

2 Chronicles 3-4 – Thursday, October 27th, 2016

2 Chronicles 3 -- 1 Now Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the LORD had appeared to his father David, at the place that David had prepared on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. 2 And he began to build on the second day of the second month in the fourth year of his reign.

- The chapter begins with Solomon beginning the building of the Temple, which was in the year 967B.C. four years into his reign.
- This begs the question of why it would take four years before Solomon's obeyed the command of the Lord and began building.
- The thought is it took Solomon three years just to prepare and transport all of the materials before he could start the building.

3 This is the foundation which Solomon laid for building the house of God: The length was sixty cubits (by cubits according to the former measure) and the width twenty cubits. 4 And the vestibule that was in front of the sanctuary was twenty cubits long across the width of the house, and the height was one hundred and twenty. He overlaid the inside with pure gold. 5 The larger room he paneled with cypress which he overlaid with fine gold, and he carved palm trees and chainwork on it. 6 And he decorated the house with precious stones for beauty, and the gold was gold from Parvaim. 7 He also overlaid the house—the beams and doorposts, its walls and doors—with gold; and he carved cherubim on the walls. 8 And he made the Most Holy Place. Its length was according to the width of the house, twenty cubits, and its width twenty cubits. He overlaid it with six hundred talents of fine gold.

- This is a massive and very expensive amount of gold, such that six hundred talents would be the equivalent of about 23 tons.
- It's interesting to note how that all of this gold was to be on the inside of the Holy of Holies, where the ark of God was placed.
- The reason this is so interesting is because our bodies are the Temple or Holy of Holies, as the Holy Spirit's dwelling place.

- I also find it very interesting that the outside of the temple was such that it looked common, such that all the beauty was inside.
- The outside didn't look that impressive, but the inside was grand and glorious, which speaks to the work God does in our lives.
- It's also interesting to note that gold is a type of royalty and deity, which points to Jesus, as King of kings and Lord of Lords.

Of this one commentator noted, "Such was Christ's inside (Colossians 2:9); in his outside was no such desirable beauty (Isaiah 53:2); so the Church's glory is inward (Psalm 44:13), in the hidden man of the heart (1 Peter 3:4)."

9 The weight of the nails was fifty shekels of gold; and he overlaid the upper area with gold. 10 In the Most Holy Place he made two cherubim, fashioned by carving, and overlaid them with gold. 11 The wings of the cherubim were twenty cubits in overall length: one wing of the one cherub was five cubits, touching the wall of the room, and the other wing was five cubits, touching the wing of the other cherub; 12 one wing of the other cherub was five cubits, touching the wall of the room, and the other wing also was five cubits, touching the wing of the other cherub. 13 The wings of these cherubim spanned twenty cubits overall. They stood on their feet, and they faced inward. 14 And he made the veil of blue, purple, crimson, and fine linen, and wove cherubim into it. 15 Also he made in front of the temple two pillars thirty-five cubits high, and the capital that was on the top of each of them was five cubits. 16 He made wreaths of chainwork, as in the inner sanctuary, and put them on top of the pillars; and he made one hundred pomegranates, and put them on the wreaths of chainwork. 17 Then he set up the pillars before the temple, one on the right hand and the other on the left; he called the name of the one on the right hand Jachin, and the name of the one on the left Boaz.

- As we get into all of this detail, the question needs to be asked as to why. Why is it important that we know about all of this?
- I believe that there are a couple of reasons, the first of which is that it speaks to how God cares about every detail in our lives.
- Secondly, I believe it speaks to God's goodness when it comes to the complexity of building something like this for His glory.

- The names of these two pillars are interesting; the name Jachin means "He shall establish," and Boaz means, "In it is strength."
- Again, this is where the detail we're given can have profound personal application in our own lives as it relates to these pillars.
- The temple of God was to be the place where people established their relationship with God and received strength from God.

