

“The Veil” in the Tabernacle

Separating the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies

#1 – Exodus 25:10, 17, 21-22.

God resided above the Mercy Seat.

So, the ark represented the presence of the Lord.

#2 – Exodus 26:31-33, 36.

The making of the veil.

#3 – Number 4:4-5.

The cover for the Ark of the Covenant when it was being transported.

#4 – Leviticus 16:1-28.

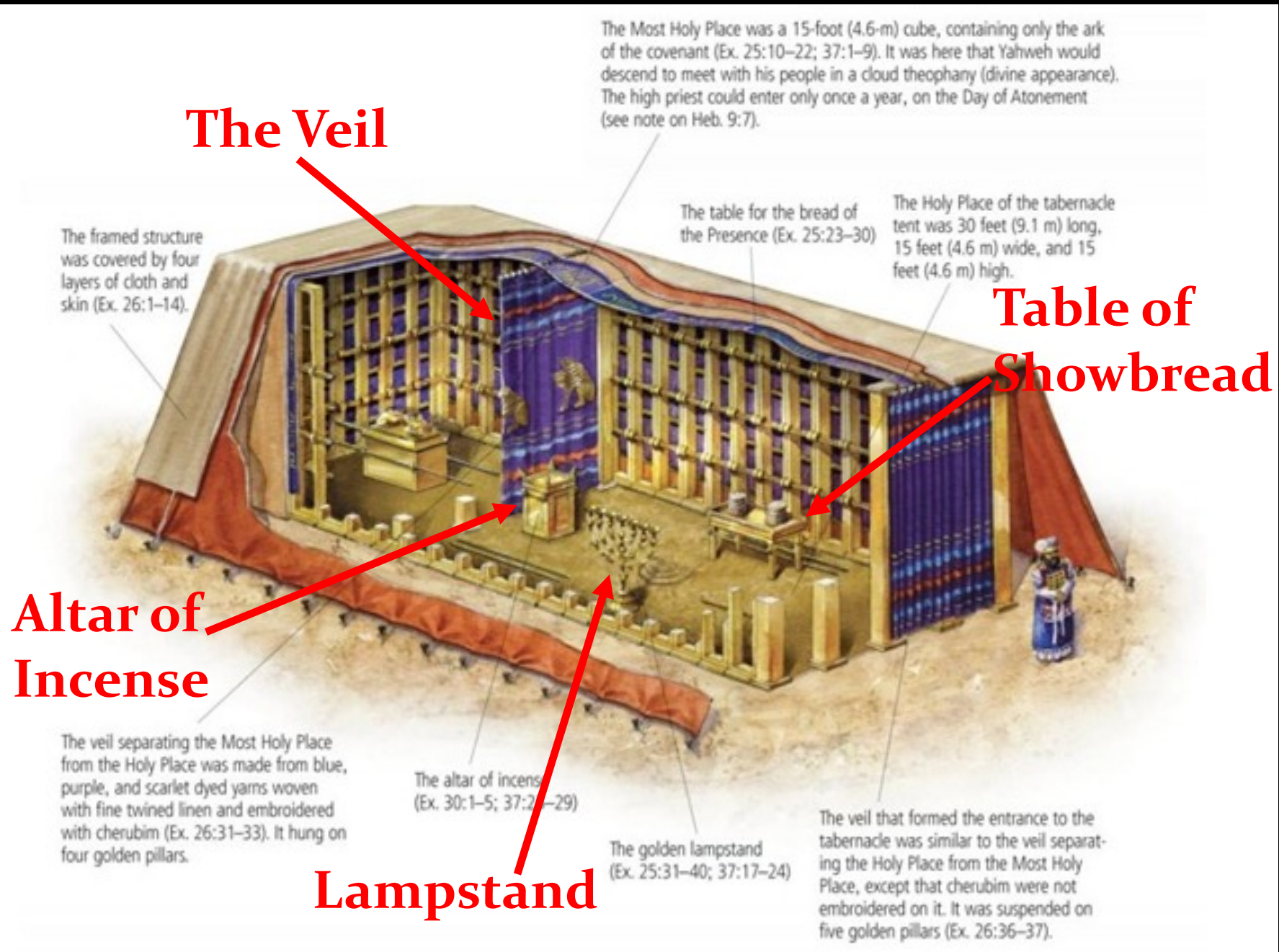
What access was allowed behind the veil.

