him.
- The NT teaches that once one is forgiven of sin by Christ's sacrifice we receive the "living water" of the Holy Spirit.
- One purpose of the Spirit is to renew our minds to serve God acceptably.

We also read of "the washing of water by the word."

Learning God's Word, we are cleansed from wrong thinking and wrong ways so our service is acceptable to God. (John 8:37-39, Romans 12: 102, Hebrews 12:28, Ephesians 5:26, Psalm 119:11).

The laver was for the washing of dirt. One had to be clean to serve.

Exodus 30:18-21

- First is the Brazen Altar, redemption by Christ Jesus.
- Then it comes in second place the cleansing.
- If entering the Tabernacle the laver was first, and the altar of sacrifice in second place, the picture would convey that Christ's gospel says to live clean and then God will forgive and make one right.
- Many religions proclaim this order, which is not God's order.
- On the contrary, God's order reveals that **first God forgives by Christ and then He gives the power (Spirit) for one to live clean unto Him.**

The Showbread Table

Exodus 37:10-16



- It was placed in the north side of the Tabernacle.
- It was in the Holy Place.
- The Showbread was to be set up before the Lord always.
- The table had two rings at each side.
- The staves would be set in then to carry the table.

Table of Showbread

- Literally, Bread of Faces, or Bread of the Presence
- The Table of the Presence Bread was made from acacia wood covered with gold.
- The Table of Showbread typifies the continual presentation of the living Word of God, Christ, the eating of whom builds up Christ in the believer; the receiving of the body and blood of the Lord in the Communion service; Christ, the Bread from Heaven; the born-again experience.

The Golden Table of Showbread

- Twelve loaves of bread were set on it once a week. During the week the bread was to be displayed before God. On the Sabbath the priests were to eat it.
- A table is a place where friends fellowship while eating. We read of the “Lord’s table” in the New Testament . (1Corinthians 10:16-21).
- His death was pleasing to the Father as an acceptable offering for our sin, and His death is precious to us as the means by which we are forgiven and know God’s love (Romans 5:8).

The Golden Candlestick

Exodus 25:31

- It was placed in the South side of the Tabernacle. (Exodus 40:24)
- It was specifically placed across the Showbread Table. (Exodus 26:35)
- It was in the Holy Place.
- It was to be



The Golden Lampstand

- This furnishing had a central shaft and six side-branches. At the top of the central shaft and of each of the side-branches was a golden lamp that burned olive oil. The Lampstand and its accessories were beaten out of one mass of pure gold.
- The golden Lampstand represents the baptism with the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ; the various ministries and gifts of the Holy Spirit; anointing for Christian ministry and service; the law of the Spirit of Life; Pentecost; the Head and Body of Christ, who is the Anointed Deliverer, the Servant of the Lord.

The Golden Lampstand

- There was no light at all in the holy place except that which came from the golden lampstand. Light was never to go out.
- John 1 presents Jesus as both light and life. “In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.” He alone gives life eternal and the light to understand and know God.
- The number six of the branches reminds us of man (created on the sixth day). The number seven of the lamps reminds us of God’s perfect number. Jesus Christ is both, man and God in one person.
- The church of the Lord Jesus Christ is also pictured as a lampstand through which his Spirit and Word reveals the gospel truth and glory of God (Revelation 1:20).

The Golden Altar of Incense

Exodus 37:25-28

- It was before the Veil.
(Exodus 30:6)
- Also it was before the Ark,
(Exodus 40:5)
- It is said that it was before the
Mercy Seat.
- It was in the heart of the
Tabernacle, in the Holy Place.



The Golden Altar of Incense

- The third and last piece of furniture in the holy place was the altar of incense with its four horns. This stood by the veil, which separated the holy place from the holiest of holies. This altar was for one purpose only: to burn incense, not sacrifice. The incense was a special God-prescribed formula, which sent out a rich fragrant smoke when the priest lit it at morning and evening.
- Incense pictures prayers to God (Psalm 141:2, Revelation 5:8, 8:3). When one prays in the name of God's priest (the Lord Jesus) there is power and it is a pleasing aroma to God.

The Ark of the Covenant of God

Exodus 37:1-9



- It was positioned at the Head in the Most Holy Place, or the Holiest of Holies.
- The Staves were on the sides, (Exodus 25:13)
- The Cherubim were at the ends. (Exodus 25:28)
- The Mercy Seat faced the East. (Leviticus 16:14)
- The Staves were left in the rings. The Ark was placed with the Staves running from North to South

Ark of the Covenant

- The Ark was made from acacia wood covered with gold. Acacia wood and gold were two of the most important building materials of the Tabernacle of the Congregation.
- The Ark of the Covenant typifies the Lord Jesus Christ, and therefore the saint of God in whom Christ is being formed, who is overcoming sin in his daily walk, and who is learning perfect obedience to the Father. In his heart are the following three graces:

What was in The Ark's Chest

- The Two Tablets of the Ten Commandments. The Law of God, God standard of righteousness.
- The memorial jar of manna. Daily strength from Christ; the body and blood of Christ, our daily Bread from Heaven; the trait of depending continually on Christ each moment of the day for all matters great and small.
- Aaron's rod that budded: The power of eternal resurrection life that operates in the priesthood God has chosen.

The Mercy Seat, or Lid of Reconciliation

- **The Mercy Seat** was the cover of the ark.
- It was solid gold beaten into winged cherubim; one at each end looking down where God's presence was.
- Cherubim are involved with the protection of God's holiness.
- Here, once a year, the high priest alone went in with sacrificial blood from the brazen altar to sprinkle it on the mercy seat to obtain forgiveness of sins for Israel.

The Mercy Seat, or Lid of Reconciliation

- The mercy seat tells us that there is mercy with God.
- The sacrifice of Christ is God's mercy seat (Romans 3:25).
- "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He [the Lord Jesus] entered in once into the holy place [heaven], having obtained eternal redemption for us [all believers]" (Hebrews 9:12).

Next Week:

- The Tabernacle framework.
- The curtains and the coverings.
 - The Tabernacle entrances.
 - The Outer Court.
 - The Gate of the Court.