

Exodus 25 (TAC)

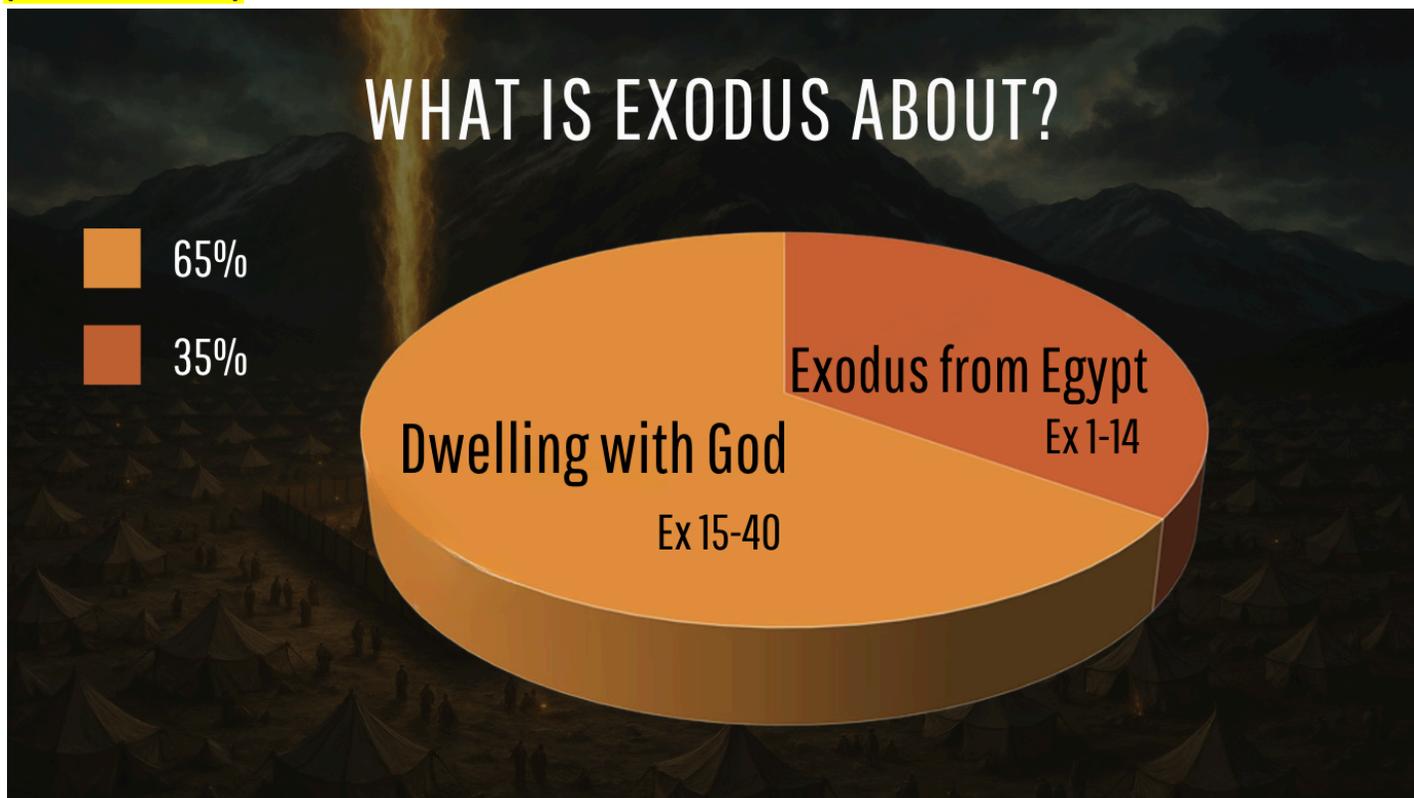
Monday, December 22, 2025
8:31 PM

Good evening, TAC!

We have finally reached the place that we have been aiming at during this entire study of the Book of Exodus together. 34 weeks ago, we started the Book of Exodus together and in our introduction night we shared a few overviews with you that are now starting to bloom into full effect.

To help refresh your memory, take a look at this next slide.

(DO NOT READ)



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In our introductory session on the book of Exodus, which took place on May 14th, 2025, we taught you that the primary aim of the Book of Exodus was not about slavery, Egypt, or the Exodus from Egypt, it is about God dwelling with his people, Israel.

Moreover, it should be abundantly obvious, that the Book of Exodus serves as a roadmap to understanding the events that take place in the end times as featured in other books of the Bible such as: Joshua, Daniel, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, and the Book of Revelation, just to name a few.

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The further we go in the book of Exodus, the clearer it is becoming to us that these Prophetic works were pulling from and expounding on the eschatological themes introduced in the Torah, which is one of the many reasons we have been repeatedly using the terms *Seed Book* and *Seed Book Expanded* in Genesis and Exodus respectively.

The last time we taught foundations we were very blessed to see the emphasis of Exodus, (which is God dwelling with Israel), and the roadmap of Exodus (which lays a pattern for Israel's future), converge in a very special chapter that resembles the wedding feast of the Lamb that takes place in the Book of Revelation.

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As you look at this slide, you should remember that we were given special insight into the flow of the Book as a whole.

(DO NOT READ)

EXODUS ESCHATOLOGY

Chapter 1: Israel Oppressed

Chapter 2: A Deliverer Is Born

Chapter 3: Deliver In Exile

Chapter 4: Second Coming Of Deliverer

Chapter 5: Sifting Of Israel And Gentiles

Chapters 6-7: Wedding Proposal & Judgment On Great Dragon Forcasted

Chapters 8-12: Judgment On Beastly Gentile Kingdom(s)

Chapters 13-14: Exodus From Gentile Captivity

Chapter 15: Anticipation Of A Holy Dwelling On Earth

Chapter 16: Bread From Heaven In The Desert

Chapter 17: Fountains Opened From The Rock In The Desert

Chapter 18: Appointment Of Righteous Judges

Chapter 19: Wedding Preparations

Chapter 20: Beginning Of The Wedding

Chapter 21: Covenant Of Love

Chapter 22: Repairing The World And Making "Shalam" "Wholeness"

Chapter 23: Reversal Of The Effects Of Sin

Chapter 24: Wedding Reception

Chapter 25-40: Instructions And Building The Dwelling Place Of God

As you can see, the chapters of the Book build successively in such a way that foreshadows the first and second coming of Messiah, the deliverance of Israel from Gentile Powers, the wedding of the Lamb and the Feast of Abraham.

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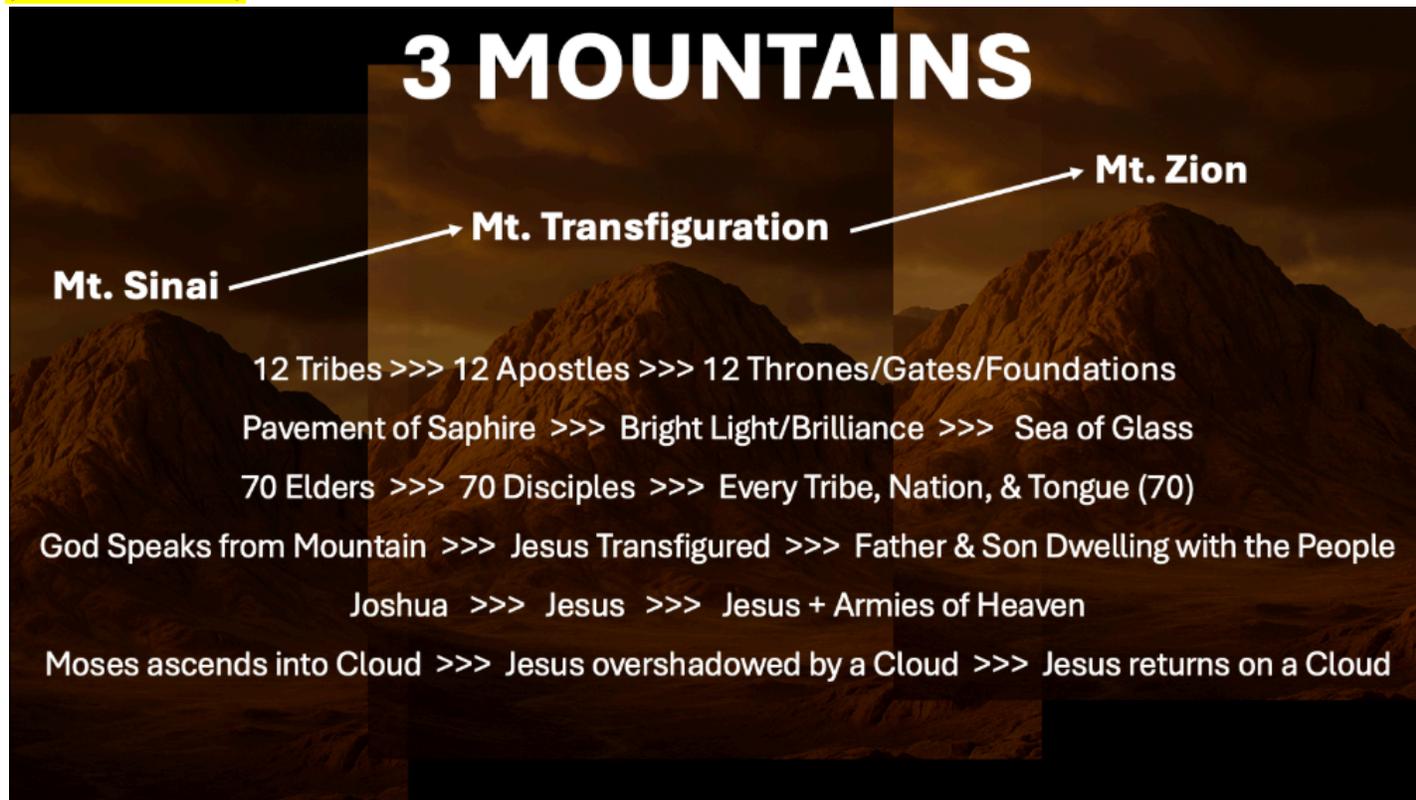
One would think that after Exodus 24 and after the feast of Abraham that the story would be finished but that is not where Exodus ends and the feast of Abraham is not the final detail that the Bible as a whole is aiming at.

As we will start to see tonight, Exodus 25-40 will spend most of its effort detailing the aspects of the structures that will be established so that God can dwell with his people. This is precisely because the focus of Exodus is the same as the focus of the **entire Bible as a whole, which is God dwelling with man and reversing the fall that occurred in the garden.**

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To jump right into these details about the dwelling of God, we first need to review some of the material that we taught last time we were together so that you will gain a better appreciation of what is building between Exodus 24 and Exodus 25.

