

**“CAMPING WITH GOD”**

The Tabernacle in the wilderness as a model for approaching the living God, as we move through the 7 stations of approach

**Exodus 6:6-7; 24:15-18; 25:1-8; 40:34-35**

**Outer Court = RELATIONSHIP**

Come to the Cross, Come to Christ = Bronze altar

- \* Temple furnishings are arranged in the shape of the cross, with our entry being at the foot of the cross (bow before Him!)
- \* Daily reminded that we are deeply loved (1 John 4:10,17-19 **10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. 19 We love Him because He first loved us. NKJV**), fully forgiven (Colossians 2:13-14 **13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. NKJV**), totally accepted (Ephesians 1:6-7 **6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace NKJV**), complete now (Colossians 2:9-10 **9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; 10 and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power. NKJV**
- \* We are born again by faith in Christ, given the status of sons & daughters of God - relationship begins **John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: NKJV**

Respond by Faith = Bronze altar

- \* Worshippers in Israel brought 5 sacrifices to the bronze altar to strengthen their relationship with the Lord (see Lev 1-5)
- \* Sin offering - Jesus' sacrifice for us **2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him NKJV**, we identify with that by faith, confessing our sin and repenting
- \* Burnt offering - we offer our body a living sacrifice daily, a symbol of our devotion and dedication **Romans 12:1 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. NKJV**
- \* Thank (grain) offering - we give thanks often **Hebrews 13:15 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. NKJV** and whenever we take the Lord's Supper (Eucharist means "thanks")
- \* Peace offering - enjoying time with and before the Lord because "Jesus paid it all"

1 John 1:3-7 3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full. 5 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. NKJV

- \* Trespass/guilt offering - to the Lord, but you repair when you sin against another person: apologize, ask forgiveness, make restitution

Continually Cleanse = Bronze laver

- \* A prerequisite to entering the next level - a large basin that reflects your image, where you wash your hands and feet
- \* Though forgiven once-for-all, we experience fresh application of cleansing by examining ourselves by the Word (James 1:23-25 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; 24 for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. 25 But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in* it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. NKJV), listening to Holy Spirit conviction (Psalms 139:23-24 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; 24 And see if *there is any* wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting. NKJV), confessing specific sins to the Lord and by faith accepting His forgiveness (1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 2:1-2 1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. NKJV)
- \* Rinse and repeat as often as needed  
John 13:8-10 8 Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "**If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.**" 9 Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also *my* hands and *my* head!" 10 Jesus said to him, "**He who is bathed needs only to wash *his* feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.**" NKJV

## Holy Place = FELLOWSHIP

most Christians never move much beyond the outer court of a relationship with God - why the Church and most ministries are powerless

Experience the Holy Spirit = Golden Lamp (Menorah)

- \* Illumines the dark tent, the only light available - His Spirit enlightens, enlivens, and empowers us for all worship and ministry
- \* 7 lamps on the piece, 7-fold Spirit of the Lord -  
Revelation 3:1 "**And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, 'These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: "I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.** 4:5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire *were* burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. 5:6 And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. NKJV  
Isaiah 11:2 The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. NKJV
- \* When we are praying or ingesting the bread of life, the Spirit is working, even when we may not be consciously thinking of Him
- \* Daily seek and receive fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit – Ephesians 5:18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, NKJV

## Feast on the Word of God = Table of Showbread

- \* Two rows of 6 loaves (one for each of 12 tribes), sprinkled with frankincense
- \* Jesus and Moses likened God's word to our daily bread (**Deuteronomy 8:12 lest—when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; Matthew 4:3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."** NKJV) - continually nourish yourself on Scripture (**Acts 20:32 "So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.** NKJV)
- \* His word (like a loaf for each tribe) is personally for us, our family, our church, our community as we receive it

## Pray with the light of the Spirit and the Word = Golden Altar

- \* Incense continually burns and smoke rises before the throne of God (the ark)
- \* These depict the prayers of the saints of God -  
**Revelation 5:8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 8:3-4 3 Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. 4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.** NKJV
- \* Like smoke, our prayers may seem transient, wispy, fading - but they carry great weight with the Almighty! **Matthew 7:7-8 7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.** NKJV
- \* When you blend God's word, prayers of faith, and the power of the Spirit, you are truly abiding in Christ – **John 15:5-8 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.** NKJV

## Most Holy Place = WORSHIP

how little most Christians know and experience of true worship in the presence of the LORD!

### Come Before the Throne of God = Ark of the Covenant

- \* Inside the ark: 2 tablets of Law (God's moral guidance), pot of manna (His daily provision), Aaron's rod (His leadership)
- \* Shekinah glory dwells and manifests in this space -  
**Leviticus 9:23-24 7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.** NKJV  
**1 Kings 8:10-11 10 And it came to pass, when the priests came out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the Lord, 11 so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.** NKJV
- \* In Revelation 4-5, all beings before the throne of God fall on their faces in the presence of His glory!

### Come to find Grace and Mercy = Mercy Seat

- \* Above the ark (a golden chest) was a solid gold lid, the mercy seat

\* Here, the sacrificial blood on the Day of Atonement was sprinkled to cover Israel's sin -

**Leviticus 16:14-15** 14 He shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the mercy seat on the east side; and before the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times. 15 "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. NKJV

\* Now, all who are saved are invited inside the veil into this sacred space -

**Hebrews 4:16** Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. **10:19-23** 19 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. NKJV

Today, we who are redeemed are the temple of God – **1 Corinthians 6:18-20** 18 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. 19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who* is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. NKJV. May the Lord bless you as you approach Him in worship!