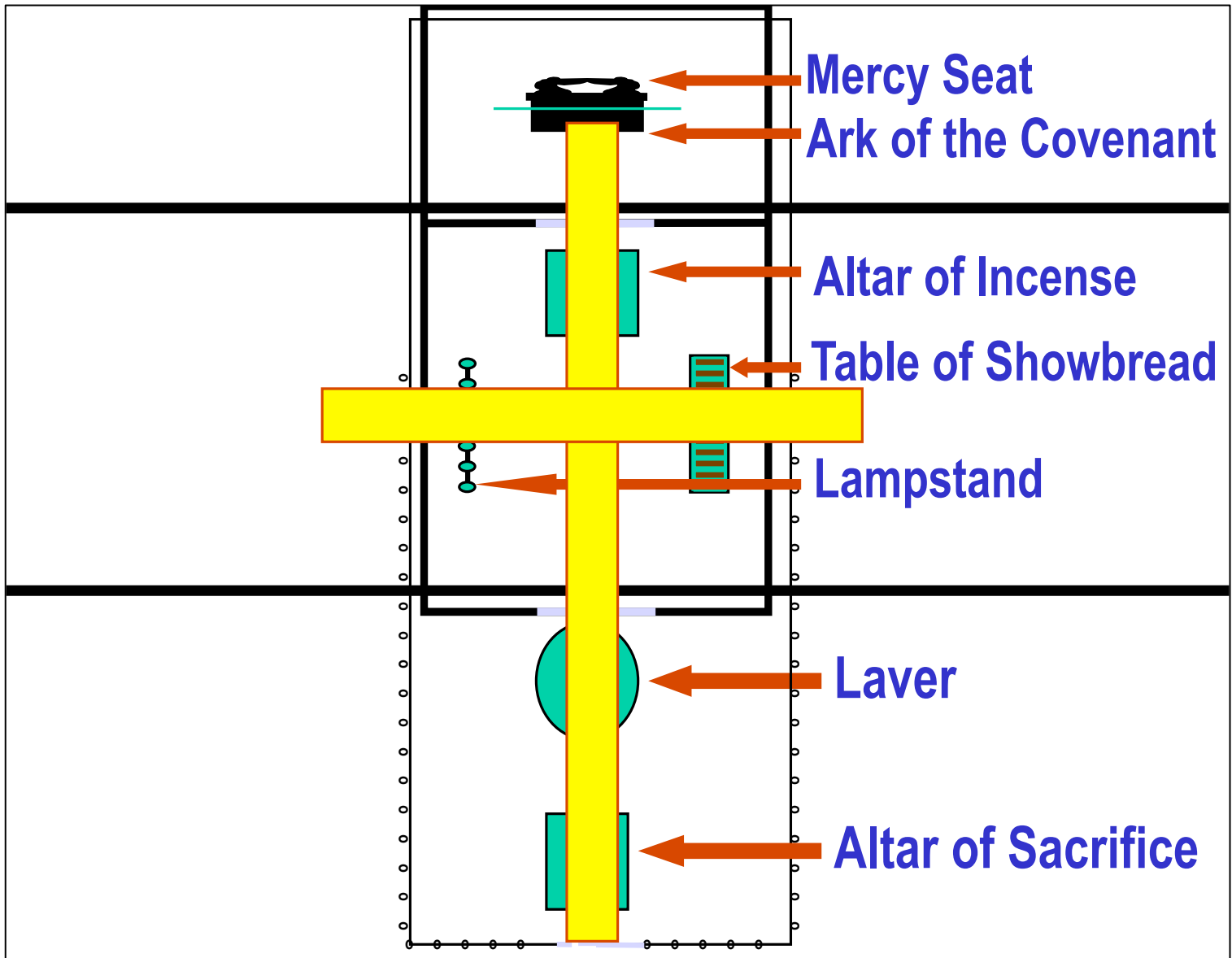
2 Chronicles 4 -- 1 Moreover he made a bronze altar: twenty cubits was its length, twenty cubits its width, and ten cubits its height. 2 Then he made the Sea of cast bronze, ten cubits from one brim to the other; it was completely round. Its height was five cubits, and a line of thirty cubits measured its circumference. 3 And under it was the likeness of oxen encircling it all around, ten to a cubit, all the way around the Sea. The oxen were cast in two rows, when it was cast. 4 It stood on twelve oxen: three looking toward the north, three looking toward the west, three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east; the Sea was set upon them, and all their back parts pointed inward. 5 It was a handbreadth thick; and its brim was shaped like the brim of a cup, like a lily blossom. It contained three thousand baths. 6 He also made ten lavers, and put five on the right side and five on the left, to wash in them; such things as they offered for the burnt offering they would wash in them, but the Sea was for the priests to wash in.