(DO NOT READ)



Last session we noted that chapter 24 featured the wedding celebration that was a result of the ceremony that started between Adonai and Israel as the bride in Exodus 20.

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We saw that this takes place on a mountain where God is dwelling and that the arrangement of the Israelites and their leaders on the mountain directly pointed to what would happen on the Mount of Transfiguration (*Hermon*) with Jesus and his disciples.

In our exploration, we discovered that the details of the wedding celebration in Exodus and the transfiguration in Matthew 17 both hinted at a future event on another mountain in Israel. This future event would bring to fulfillment everything that was being foreshadowed in these earlier moments.

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We also noticed the obvious connections that emerged as our chapter came to a close last session, namely—Moses staying 40 days and 40 nights on the Mountain that God had "called him up" or told him to make "Aliyah" to.

We then noticed that Elijah had an experience with God in 1 Kings 19 and then he goes into the wilderness for 40 days and 40 nights to arrive at the exact same mountain that Moses stayed on for 40 days and nights.

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The connections began to grow when we noticed that Jesus himself went into the wilderness for 40 days and 40 nights and he himself was brought to *a high mountain*. What makes all of this extraordinary is that it is Moses and Elijah who appear with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration and speak with him about his departure, or in Greek, his "*Exodus*".

All of this became very intriguing when we noticed in Acts 1 that Jesus does the same thing that Moses does at the end of Exodus 24 when he ascends into the cloud.

At the end of the chapter, Moses ascended into the cloud to be where God was and the men are left waiting for him to return, Acts 1 features the same.

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Moreover, you definitely noticed at Jesus ascension that there are two men there speaking with the 11 disciples. In the text these figures are specifically called men and not angels which causes us to believe that it was probably Moses and Elijah, who were the ones speaking with Jesus about his "*Exodus*" on the Mt. of Transfiguration.

To tie all of this together, we have to take a look at something that is happening in Revelation 11 because it features an event that ties all of these details together.

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- o **Revelation 11:3–6 (ESV)**

3 And I will grant authority to my **two witnesses**, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth."

4 These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth.

5 And if anyone would harm them, fire pours from their mouth and consumes their foes. If anyone would harm them, this is how he is doomed to be killed.

6 They have the **power to shut the sky, that no rain may fall during the days of their prophesying**, and they have **power over the waters to turn**

them into blood and to strike the earth with every kind of plague, as often as they desire.

In the book of Revelation, right before the beginning of the end that is initiated by the 7th trumpet being blown, God sends two witnesses to prophesy for a little over 3 years.

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Although these two are not named, we propose that the two witnesses are Moses and Elijah, being that they were both on the mountain with Jesus discussing the Exodus and they were most likely there at the ascension bearing witness and giving instructions.

Furthermore, the two witnesses in Revelation perform the same actions as Moses and Elijah while they were on the earth.

As Revelation continues, John tells us that when the two witnesses finish their testimony, they are killed and their bodies are left exposed for three and a half days in the street of the great city, which Scripture identifies as the place where their Lord was crucified—Jerusalem—yet describes it as Sodom and Egypt to reflect its spiritual and moral decline. Let's pick up in verse 7 of Revelation 11.

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- o **Revelation 11:7–12 (ESV)**

7 And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them, 8 and their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city that symbolically is called **Sodom and Egypt, where their Lord was crucified.** 9 For three and a half days some from the peoples and tribes and languages and nations will gaze at their dead bodies and refuse to let them be placed in a tomb, 10 and those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and make merry and exchange presents, because these two prophets had been a torment to those who dwell on the earth. 11 But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. 12 Then they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, “Come up here!” And they went up to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies watched them.

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Notice some striking similarities that are happening here. The two witnesses (*Moses and Elijah*), are both on the Mountain of God and have experiences with a **cloud**, they both appear with the Son of God on the Mt. of Transfiguration to witness his glory in a **cloud** and talk to him about the upcoming "Exodus", they both appear at the ascension to witness Jesus ascending into a cloud and then they foretell of his return on a cloud.

Now they are on the earth to usher in the events of the end times (*which includes the Second Exodus they discussed with Jesus*) and they are killed in the same city as their Lord, and they resurrect in roughly the same amount of time as Jesus and then they hear a loud voice from heaven saying "Come up here", or "*Aliyah*". The same thing that Moses hears in Exodus and they then go up to heaven in a **cloud!**

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The reason this stands out is because Revelation 17 says that Jesus himself will return with those who were faithful which assumes that Moses and Elijah will be with him and that this event will be the catalyst for the heavenly Jerusalem merging with the earthly resulting in the dwelling of God being with man!

Remember that last week we taught you that the word *Aliyah* hints at a close connection between the heavens and the earth and Exodus 24 strongly hints at that connection.

The details between Moses' ascension, Elijah's ascension, Jesus' ascension and the three of them returning to the earth to establish the New Jerusalem are strongly connected throughout the Bible and we recognized the beginning of those connections starting in Exodus 24.

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We ended our session last week by highlighting the way that the writer of the Book of Hebrews noticed the connections between Exodus and the life of Jesus and the undeniable truth that both present the fact that the earthly dwelling place of God will merge with the heavenly dwelling place of God.

Take a look at Hebrews 12:18-29...

- o **Hebrews 12:18–21 (ESV)**

- 18 For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest

19 and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them.

20 For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned."

21 Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear."

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The writer of Hebrews is looking back to the experience that the People of God had at Mt Sinai and noticing that the whole event was not the culmination of everything that God desired to do with his people, but instead it pointed to what would come and initiated a pattern that would be repeated.

- o **Hebrews 12:22–24 (ESV)**

22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, 23 and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

Understanding the Book of Exodus and the pattern that it begins, caused the author of the Book of Hebrews to better understand the rest of the Bible and he understood that the earthly dwelling place of God (Jerusalem), would one day merge with the Heavenly Jerusalem.

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He also understood his placement within those events and spoke to the people of his day as well as ours about our experience with Yeshua and our role in living in between the 1st mountain and the 3rd mountain.

He exhorts the body by helping them to understand that even though they are on the earth waiting for the wedding reception on the 3rd mountain and the merger between the heavens and the earth, that their interaction with Jesus Christ and their experience with the Holy Spirit is in fact a heavenly experience.

He is telling them that when they experience the Lord, although their feet are standing on the earth, they are in fact interacting with the Heavenly Jerusalem

and being impacted by it in advance of the reality of it coming down physically to the earth.

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As you continue in his line of thought this becomes even clearer.

- o **Hebrews 12:25–29 (ESV)**

25 See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven.

26 At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.”

27 This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain.

28 Therefore let us be grateful **for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken**, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe,

29 for our God is a consuming fire.

In verses 26 & 27, the Author of Hebrews is hearkening to the future experience that takes place in the Book of Revelation and indicating that it will be like a great shaking.

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He ends this line of thought by saying that we are receiving the unshakable kingdom now! Therefore we should offer acceptable worship because when we worship, we are getting a chance to experience the things that are still to come for the entire world.

Now, consider where we are going next in our studies in Exodus. As we have seen in our overview slide, as we have progressed from chapters 1 to 24, we have seen a growing pattern that repeats in Israel's history and in their future. As we move forward to chapter 25, you would do well to remember that we said to you during our last time together that this chapter and the next 15 that follow it will mainly be based on the building of the Tabernacle which is the place where God will dwell with Israel and the entire point of the book of Exodus and Biblical Eschatology as a whole.

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Because there are 16 chapters dedicated to describing the Tabernacle and its furnishings, we see this as a monumental shift in the flow of the book and since the dwelling of God being among mankind is the aim of the entire Bible, we can accurately understand why there is such a large amount of Exodus dedicated to the subject.

What we are going to study for the next 16 chapters will form the foundation of our understanding of the Heavens and what exactly is going to merge with the earth. Quite frankly, this is the reason that we are taking the amount of time that we are for the introduction of this chapter because this is not only an intro to Exodus 25, but an introduction to what we are going to study for the rest of Exodus.

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With that said, take a look at this next slide where you will catch a glimpse of how monumental this subject is.

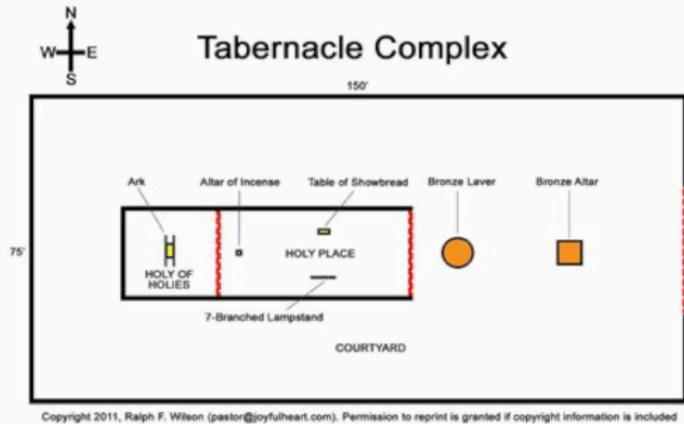
We want to take a moment to highlight the remarkable level of detail in the text's description of the tabernacle. How many of you know the physical dimensions of the cross? How tall was it? How wide was it? What material was it made of? How about the manger Jesus was born in, what are its dimensions? The truth is we don't know!

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(READ SLIDE)

Most Described Structure in the Bible

- This is the most described item in the Bible (16 total Chapters)
- 10 Chapters to construction and furniture
- 1 Chapter to the builders
- 2 Chapters to the Priests
- 1 regarding the new tablets
- 2 regarding the golden calf (breaking pattern)



o Contrast this truth with:

- 2 Chapters for the Creation of the World
- 1 Chapter for Noah's Ark
- 9 Chapters for Solomon's Temple
- 7 Chapters for Ezekiel's Temple
- 4 Chapters for Nehemiah's Temple

Many of the doctrines and topics that most Christians deem as foundational receive far less real estate in the Holy Writ than we realize.

- For example, could you find anywhere in the Bible where 16 chapters is dedicated to the "trinity".
- How about the deity of Christ?
- To be quite honest we can't even find 16 consecutive chapters on the topic of the Crucifixion, burial, or even the resurrection of Jesus.

