

# The Alter of Incense & Burnt Offering Differences



Altar of Incense	Altar of Burnt Offering
Located <b>inside the Holy Place</b> ,	Located <b>outside in the courtyard</b>
Made of <b>acacia wood overlaid with gold</b>	Made of <b>acacia wood overlaid with bronze</b>
Used for <b>burning incense</b>	Used for <b>animal sacrifices</b>
Represents <b>prayer and worship</b>	Represents <b>atonement and forgiveness</b>
Used <b>daily, morning and evening</b>	Used <b>continually for sacrifices</b>
No blood except <b>once a year</b> on the Day of	Blood shed <b>regularly</b>
Symbolizes <b>communion with God</b>	Symbolizes <b>reconciliation with God</b>

## **Atonement Money — Equal Need for Redemption-EX 30:15**

- **Equal Value Before God-**Every Israelite gave the same amount, regardless of wealth or status. No one could “pay more” to be closer to God. No one could “pay less” because of poverty.

**God’s standard for atonement was equality, not ability.**

- **Atonement Was Required for everyone.** The payment was called a ransom for life (Exod. 30:12). The ransom showed that everyone equally needed God’s mercy—wealth excused no one, and poverty exempted no one.

**Sin is universal, and so is the need for redemption.**

**A Reminder That Life Belongs to God-** The money supported the Tabernacle the place of God’s dwelling. Giving reminded Israel that their lives were redeemed, not owned by themselves.



# MERCY-ḥesed (חֶסֶד)

Faithful, loyal love shown by God to people who do not deserve it.

Exodus 34:6–7 (NKJV)

“And the LORD passed **X**  
before him and  
proclaimed, ‘The LORD,  
the LORD God, merciful  
and gracious,  
longsuffering, and  
abounding in goodness  
and truth, keeping mercy  
for thousands, forgiving  
iniquity and transgression  
and sin...’



- **Covenant loyalty:** Love rooted in a committed relationship (God keeps His promises). Mercy rooted in covenant relationship
- **Active mercy:** Love expressed through action on behalf of those in need.
- **Faithful love despite failure:** God’s love persists even when people are unfaithful. Not earned, but freely given
- Old Testament usage: Describes God’s character toward Israel
- Mercy expressed through forgiveness, patience, and preservation

**Every person stands equally in need of God’s mercy.**

(Micah 7:18 (NKJV))

“He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy.”



## Old Testament

- Psalm 49:7-8 — No one can redeem another by wealth
- Ecclesiastes 7:20 — No one is righteous apart from God
- Isaiah 53:6 — All have gone astray

## New Testament



- Romans 3:22-23 — All have sinned without distinction
- Romans 6:23 — Sin brings death; God gives life
- 1 Peter 1:18-19 — Redemption comes through Christ, not silver or gold
- Ephesians 2:8-9 — Salvation is by grace, not works
- Galatians 3:28 — All are one in Christ Jesus

# What This Means for Today's Believers

- **Salvation Is Equal at the Cross**
- **No One Can Earn Redemption**
- **Humility and Gratitude Should Mark Believers**





# **The Bronze Basin – Cleansing Before Service**

## **Exodus 30:20–21**

- **The priests were already chosen and consecrated, yet they still had to wash daily.**
- **Washing hands and feet symbolized removing daily defilement picked up while walking and working.**
- **The repeated warning “lest they die” shows that God’s holiness was not to be approached casually.**
- **Obedience to cleansing was a matter of life and death, not preference.**

**Calling does not replace cleansing. Being chosen did not excuse impurity.**



# **Holy Anointing Oil & Incense — Reverence for What Is Holy**

## **Exodus 30:32–33 (NKJV)**

- The oil and incense were set apart exclusively for God
- They were not for personal or common use
- God strictly forbade casual or copied use
- Misusing holy things brought serious consequences


**God alone defines what is holy—His holiness is not casual or optional.**





# Summary Exodus 30

**God alone defines what is holy,  
and His holiness calls for  
reverence, obedience, and a  
clear distinction between what  
belongs to Him and what does  
not.**



**Exodus 31**  
**Serving God with**  
**Spirit-Empowered Purpose**  
**Exodus 31:1–18**



# God Calls and Empowers His Servants

## Ex 31:3

- **God Is the Source of Ability**
- **Skill, wisdom, and understanding come from God—not human talent alone.**
- **The Spirit Empowers Practical Work**
- **God's Spirit equips people not only for spiritual acts, but for craftsmanship, creativity, and excellence in everyday work.**
- **God Equips Those He Calls**
- **When God assigns a task, He also provides everything needed to accomplish it faithfully.**





# Practical Work as Holy Service (Exodus 31:5)

## **God Values Skill and Craftsmanship**

- Detailed, hands-on work matters to God and is worthy of His calling.


## **Every Type of Work Can Be Sacred**

- Creativity, labor, and excellence are forms of service when done for God.

## **Excellence Honors God's Presence**

- God's work is to be done with care, precision, and faithfulness—not casually.





# Living in Obedient Rhythm , Work & Rest (Exodus 31:12-15)

## **God Commands Rest as an Act of Obedience**

- Obedience includes knowing when to stop, not just when to work.

## **Rest Declares Trust in God, Not Productivity**

- Constant work can become self reliance disguised as faithfulness.

## **God Sanctifies His People -Not Their Performance**

- Rest re centers life around God's presence rather than human effort.



# Sabbath as Covenant Sign (Exodus 31:16-18)

The Sabbath pointed forward to Christ, who now provides true rest, God's presence, and covenant identity for believers.