- The chapter begins with the details of the bronze altar, which was the place of sacrifice located at the entrance of the Temple.
- The significance of this was that nobody could enter the Temple of God without there first being a sacrifice of putting to death.
- This points to the death of Jesus Christ who was the sacrifice for our sins so we could enter into a relationship with the Lord.

7 And he made ten lampstands of gold according to their design, and set them in the temple, five on the right side and five on the left. 8 He also made ten tables, and placed them in the temple, five on the right side and five on the left. And he made one hundred bowls of gold. 9 Furthermore he made the court of the priests, and the great court and doors for the court; and he overlaid these doors with bronze. 10 He set the Sea on the right side, toward the southeast. 11 Then Hiram made the pots and the shovels and the bowls. So Hiram finished doing the work that he was to do for King Solomon for the house of God: 12 the two pillars and the bowl-shaped capitals that were on top of the two pillars; the two networks covering the two bowl-shaped capitals which were on top of the pillars; 13 four hundred pomegranates for the two networks (two rows of pomegranates for each network, to cover the two bowl-shaped capitals that were on the pillars); 14 he also made carts and the lavers on the carts; 15 one Sea and twelve oxen under it; 16 also the pots, the shovels, the forks—and all their articles Hiram his master craftsman made of burnished bronze for King Solomon for the house of the LORD. 17 In the plain of Jordan the king had them cast in clay molds, between Succoth and Zeredah. 18 And Solomon had all these articles made in such great abundance that the weight of the bronze was not determined. 19 Thus Solomon had all the furnishings made for the house of God: the altar of gold and the tables on which was the showbread; 20 the lampstands with their lamps of pure gold, to burn in the prescribed manner in front of the inner sanctuary, 21 with the flowers and the lamps and the wick-trimmers of gold, of purest gold; 22 the trimmers, the bowls, the ladles, and the censers of pure gold. As for the entry of the sanctuary, its inner doors to the Most Holy Place, and the doors of the main hall of the temple, were gold.

- The chapter ends with specific details concerning the furnishings on the inside of the Temple, all of which point to Jesus Christ.
- While we have done an in-depth study of this before as it relates to the Tabernacle, I would like to revisit some of this typology.
- What follows is a very brief description of how each of the furnishings pointed to and was fulfilled by the person of Jesus Christ.

- First, it's important to understand that not only did the articles point to Christ they also pointed to the finished work on the cross.



ARTICLE	CHRIST
The Altar of Sacrifice	The Lamb of God sacrificed for the sins of man (Ephesians 5:2, John 1:29)
The Laver	The Word of God that sanctifies and purifies man (John 1:1, Ephesians 5:26)
The Lamp Stand	The Light of the World as the only source of light (John 8:12)
The Table of Showbread	The Bread of Life (John 6:35)
The Altar of Incense	The intercessor for man (Hebrews 7:25, Revelation 8:3-4)
The Ark of the Covenant	The fulfillment of the law in the New Covenant (Luke 22:20)
The Mercy Seat	The removing of our sins reconciling man to God (Colossians 1:19-20)

- I'll close with additional typology of how the Temple itself as a whole points to and was fulfilled by the person of Jesus Christ.

TEMPLE	JESUS CHRIST
Humble in its outward appearance	Humble in His appearance
Beautiful and full of riches inwardly	Beautiful and offers His riches inwardly
God's glory dwells in it	God's glory dwells in Him
Where God meets man	How we meet and get to God as man
The law was preserved	The law was fulfilled
A place of sacrifice	He was placed as the sacrifice
A place of worship	He is the focus of our worship