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Our point is not to diminish any of these other topics, rather to emphasize the importance of the Tabernacle! This is precisely because, the Tabernacle is the place where God will dwell with Israel and it is foreshadowing the way that God will ultimately dwell with Israel in a way that is going to affect the entire world. This means that what we are going to study will aide us in our understanding of how God dwells with Israel and will form the foundation of what the merger of Heaven and Earth will look like.

With that said, we want to give you a few details about the Tabernacle in an overview format. When you are thinking about the overall structure and its

dimensions, you might be tempted to think of a building that is architecturally appealing and grand in scale.

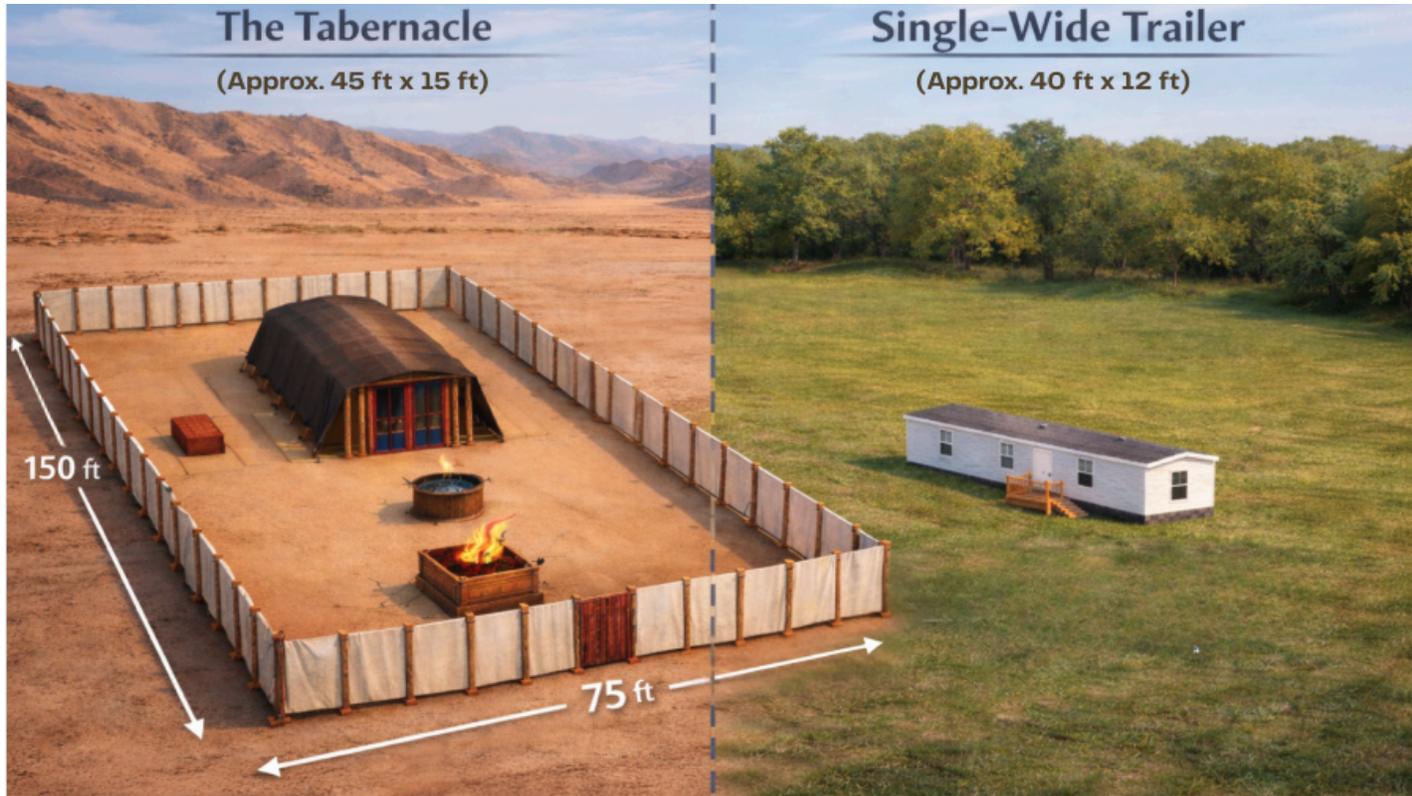
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The actual size of the Tabernacle Complex, is approximately the same square footage as a Walgreens or Dollar General.



Here is a picture of a Replica at Timna Park in Israel we have visited. In all honestly, the scale of this structure is not all that impressive. When you walk into Walgreens or Dollar General you are never impressed at the amount retail space they have. Nonetheless, the Tabernacle despite its scale—houses the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. That structure that is within the overall complex is approximately the size of a single-wide trailer!

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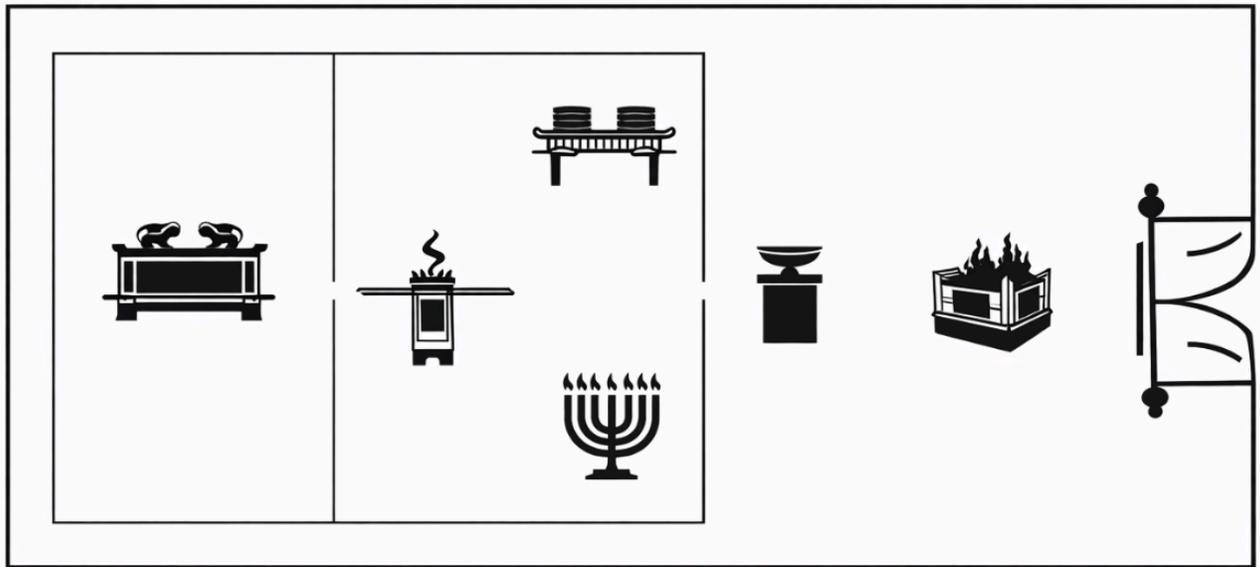
It's almost as if the Tabernacle had no beauty or majesty that would attract you to it, yet it was fully divine and its function was designated by God as Holy.

When you are thinking about the single-wide trailer, you can reasonably conclude that the Holy Place would take up about two thirds of that space. The Holy Place would only take up about one third of that space. This means that if the tent that housed the Holy and Most Holy Place was the size of a single-wide trailer house, then the Most Holy Place would be the size of a bedroom within it.

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Take a look at this next slide.

TABERNACLE



As you are looking at this slide, we want to give you some general information about this structure.

If you were approaching this structure, the first thing that you would see is linen. You also would not be able to see everything that is inside the complex because the curtains would be high enough that you would have to go through the entrance to see into it.

You would then notice that the tabernacle itself faces east and it only has one way in and one way out. That means to interact with this facility, you would have to engage with it in the way that God intended and you would have to interact with each item in the order that God arranged it.

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The first thing that you would have to interact with is the Bronze altar where you would be required to make a sacrifice to the Lord. This altar is listed in Exodus 27 as being roughly 8ft. X 8ft, and would be roughly 4 and a half feet tall, which would be enough space to make any sacrifice that was needed.

This would create the feeling that there was already provided for you a place where any sacrifice could be made that you needed to offer to get close to God.

The next thing that you would encounter is the washbasin, which interestingly, has no recorded measurements in the Book of Exodus.

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After washing you would be able to enter the Holy Place where you would only be able to see because of the Menorah that is inside. This would give the idea that a 7 fold light would guide you as you then approach the table of the bread of his presence where you are being fed in the place that God dwells. Then you would approach the altar of incense where you would offer something sweet and fragrant to the Lord as you are now about to go into the Most Holy Place.

In the Most Holy Place, there would not be any sources of light other than the Glory of God. This is the place where you would meet with God as He is said to dwell there above the Ark and receive commandments from him.

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What makes all of this very interesting is that it is estimated that the monetary value of the precious metals such as gold, silver, and bronze that was used in the construction of the Tabernacle would value today at about 155 million dollars and yet you would not be able to see it from the outside!

From a further distance the entire structure would look ordinary due to it being covered with skins and the closer you got, the more divinity you would discover.

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While you are thinking about that, understand that the tabernacle was a temporary dwelling place of God among the Israelites, but the entire structure was hinting at a more permanent dwelling place (Temple) that would be made in the future.

Because we are not studying the books of Kings or Chronicles, we will avoid going through all of the details about the temple, but for now understand that the Tabernacle itself is pointing to a 2nd structure that would be built in the future and then the Tabernacle and the Temple would both point to a 3rd temple that would be built on the 3rd mountain in Israel's future!

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With that said we do want to show you a few broad overviews and comparisons between the Tabernacle and the Temple that will be enlightening to you. In the coming weeks, we are going to show you how the Tabernacle itself is a foreshadowing of the Messiah himself but for now we want you to see how the comparisons of the Tabernacle and the Temple also help us to understand eschatology in a special way.

As you are looking at this slide, you can relate the Tabernacle to the first coming of the Messiah and the Temple as the second coming.

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(READ LEFT TO RIGHT)

Tabernacle to the Temple

Tabernacle (1 st Coming)	Temple (2 nd Coming)
Built by Prophet	Built By King
Built in wilderness	Built in Jerusalem
Little beauty	Glorious
Temporary	Permanent
Dominated by the number five (grace)	Dominated by the number 12 (God's Government)
Brings redemption and restoration to Israel	Brings redemption and restoration to Israel & the rest of the world

Not only does the Tabernacle aide us in understanding several key facets of the Biblical narrative like what the dwelling of God will be like in Revelation, or the key components of interaction with God, but the comparisons between the Tabernacle and the Temple help us to understand the Messiah's role and the nature of his work in the 7th millennium.