Ark of the Covenant

Exodus 25:10–16



The Tabernacle at Mount Sinai



The Steps of the Annual Day of Atonement

Leviticus 16:3-28

- #1 – Numbers 28 & 29** – First offerings to be given on this day (Daily & Sabbath & Day of Atonement offerings).
- #2 – v.4b** – The priest had to wash himself.
- #3 – v.4a** – The priest was to wear the garments of the regular priests.
- #4 – v.5** – The High Priest was to take/receive a goat & a ram for the sin & burnt offerings (respectively) for the people.
- #5 – v.7** – The High Priest was to present the people's 2 goats before the Lord for the people.
- #6 – v.8** – The High Priest was to cast lots for the 2 goats. One will die to portray sin being paid for & one to carry our sins away.
- #7 – vv.10 & 20-22** – The other goat was to be presented to the Lord to be used as the scapegoat.
- #8 – vv.6 & 11** – The High Priest was to offer a bull as a sin offering for himself & his house.
- #9 – vv.12-13** – Burning incense was to be brought in a censer before the Lord from the altar of incense.
- #10 – v.14** – The High Priest was also to bring blood from the sin offering for himself in the Holy Place to sprinkle on the Mercy Seat.
- #11 – vv.9 & 15a** – The goat the lot fell on was to be offered as a sin offering.

The Steps of the Annual Day of Atonement

Leviticus 16:3-28

#12 – vv.15b-16 – Blood from the people’s sin offering was brought into the Holy Place & sprinkled on the mercy seat.

NOTE: Steps #9 & #10 & #12 were the High Priest’s trips into the Holy of Holies. It involved prayer & blood.

#13 – v.17 – There were to be no men in the tabernacle when the High Priest went inside they veil or there’d be no barrier between them & God.

#14 – vv.18-20a – The High Priest was to put blood from the sin offerings (bull & kid of goats) on the bronze altar.

Some blood was placed on the bronze altar and some sprinkled.

#14 – vv.20b-22 – The High Priest was to bring the live goat, lay his hands on it and confess the sins of Israel and release it.

#16 – vv.23-24a – The High Priest was wash & to put on His High Priest’s robes.

#17 – v.24b – The High Priest offered the Burnt Offerings for himself (ram) & for the people (ram). They can now serve Him.

#18 – v.26 – The person (likely another priest) who led the scapegoat out was to wash his clothes & bathe his body.

#19 – v.27 – The blood of the sin offerings was to be carried outside the camp and various body parts burned.

#20 – v.28 – The person that burned the sin offerings outside the camp had to wash their clothes.