## A Sign of Relationship

- Fulfilled in Christ — Rest Found in a Person  
Matthew 11:28 — Jesus invites the weary to come to Him for

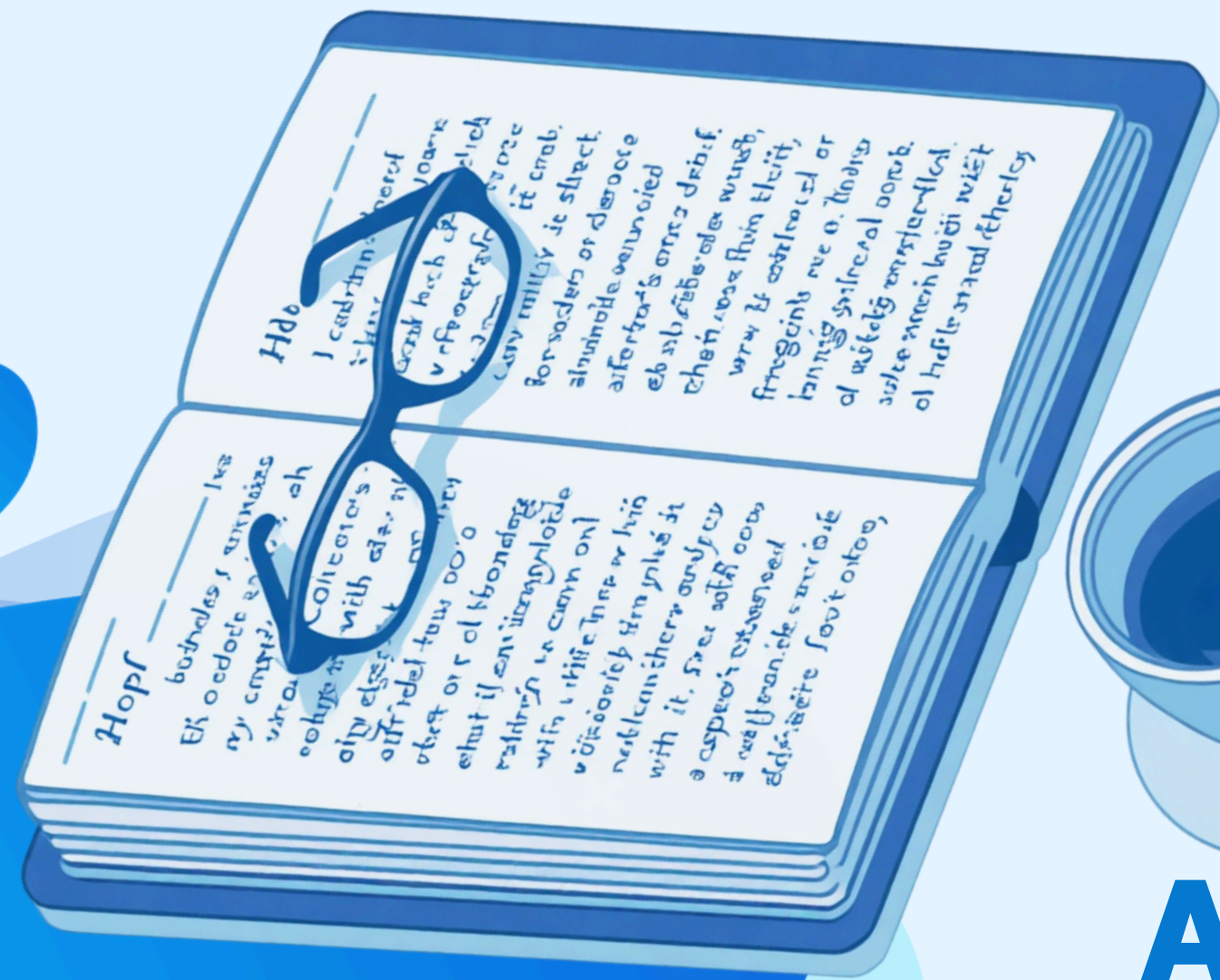
## A Sign of God's Creative Authority

- John 14:16-17 — God's presence now dwells within believers.

## A Sign of Trust and Dependence

- Fulfilled in Ongoing Rest — Trust, Not Works





# Summary

**A faithful Christian life is prayerful in devotion, purposeful in service, and grounded in trust-filled rest.**



**Living a Holy, Balanced Life in God’s Presence: Prayer, Purpose, and Rest**  
**REFLECTION EXODUS 30 & 31**

**God’s Presence & Prayer (Exodus 30)**

- How intentional is my daily approach to God in prayer?
- What distractions or habits keep me from drawing near to God consistently?
- Do I approach God with reverence, or have I grown casual in His presence?

**Purity & Holiness**

- Are there areas in my life where I am serving God outwardly but neglecting inner cleansing?
- What does “spiritual washing” look like for me right now?
- Is there anything God is calling me to confess, surrender, or realign?

**Redemption & Mercy**

- Do I truly believe that I stand before God only because of His mercy?
- Where might pride or self-reliance be replacing humility and gratitude?
- How does remembering my redemption shape the way I treat others?

**Purpose & God-Given Work (Exodus 31:1–11)**

- What skills or abilities has God entrusted to me?
- Am I viewing my work—inside or outside the church—as service to God?
- How can I offer my work to God with greater faithfulness and excellence?

**Work, Rest, and Trust (Exodus 31:12–17)**

- Is my life marked more by striving or trusting?
- What keeps me from resting when God invites me to?
- How does my rhythm of work and rest reflect my trust in God?

**Closing Reflection**

- Which part of today’s lesson challenged me the most?
- What is one step of obedience God is inviting me to take this week?
- How can I live more aware of God’s presence in everyday life?



# Go Forth in Faith



Next Week is:

**Wild Card Wednesday**

See you in 2 Weeks