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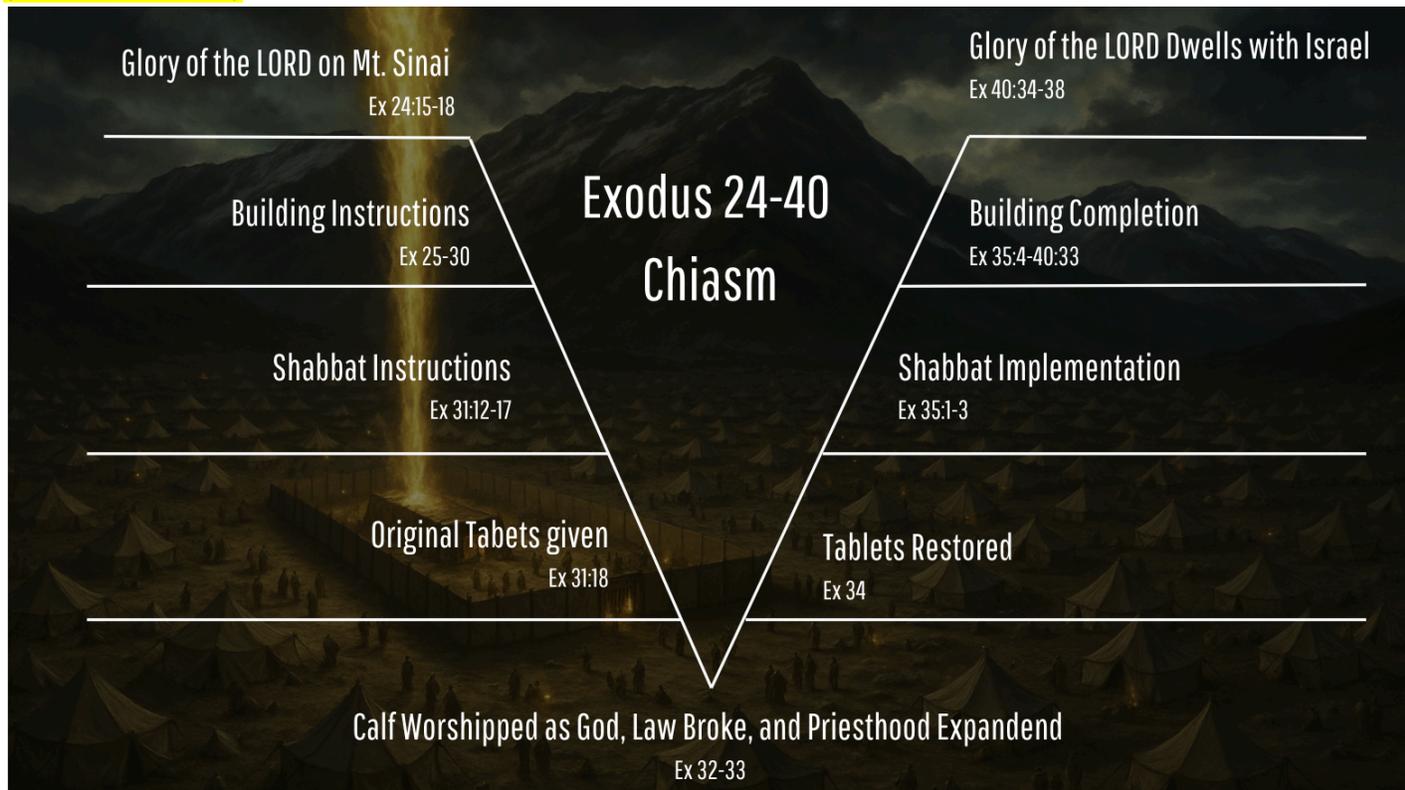
One last thing before we read our chapter, we want to show you something special about the literary structure of Exodus 25-40.

Remember we told you that these chapters are special in that they highlight God's dwelling with man. Additionally, these chapters are even written in a way that their topical arrangements speak a message.

On this next slide you will see that chapters 24-40 are arranged topically in a chiasmic structure.

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(DO NOT READ)



You can see that the Glory of the Lord on Mt Sinai in Ex. 24 directly foreshadows the Glory of the Lord filling the Tabernacle and dwelling with the people in Ex. 40.

In Chapters 25-30 the instructions for the building of the Tabernacle are given, in Ex. 35-40 the Tabernacle is being built.

In Ex 31, we have Sabbath instructions being given, in Ex. 35 the Sabbath is implemented.

In Ex 31, the tablets of the covenant are given to the people, and in Ex. 34, the tablets are restored.

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The unparalleled truth occurs in Ex. 32-33 when the People of Israel rebel against Adonai and yet there is a priesthood that is expanded for the sake of the People.

If you are like us, then these details are staggering to say the least! Even the literary format of the chapters that feature the Dwelling of God on earth are hinting at the way that God will use Israel to bring about his presence on the earth!

All of this is hinting at a time that after Israel sins, he will restore them, consecrate them, the Law will be established in their midst, there will be a Sabbath, the dwelling of God will be completed and Glory of God will be with Israel in a way that causes physical change along with an expansion of the priesthood!

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Being that the unparalleled truth of the chiasmic structure is the sin of the Israelites and their restoration, we have to understand that the entire structure of these next 16 chapters and the structure of the Tabernacle itself is aimed at the atonement of Israel, and the redemption of Israel.

As we get ready to read the chapter, it is worth noting that the entire Tabernacle pattern is aimed at focusing you in on the ark which is the place blood was applied first and foremost for the national salvation of Israel.

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Remember these chapters are the focal point of the book of Exodus, and the main point of the whole book is God dwelling with Israel. And within that, we are getting a hint at the means by which Israel will experience ultimate and total salvation!

Pray and Read

Exodus 25:1–40 (NIVUK84)

1 The LORD said to Moses, 2 “Tell the Israelites to bring me an offering. You are to receive the offering for me from each man whose heart prompts him to give.

To be able to provide the materials needed for the Tabernacle, the people of Israel were prompted to give whatever they were willing to provide. Which brings up a point worth considering. The Israelites were slaves to Egypt no more than a few months ago and would have had no possessions unless they were provided by God. When you are thinking about that remember that this is what Adonai spoke back in Exodus 3.

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- o **Exodus 3:21–22 (ESV)**

21 And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and when you go, you shall not go empty, 22 but each woman shall ask of her neighbor, and any woman who lives in her house, for silver and gold jewelry, and for clothing. You shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians.”

Before Moses had fully received the command to go deliver the Israelites from Egypt, he promised that the Israelites would come out of Egypt with great wealth.

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Tonight, we begin to see the purpose of that wealth transfer. Adonai is building his dwelling on earth and is calling his bride into partnership with him. Concepts like Tikkun Olam should be coming to mind as you put yourself in the sandals of the Israelites that this command is going out to. As you contemplate that, let's turn to the book of Isaiah so that we can see what tonight's text will prefigure at the end of the age

- o **Isaiah 60:5–7 (LSB)**

5 “Then you will see and be radiant, And your heart will tremble and be large with joy; Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you,
The wealth of the nations will come to you.

6 “A multitude of camels will cover you, The young camels of Midian and Ephah; All those from Sheba will come; They will bring gold and frankincense, And will bear good news of the praises of Yahweh.

7 “All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered together to you; The rams of Nebaioth will minister to you; They will go up with acceptance on My altar, And I shall adorn My glorious house with beautiful glory.

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The Israelites in tonight's chapter are serving as a model for the nations as they are willingly bringing the wealth of Egypt so that God's dwelling place might be adorned.

Isaiah is looking forward to a day when the nations are willingly bringing their wealth into Zion, so much so that the land is covered with provision.

Gold, frankincense, and an abundance of livestock are adorning the glorious house.

You will remember that in Exodus 19, Adonai also said the people would be a nation of priests.

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Moreover, you should be able to appreciate the beauty of how God will allow his people to suffer the oppression of beastly gentile nations so that he can bless them in their suffering and the result of their sufferings literally builds the dwelling of God on earth. You might even begin to think of a specific Israelite who would do this in Israel's future. Let's keep moving.

3 These are the offerings you are to receive from them: gold, silver and bronze; 4 blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen; goat hair; 5 ram skins dyed red and hides of sea cows; acacia wood; 6 olive oil for the light; spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense; 7 and onyx stones and other gems to be mounted on the ephod and breast-piece.

8 "Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them.

9 Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you.

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Later in the book of Exodus, we are going to take our time and teach you about the specific materials that are used in the design of the Tabernacle because they speak a profound message.

For our session tonight, we want to use our time to cover the broader picture of what is occurring so that when we get to chapters like Exodus 35-40, you will better be able to appreciate all of the intricacies of the design of the Tabernacle.

For now, consider that what is being shown for the Israelites to build is based on a pattern that is being revealed to Moses during his 40 day visit with God on top of the mountain.

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This begs a question, what exactly is the Tabernacle patterned after? Well, glad you asked... Take a look at this familiar passage...

- o **Exodus 15:17–18 (ESV)**

17 **You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain**, the place, O LORD, which you have made for your abode, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.

18 The LORD will reign forever and ever.”

Think about what the Israelites are singing in this verse. They are talking about a mountain where God's own hands have built a sanctuary that he himself dwells in!

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This is quite different from a sanctuary that will be built by the hands of the Israelites on the earth, this has to be a sanctuary that exists in the heavens that was built by God himself and the people in Exodus 15 are singing with the knowledge that somehow and in some way, the people of Israel would be able to dwell with God near his Heavenly sanctuary...

This proves without a shadow of a doubt that there is a sanctuary in the heavens and that the earthly tabernacle was a copy of what existed in the heavens.

To see how replete this idea of the tabernacle being a copy is, here are 7 passages that indicate that there is a pattern that the Israelites are following.

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(READ SLIDE)

ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN

Exodus 25:9 (NIVUK84)

9 Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings **exactly like the pattern** I will show you.

Exodus 25:40 (NIVUK84)

40 See that you make them **according to the pattern** shown you on the mountain.

Exodus 26:30 (NIVUK84)

30 "Set up the tabernacle **according to the plan** shown you on the mountain.

Exodus 27:8 (NIVUK84)

8 Make the altar hollow, out of boards. It is to be made **just as you were shown** on the mountain.

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(Read Slide)

ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN

Numbers 8:4 (NIVUK84)

4 This is how the lampstand was made: It was made of hammered gold from its base to its blossoms. The lampstand was made **exactly like the pattern** the Lord had shown Moses.