The Second Temple aka Herod's Temple in Jesus' day

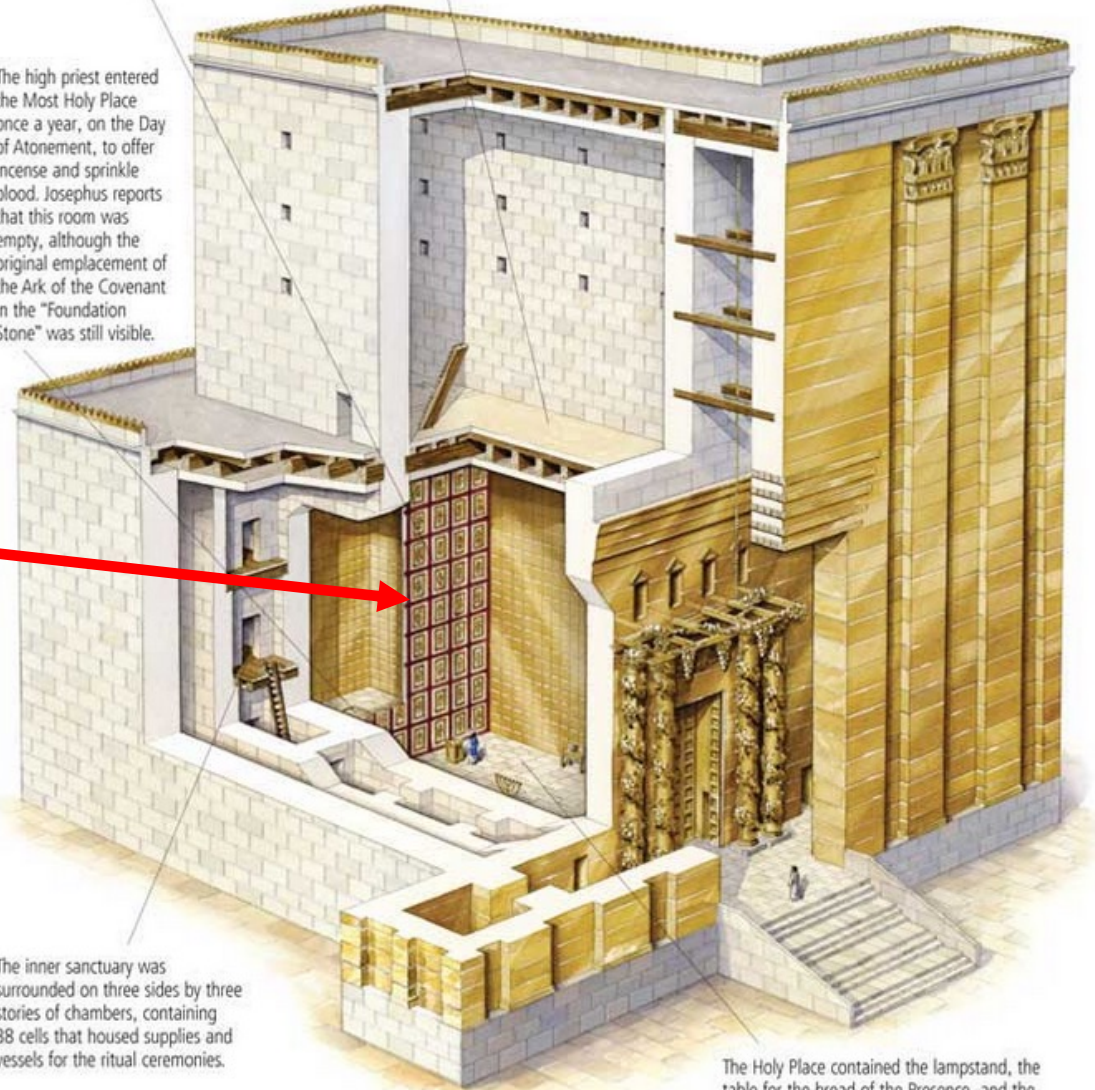
The Veil →

A massive curtain separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place. When Jesus died, this curtain was torn in two from top to bottom (Matt. 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 23:45).

The high priest entered the Most Holy Place once a year, on the Day of Atonement, to offer incense and sprinkle blood. Josephus reports that this room was empty, although the original emplacement of the Ark of the Covenant in the "Foundation Stone" was still visible.

The inner sanctuary was surrounded on three sides by three stories of chambers, containing 38 cells that housed supplies and vessels for the ritual ceremonies.

There was an upper chamber above the sanctuary, which allowed access (through holes in the floor) for cleaning of the gold-covered walls below. A ladder (shown partly cut away in this section) gave access to the upper roof level.



The Holy Place contained the lampstand, the table for the bread of the Presence, and the altar of incense. An angel of the Lord appeared to Zechariah on the right side of the incense altar (Luke 1:11).