Hebrews 8:5 (NIVUK84)

5 They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything **according to the pattern** shown you on the mountain."

Acts 7:44 (NIVUK84)

44 "Our forefathers had the tabernacle of the Testimony with them in the desert. It had been made as God directed Moses, **according to the pattern** he had seen.

~

This may not be a new teaching to you, but being that we are on this topic, we wanted to take the time to show you how the specific items that are arranged in the Tabernacle are representations of what is in the heavens.

- o **Hebrews 8:1–5 (ESV)**

"Now the point in what we are saying is this:

we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven,
a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man.

For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; thus it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer.

Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law.

They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things.

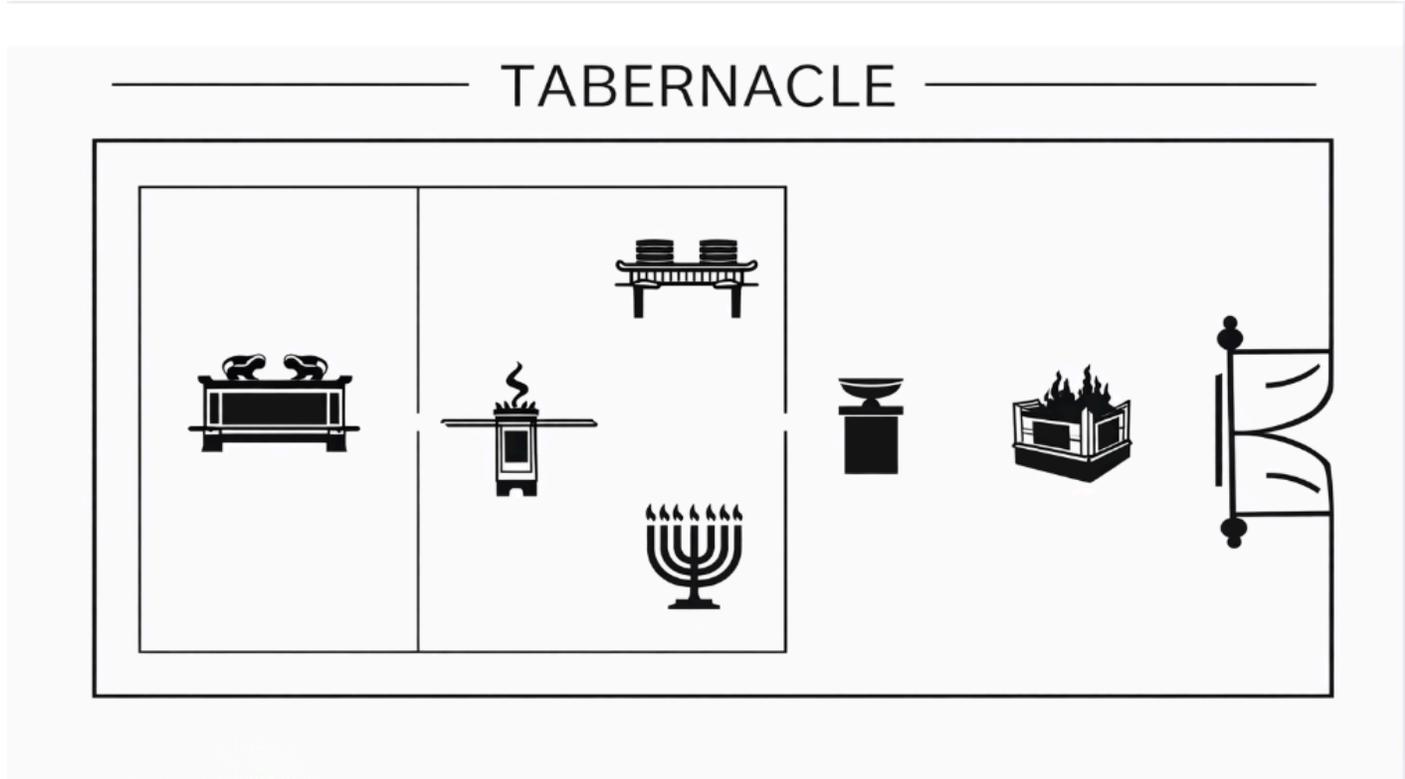
For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying,

‘See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.’”

~

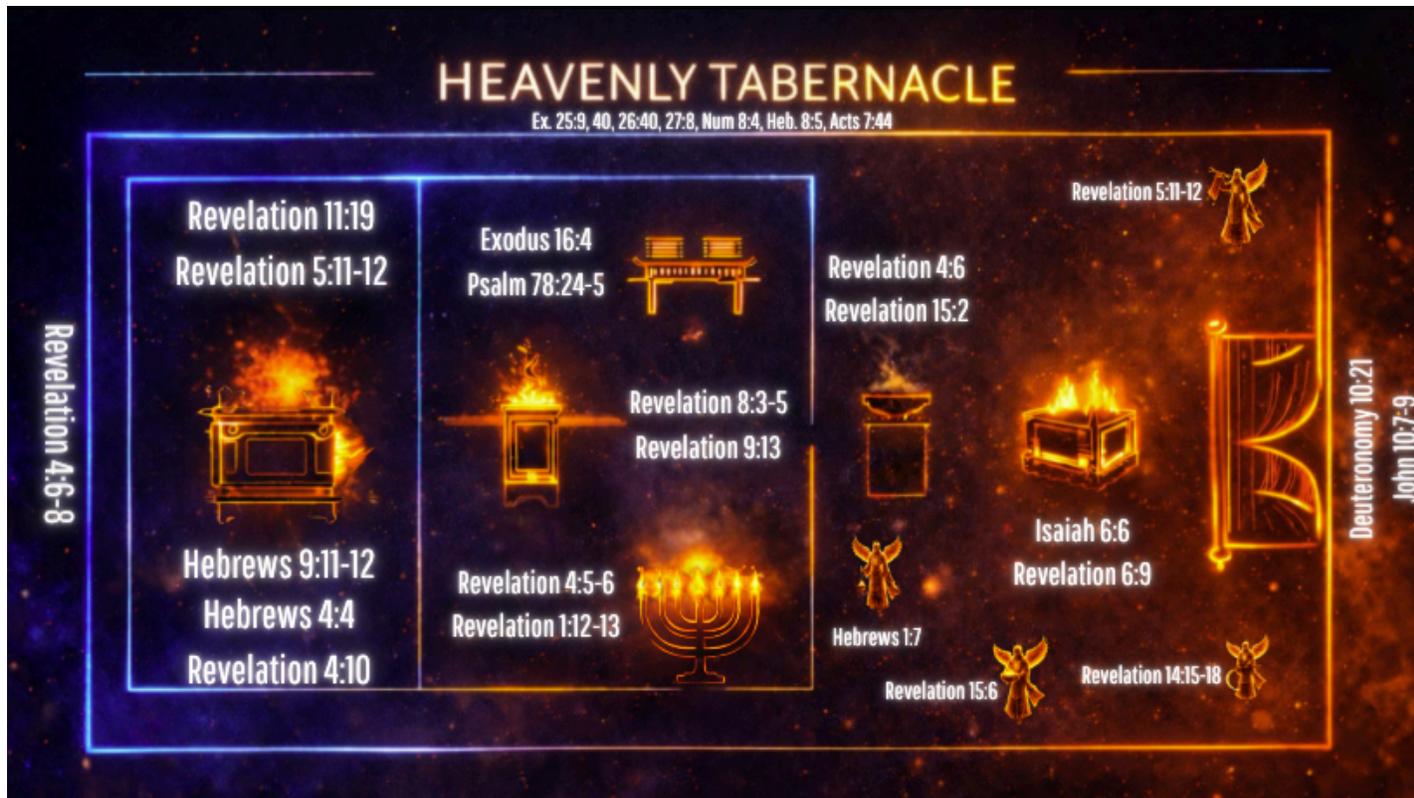
The Author of Hebrews understood that when Moses was told that the Tabernacle was a pattern of something, then that means that the earthly Tabernacle was only a copy and that the original design was in the heavens.

Let's remember a picture that you have become used to by now:



That means that there is a Tabernacle (or a temple) in the heavens and that every furnishing that was built in the earthly Tabernacle was only a copy of the furnishings that existed in the heavens.

~



Let's look at a few passages about the heavenly furnishings for a moment.

- o **Revelation 11:19 (ESV)**

"Then God's temple in heaven **was opened**, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple.

There were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail."

~

The Apostle John is having a vision of the Heavenly Temple and when it was opened, he saw an Ark there!

Let's look at the next passage.

- o **Revelation 8:3-5 (ESV)**

"And another angel came and stood **at the altar with a golden censer**, and he was given much incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints **on the golden altar before the throne**, and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel.

Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth, and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake."

~

Not only is there an Ark in the heavens, but John even saw that before the Ark (which he calls a throne), there was an Altar of Incense and there are even angels ministering at it. Take a look at the Table of Bread in the heavens in these next few passages.

- o **Exodus 16:4 (ESV)**

"Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Behold, I am about to rain **bread from heaven** for you...'"

Notice where the bread is coming from.... Heaven...

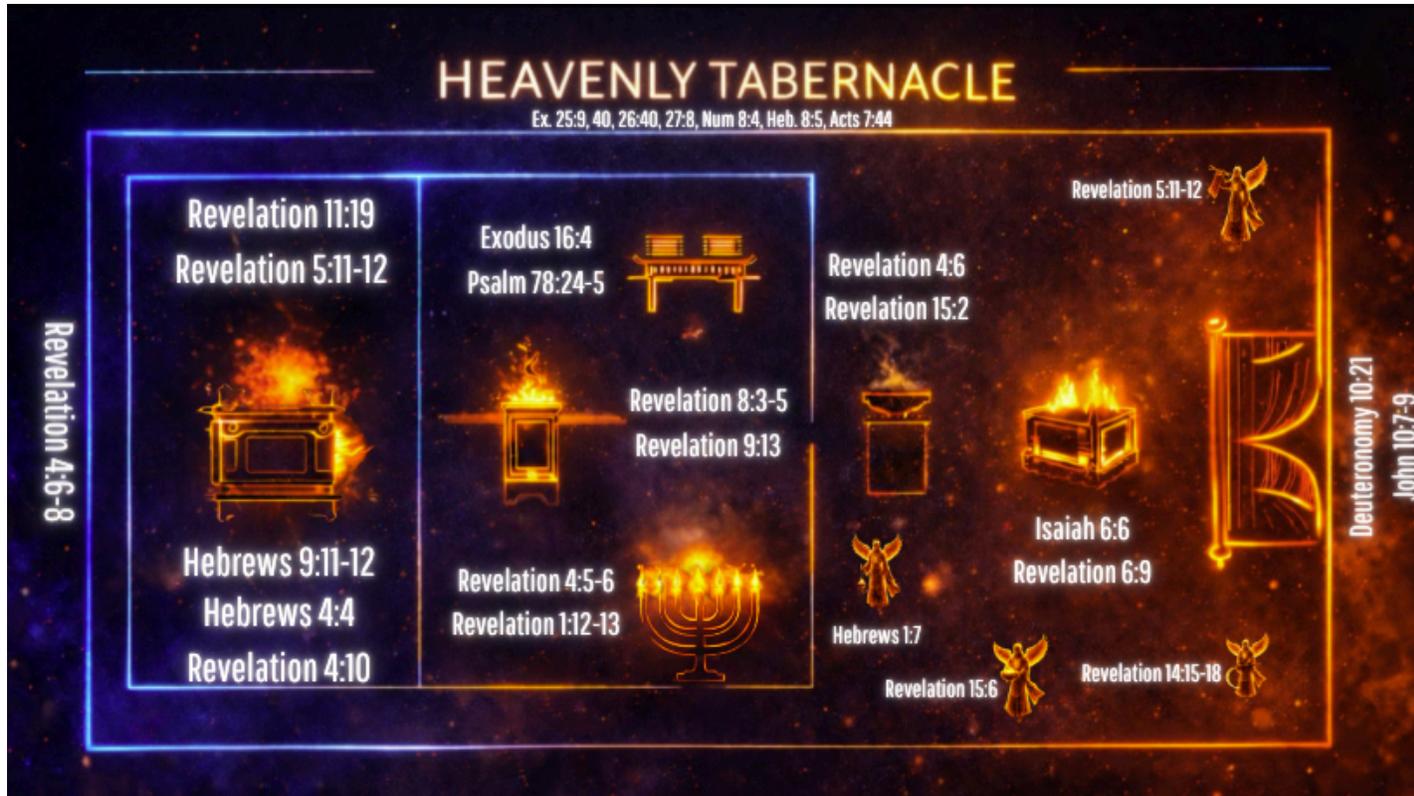
- o **Psalms 78:24–25 (ESV)**

"And he rained down on them manna to eat and gave them the **grain of heaven**.
Man ate of the bread of the angels;
he sent them food in abundance."

~

Just as we saw the angels ministering before the throne at the Altar of Incense, we also see that there is bread that comes from heaven and this passage calls it the "grain of heaven", and the "bread of angels".

While this does not specifically use the phrase "table of bread", we think it is quite clear where this bread is coming from, it is coming from the place where the angels minister before the Lord.



Take a look at the Menorah next.

~

- o **Revelation 1:12–13 (ESV)**

"Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden **lampstands**, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man..."

In John's vision, he also sees lampstands, or said in another way "Menorahs".

What is neat is that there is not just one in the heavens, but there are seven!

Let's move to the washbasin.

~

- o **Revelation 4:5–6 (ESV)**

5 From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were **burning seven torches of fire**, which are the seven spirits of God,

6 and **before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.**
And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind:

Remember that we taught you last week that Exodus 24 featured the Israelites seeing a representation of God and in verse 10, it reads that under his feet was a "pavement" of sapphire. This indicates that somewhere in front of where God is seated, there was a pavement.

~

Then, in Ezekiel 1, we saw that there was an "expanse" of sapphire. Now John is getting a vision that in the heavenly temple, somewhere in front of the seven lampstands, there is a "sea" that is like crystal. We believe the connections are quite clear! (No pun intended)

Let's look at the Altar next.

- o **Revelation 6:9 (ESV)**

"When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God..."

In John's vision, he also sees an Altar.

~

You would probably have to ask yourself why there would be an altar in the heavens if the heavens are where God dwells and should be pure.

First, you would be wrong to assume that the heavens are pure, and next, you would have to understand the heavenly powers and their attempts to undermine God, which we have covered already in Exodus.

Let's take a look at the courts next.

~

- o **Ezekiel 42:14 (ESV)**

14 When the priests enter the Holy Place, they shall not go out of it into the outer court without laying there the garments in which they minister, for these are holy. They shall put on other garments before they go near to that which is for the people."

In this passage, Ezekiel is getting a revelation about a Heavenly Temple that will be built. In this temple, he is being told to measure the courtyards, which is also very similar to what the Apostle John is told in Revelation 11:19.

Again, everything that we see in the Tabernacle was only a copy of what existed in the heavens.

~

The next thing that we want you to notice is what is arranged around the temple in the heavens...

- o **Revelation 4:6–8 (ESV)**

6 and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal. And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind:

7 the first living creature like a **lion**, the second living creature like an **ox**, the third living creature with the face of a **man**, and the fourth living creature like an **eagle** in flight.

8 And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"

~

Notice the specific creatures that are mentioned around the throne in this vision. If you tried to understand what this means by reading the Book of Revelation first, then the meaning would probably be lost on you.

But if you approached this passage with an understanding of Numbers 2, you would know that there were three tribes on each side of the tabernacle, and they camped under a specific standard.

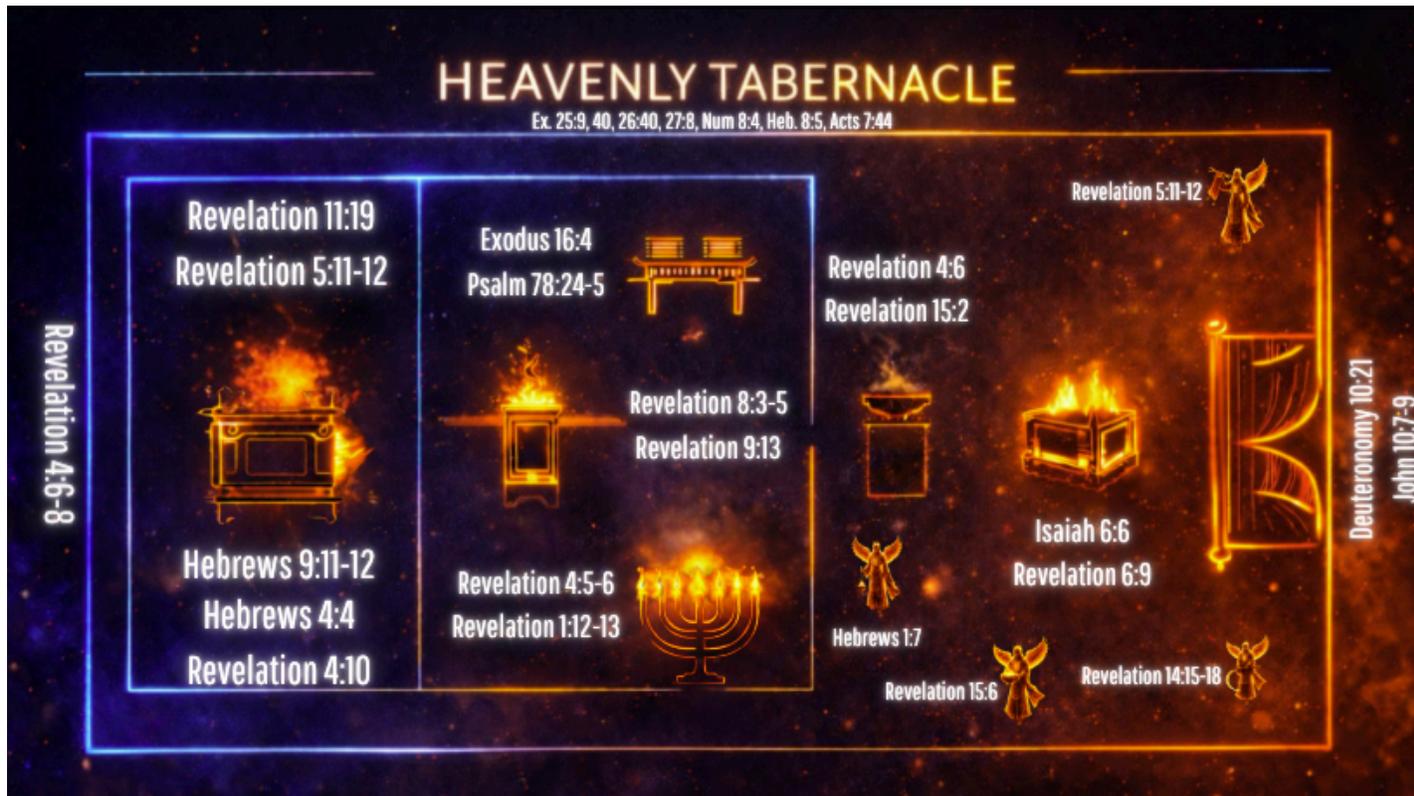
These standards were denoted by the leading tribes on each side, which were Judah, Reuben, Ephraim, and Dan. The emblems that served as the standards of these four tribes were a lion, an ox, a man, and an eagle.

~

This means that surrounding the earthly Tabernacle were representations of the same creatures that surrounded the heavenly temple! Consider this passage from the writings.

- o **Psalm 11:4 (ESV)**

4 The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD's throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man.



This passage plainly indicates that God dwells in a temple in the heavens which tells us that his desire was to have a replica on the earth that would merge with the heavens and he would dwell there himself.

~

It should not be lost on you that out of all of the places on earth that he chose to do this, he chose to put his pattern among the Israelites!

- o **Revelation 21:2–3 (ESV)**

"And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
‘Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man.

He will dwell with them, and they will be his people,
and God himself will be with them as their God.’"

We read this last week because the whole book of Exodus is aiming at it, but we wanted to read it again to highlight the magnitude of what God is foreshadowing.

~

The whole point of the Book of Exodus is God dwelling with men, but that statement is not specific enough and misses the true target.

He desires to dwell with Israel and he gave them his pattern so that they would be the first to start the process by building it on earth!

- o **Exodus 19:5–6 (ESV)**

"Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine;

and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."

~

Remember when we showed you the passages of the articles of the Heavenly temple and you saw angels ministering there?

In the earthly copy, it is the nation of Israel that he chose for the holy role of ministering in the sanctuary and functioning as his priests to the rest of the world.

It is truly remarkable to see in the Law that the Nation of Israel is specially selected to foreshadow not only the restoration of the nations, but also the merger of the Heavens and the Earth to the extent that they as a nation become *the* ministers of God's restorative plan for the entire world and *even the universe*.

~

- o **Romans 3:1–2 (ESV)**

1 Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision?

2 Much in every way. To begin with, the Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God.

You have to marvel at what we are seeing in the Book of Exodus. The Jewish people are the first of the nations to be redeemed, and then they themselves become the sign to the world that God will do for them what he did for Israel!

They received the pattern in the heavens, they built it, and they are the ones that God uses to ultimately usher in the restoration of the earth!

~

- o **Deuteronomy 4:5-8 (ESV)**

5 See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.

6 Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'

7 For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him?

8 And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

Consider why the Law aimed at topics like Tikkun Olam, Pikuach Nefesh, and wholeness...

This is because what God was doing with the nation of Israel was intended for the other nations to be able to see the pattern of what was in the heavens by looking at Israel.

~

Through Israel, the nations are able to catch a glimpse of God's entire restorative plan because he gave it to Israel and even caused them to walk it out in a way that becomes a pattern that is repeated in the future!

- o **Psalm 147:19–20 (NIV)**

¹⁹ He has revealed his word to Jacob,
his laws and decrees to Israel.

²⁰ He has done this for no other nation;
they do not know his laws.

Praise the Lord.

~

When we are looking at the overview of the Book of Exodus, or we are studying the intricate details of the Tabernacle, the first thing that should come into your

mind is the prominence of Israel in God's plan and their specially selected role in being used by God to bring about the restoration of the world.

Each item in the Tabernacle was given **to Israel** by God and will be used by God to carry out his will on earth **through Israel**.

The Book of Exodus is teaching us that what God wants to do with the earth, he does for Israel first and then uses Israel to do it for the rest of the world!

~

- o **Amos 3:2a (ESV)**

2 “You only have I known of all the families of the earth...

Israel is not just **one** of the nations... It is the only nation that was specifically selected by God for the task of revealing his heavenly pattern to the entire world.

Moreover, they are the only nation that is named in the entire Bible as being a national priesthood. They received the plans of what would be built on the earth and they also received the designation of being the ones who would initiate the Heavenly Reality merging with the earth!

~

This is easy to understand when you consider that the Book of Exodus is about Israel, for Israel, and it features them actually building the dwelling place of God on the earth before any other nation even knew the name of Yahweh!

- o **Genesis 12:2–3 (ESV)**

2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Remember that God's aim was always that the nations would be blessed because Israel would be blessed.

~

What is beautiful about the Book of Exodus is that we are now at a point where additional revelation is given that details exactly how Israel will be blessed and how that blessing will reach the nations. Israel will be saved from their oppressors, they will be married to Adonai, they are given the plans to build on earth what is

in the heavens, and they will be ministers to the entire world! Consider this next passage.

o **Isaiah 56:6–8 (NIV)**

⁶And foreigners who bind themselves to the Lord
to minister to him,
to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it
and who hold fast to my covenant—

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain
and give them joy in my house of prayer.

Their burnt offerings and sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house will be called

a house of prayer for all nations.”

⁸The Sovereign Lord declares—
he who gathers the exiles of Israel:
“I will gather still others to them
besides those already gathered.”

~

It is at the place where Israel ministers and where God dwells that God will bless the nations. With this in mind, the tabernacle is a sign of what is to come for the entire world. God is going to use Israel to build his dwelling place and that dwelling place will bless the nations!

In fact, the end of the Book of Exodus is even more clear regarding how this is done.

o **Exodus 40:34–35 (ESV)**

34 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

35 And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

~

At the end of the book, when the tabernacle is completed, it seems that God is coming down from the heavens and filling the earthly copy that he used the Israelites to build!

This is a profound hint at what is to come in Israel's future! A day is coming when what is in the Heavens will come down to dwell in the midst of Israel permanently and the entire world will be blessed when God is dwelling with the Jewish People!

On this topic, there could not be any clearer passage than Ezekiel 37.

~

- o **Ezekiel 37:26–28 (ESV)**

26 I will make a covenant of peace with **them**. It shall be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will set them in their land and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in their midst forevermore.

27 My dwelling place shall be with **them**, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

28 Then the nations will know that I am the LORD who sanctifies Israel, when my sanctuary is in their midst forevermore.”

Remember that the Bible is Israel-dependent. Without Israel, there is no millennial age, no 1,000 year sabbath, and no new heavens and new earth.

The entire point of the story of Exodus is that God will dwell with them, Israel, and that he will put his sanctuary in their midst.

~

This is hinting at the ultimate fulfillment of when God will dwell with Israel permanently and at that point, this will mean restoration for the whole earth. Ezekiel literally says that the nations will know that he is Yahweh when he puts his sanctuary in the midst of his people!

- o **Zechariah 2:10–11 (ESV)**

"Sing and rejoice, **O daughter of Zion**, for behold, I come and I will dwell in your midst, declares the Lord.

And many nations shall join themselves to the Lord in that day, and shall be my people.

And I will dwell in your midst, and you shall know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you."

The entire book of Exodus is about God dwelling with Israel first, which is the lynch point for the reconciliation of all things in heaven and on earth through Israel!!!

~

This is not just a part of the redemptive plan of God; it is **THE** Redemptive plan of God, the heavens and the earth becoming one, through Israel.

In fact, if you want a summative statement for all of eschatology, it would be this: God is going to reconcile all things in heaven and on the earth through Israel. He will rule and reign over the whole world from Jerusalem.

When this occurs, the Book of Exodus and the rest of the Bible foretell that the entire earth will take notice and they will have a knowledge of who Yahweh is based on the virtue of God dwelling with Israel!

~

o **Revelation 21:1-3**

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth...
And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
'Behold, the dwelling place of God **is with man**.
He will dwell with them, and they will be his people,
and God himself will be with them as their God.'"

When you read this verse, you should understand that none of this is possible without Israel and that the Book of Exodus is a roadmap of how we get there.

He will save them, marry them, put his law in their midst, feast with them, help them build a house and then dwell with them!

~

10 "Have them make a chest of acacia wood—two and a half cubits long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high.

11 Overlay it with pure gold, both inside and out, and make a gold molding around it.

The first item that God instructs Moses to build is the Ark. Again, the book of Exodus will describe the Ark of the Covenant in detail in a later chapter, so today's

study is far from exhaustive; rather, we wanted to begin inclining your hearts to the beauty of the tabernacle.

Since this is the first item Moses is instructed to build, your takeaway should be that it is the most important aspect of the Tabernacle complex.

~

It is the singular item that the entire structure is drawing you towards when you interact with the Tabernacle as a participant. With that said, consider what this item is made out of.

(READ SLIDE)





~

The Israelites were told to take this thorny, poisonous bush, strip it of its bark so that the soft, white interior would be exposed, and **then** overlay the wood with pure Gold. The end product would be surprising based on the way that the tree looks in person! This, in and of itself, speaks a message about God's divine pattern and plan that he intended to use the nation of Israel for!

Even the materials that are used hint at the idea that Israel as a nation would have to be stripped and exposed and then they would be overlaid with divinity! The end product of the nation would be surprising given how they looked before this process!

~

Moreover, this points to another layer in God's redemptive pattern for Israel. In the future, an Israelite would walk this same path...but in reverse. Rather than being raised from humility to glory, He would be clothed in gold yet willingly stripped of His divinity, exchanging a crown of honor for a crown of thorns.

This is quite literally what happened to Israel's messiah. He was stripped of all majesty and glory and humbled himself to the point of becoming a man so that he could wear a crown of thorns in order for his people to be overlaid with Gold.

~

It hints at a greater exchange in God's redemptive plan: Israel would be stripped for a time, so that the nations might be overlaid with gold.

Again, the point of these connections is so that you can see that God is using Israel to bring his divinity to the world, and the details of the Ark are no exception to the pattern!

12 Cast four gold rings for it and fasten them to its four feet, with two rings on one side and two rings on the other. 13 Then make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. 14 Insert the poles into the rings on the sides of the chest to carry it. 15 The poles are to remain in the rings of this ark; they are not to be removed. 16 Then put in the ark the Testimony, which I will give you. 17 "Make an atonement cover of pure gold—two and a half cubits long and a cubit and a half wide. 18 And make two cherubim out of hammered gold at the ends of the cover.

~

We could highlight the many connections about how the Ark itself resembles the Throne of God and how he calls heaven his throne and earth his footstool - indicating that the Ark is quite literally the resting place for his feet on the earth, this as well as many other interesting connections to the ark of the covenant exist but for the sake of time we will need to save these comments for another occasion.

What we do want to cover is how God chose only one spot to place his testimony and means of atonement on the earth and that is right in the center of the Jewish nation.

~

To start with that train of thought, consider that Moses is being told that the "Testimony" is to be placed in the Ark. When you hear the word "Testimony", you should understand that, based on many other passages in the Tanakh, this is referring to the Law and more specifically the stone tablets according to Exodus 31:18.

What this means is that the item that had to be stripped and then overlaid with gold is now going to house the eternal Law!

Again, this begins to paint a picture of what God has done with Israel and will continue to do with them in the future. They themselves will be cut and then overlaid and then they will become containers that house the eternal Law. When you think about that, understand that this is essentially what Ezekiel 36 says God will do in the future.

~

Furthermore, consider what God is doing when he tells the Israelites to put his Testimony in their midst. More specifically, he is telling them to place his testimony in the most precious place that would exist in Israel and that is the Most Holy Place.

We have already covered some of the details of the Tabernacle, so you should remember that from a distance, all you would see is a structure that is covered by skins and you would see no beauty or majesty that would attract you from afar.

However, the closer you got, you would be able to see more and more divine revelation as you move to the center of the Israelites and the place where God dwells.

~

That means that if you want to see the Testimony of God, then you would have to look at Israel and the closer you get, the more of God's testimony you see!

Next, take a look at what is placed on top of the Ark. God instructs Moses to make an "atonement" cover and place it on the Ark.

Consider that this is being said before Moses and the Israelites even know what atonement would be required or how to make it! What is incredible about this revelation at this point in the story is that God is revealing to his people that he is going to put the means and the place where atonement will occur right in their midst!

~

This is striking to say the least. Remember that what Moses is being shown is a copy of what exists in the heavens, so this revelation must have been mind-blowing to say the least!

Not only does this indicate a future atonement among the Israelites, but it also hints at an atonement in the heavens that is pre-destined and that is intended to merge with the earth!

Now, because we do have the rest of the Bible at our disposal, we do know what this atonement will look like, and it is found in the feast of Yom Kippur - or the Day of Atonement.

Take a look at this next passage.

~

o **Leviticus 16:14–16 (ESV)**

14 And he shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the front of the mercy seat on the east side, and in front of 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 that is for the people and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, sprinkling it over the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat. 16 Thus he shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleannesses of the people of Israel and because of their transgressions, all their sins. And so he shall do for the tent of meeting, which dwells with them in the midst of their uncleannesses.

This was done once a year for the national atonement of Israel and this was done right on the place that God is speaking to Moses about - the Mercy Seat. So the mercy seat itself is an anticipation of Israel's national atonement!

~

To make sure you understand its significance:

There are 70 Holy Days in a year. Out of all of these, the Day of Atonement is the most holy day.

There are 70 nations in the world and out of all of them, Israel is the most holy nation.

Out of all the people in Israel, the Levites are the most holy.

Out of all the Levites, the high priest is the most holy.

Out of all of the places in Israel, Jerusalem is the most holy.

Out of all the places in Jerusalem, the temple was the most holy.

In the temple, there was one Most Holy place.

On the most Holy Day, the most Holy man goes into the most holy place to make atonement for the people. Holy, Holy, Holy.

~

The point of what we are reading about is that God will dwell with Israel and **that** will cause the nations to know that Yahweh is God. Now we are reading that God is anticipating for his people a means of atonement for their sin and that is how this whole event will come about!

- o **Daniel 9:24 (ESV)**

24 “Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.

Daniel was able to predict that a time would come for Israel when God would put an end to sin, atone for all iniquity and anoint the most holy place! This is what the Book of Exodus and the Ark of the Covenant are aiming at!

~

The pattern that Moses is seeing on the mountain is that God will one day put a final end to the sin of the Israelites and wash them of their iniquities! We taught last week about the Blood of the Covenant being among Israel and how that will cause them to receive double, now we are getting to see where this will take place... In the center of Israel! Let's keep moving.

19 Make one cherub on one end and the second cherub on the other; make the cherubim of one piece with the cover, at the two ends. 20 The cherubim are to have their wings spread upwards, overshadowing the cover with them. The cherubim are to face each other, looking towards the cover. 21 Place the cover on top of the ark and put in the ark the Testimony, which I will give you.

22 There, above the cover between the two cherubim that are over the ark of the Testimony, I will meet with you and give you all my commands for the Israelites.

~

To properly understand what is happening here, you need to realize that this is the second time that Cherubim are mentioned in the Bible. To properly make

applications, we need to understand the first occurrence so that we can grasp the imagery that is being conveyed here.

- o **Genesis 3:22–24 (ESV)**

22 Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the **tree of life and eat, and live forever—**”

23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken.

24 He drove out the man, **and at the east of the garden of Eden** he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to **guard the way to the tree of life.**

When Adam sinned, God drove man eastward of the garden and then placed Cherubim on the east side so that man would not be allowed to come back and partake of the tree of life.

~

Now consider that if you wanted to approach the Ark of the Covenant, you would have to come from the east and head east into the Holy of Holies!

Moreover, now consider that God is telling the Israelites that he will meet with them where the Cherubim are in their midst! This is God's way of saying that he is putting the solution to the fall in the Garden in the midst of Israel!

It should not escape our notice that this Ark is the place where the Testimony of God is laid, and that the cover upon which the cherubim stand is the very place where atonement for Israel is made.

~

This is God's way of highlighting to the whole world that if they want access to life, his testimony, and his atonement, then they are going to have to enter into what Israel is experiencing!

Of course, all of these things are hinting at a total restoration to come, but that would be lost on you if you don't first understand that he is placing this solution in the midst of Israel, and this will be done first for Israel!

All of these details underscore the desire that God has to dwell with his people Israel. Furthermore, they highlight the extent of how detailed God is in providing his solution for redemption and restoration for them first and then using them as an invitation for the world to come and partake in what he has provided for them. Through Israel, he is making a way for them to reverse the fall in the Garden, and he is providing for them the means for his testimony to be known by them and for them to receive total redemption by the blood of atonement!

~

We are now going to move to the table of bread, where you are going to see the same intention that God has for his own people on display.

23 “Make a table of acacia wood—two cubits long, a cubit wide and a cubit and a half high. 24 Overlay it with pure gold and make a gold molding around it. 25 Also make around it a rim a handbreadth wide and put a gold molding on the rim. 26 Make four gold rings for the table and fasten them to the four corners, where the four legs are. 27 The rings are to be close to the rim to hold the poles used in carrying the table. 28 Make the poles of acacia wood, overlay them with gold and carry the table with them. 29 And make its plates and dishes of pure gold, as well as its pitchers and bowls for the pouring out of offerings. 30 Put the bread of the Presence on this table to be before me at all times.”

Again, tonight's study is not an exhaustive explanation of each of these articles. For now, consider what this table is for and what is being placed on the Table. The English calls this the "bread of his presence", the Hebrew is the "Lechem Paniym" which can mean the "Bread of his presence", or the "Bread of his face".

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This is because the word "Paniym" is a difficult word to translate, but it means to be in front of something, to be in the presence of something, or to be before the face of something. If that is the case, then what association would bread have with the presence of God? Perhaps Closeness with Adonai gives nourishment to a man like the nourishment bread gives to the body.

With that in mind, consider that the proof of God's nearness to the Israelites, was the fact that he was feeding them with the Bread of Heaven or otherwise called "Manna". We believe these connections are too good to be missed and their overall themes are profound in highlighting God's love for his people and what he would do for them in the future.

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God wanted Israel to know that he was near to them and he even said that this bread was to be placed in the tabernacle at all times! This indicates that God wanted to nourish the Israelites with his presence and this also seems to be hinting at the fact that God would feed his people in the future in such a way that would indicate that he is with them forever and that they are being fed in entirety.

When you are thinking about that, consider that there would be an Israelite in the future that would speak to the Nation of Israel and tell them that he is the bread from heaven and that if they would consume him, then they would never be hungry again.

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On that thought you might be able to now understand what is being said in Revelation 7:15

- o **Revelation 7:15–17 (ESV)**

15 “Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and **he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.**

16 **They shall hunger no more**, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

God is not only indicating to the Israelites in Moses' day about how he wants to be near to them and feed them, he also is hinting that a time will come when He will be with them forever and that they will no longer hunger at all!

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Again, what is amazing about this is that this is the plan of God for the restoration of the entire world! He is going to be near to Israel in entirety and he is going to feed them in a way that there will no longer be any hunger for them and all who join them! To say this another way, God is going to solve world hunger starting with Israel first!

Let's move to the Lampstand.

31 “Make a lampstand of pure gold and hammer it out, base and shaft; its flowerlike cups, buds and blossoms shall be of one piece with it. 32 Six branches are to extend from the sides of the lampstand—three on one side and three on the other. 33 Three cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms are to be on one branch, three on the next branch, and the same for all six branches extending from the lampstand. 34 And on the lampstand there are to be four cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms. 35 One bud shall be under the first pair of branches extending from the lampstand, a second bud under the second pair, and a third bud under the third pair—six branches in all. 36 The buds and branches shall all be of one piece with the lampstand, hammered out of pure gold.

37 “Then make its seven lamps and set them up on it so that they light the space in front of it. 38 Its wick trimmers and trays are to be of pure gold. 39 A talent of pure gold is to be used for the lampstand and all these accessories. 40 See that you make them according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.

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Without going into every detail of the lampstand we want to talk to you about what this means for Israel in Moses' day and what this hints at in their future.

Understand that this article of the Tabernacle serves a very practical function as you engage with the Tabernacle in its entirety. Without it there would be no other source of illuminations in the room!

With that being the case, it is very profound that it is not 1 light source that is available, it is one menorah that has seven lamps! This is unique in the sense that the number seven in the Bible represents completion or perfection and in this case it is this sevenfold lamp that is drawing you into the Holy place after you had washed at the basin.

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Furthermore, you would not be able to find the bread of his presence or make your way to the Ark if you did not have this perfect lamp highlighting the way to go! This speaks to the way that God desired to illuminate the path for Israel to come to him and the way that he desired to draw them in perfectly after he washes them. This also underscores the way that Adonai would use Israel as a beacon of light to the nations that are desiring to interact with Adonai in the same manner as they had interacted with him.

This is also a hint at what God would do through Israel in the future, namely that he would establish his perfect light among them in a way that causes them to be in the presence of God fully in the future. On that note, consider this next passage.

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- o **Revelation 4:5–7 (ESV)**

5 From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were **burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God**, 6 and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: 7 the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight.

The Apostle John saw 7 lamps in the heavens and he noted that those 7 lamps represented the perfect spirit of God. As you remember that the intention of this pattern being given to Moses is actually that the Israelites would build what was coming to the earth consider what this says about what God wants to do with Israel in the future.

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He is going to place his perfect spirit in their midst in the future, which is exactly what Ezekiel 36 says as well.

- o **Ezekiel 36:26–28 (ESV)**

26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

28 You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

In Moses' day, only a few Israelites were able to interact with the 7 fold lamp that represented the spirit of God, in Israel's future, the entire nation is going to be filled with the spirit and interact with the bread of his presence all at once!

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He is going to put his sanctuary with them and they will be totally full of the spirit and walking in his law! Again you should be able to see the preciousness of what God is giving Moses and the way that this is intended to be for Israel first and then as the nations interact with Israel they experience the same blessing!

As we conclude our study of Exodus 25 tonight, let's reflect on the profound theological and eschatological insights we've gained from the last two chapters. In Exodus 24, we were given a vivid depiction of the feast of Abraham, drawing clear connections between Mt. Sinai, the Mt. of Transfiguration, and Mt. Zion.

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This evening, we witness God beginning to establish His throne on Earth, instructing the Israelites on how to bring heaven down to earth. This unique privilege and responsibility was bestowed upon no other nation. With our final passage we want to emphasize that it is through Israel that the rest of the World is made aware of & interacts with God.

- o **Genesis 12:1–3 (NIVUK84)**

12 The LORD had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you.

2 “I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed **through you.**”

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God placed the responsibility of carrying the kingdom of God squarely on Israel's shoulders. Through Israel, light would be shed upon the rest of the nations that were in darkness. That light has reached us & the pattern for us has been established clearly through Israel.

In the same way they are, we are responsible for carrying the presence of God on our shoulders, for building exactly according to his pattern so that we might join them in bringing heaven down to earth. People will be blessed Through you, as you rightly interact with the presence of God... That is a privilege, an honor, and a high calling