

# Into the Promised Land

## Joshua's Story

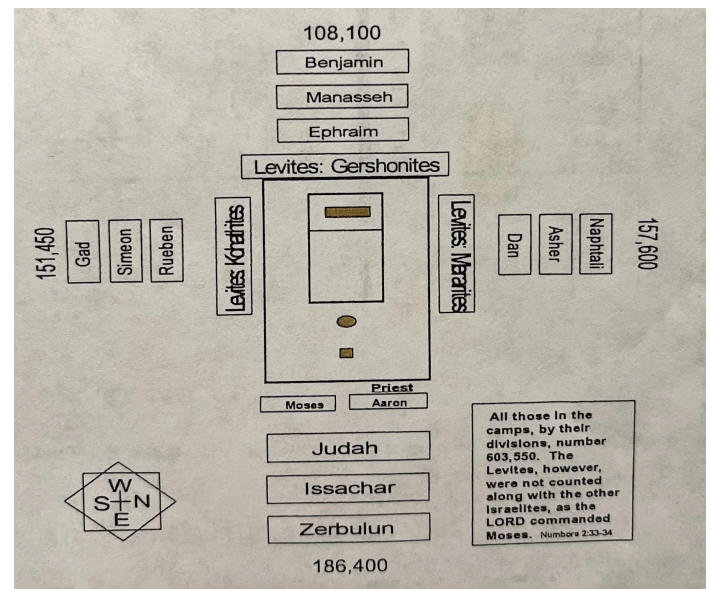
### Lesson #6 - The Courtyard of the Tabernacle

### H A N D O U T

➤ Now, we begin to look at the construction of the Tabernacle and how every single item used in the construction becomes a symbol of our sin condition, ultimately points to the promised Messiah. Also, absolutely everything in or about the Tabernacle has a meaning that is revealed in the NT Church.

It has been a long time since we have encountered Joshua. Since this study is supposed to be about him, one would wonder why he is missing from our discussion. Even though we are not talking about Joshua directly or following his actions, he is Moses' Aide-de-Camp, so he is ever present, in the background. Everything we are looking at, he lived, and those experiences and situations are preparing him for his future. If we are to really know Joshua, we must look at the life and experiences he was subjected to.

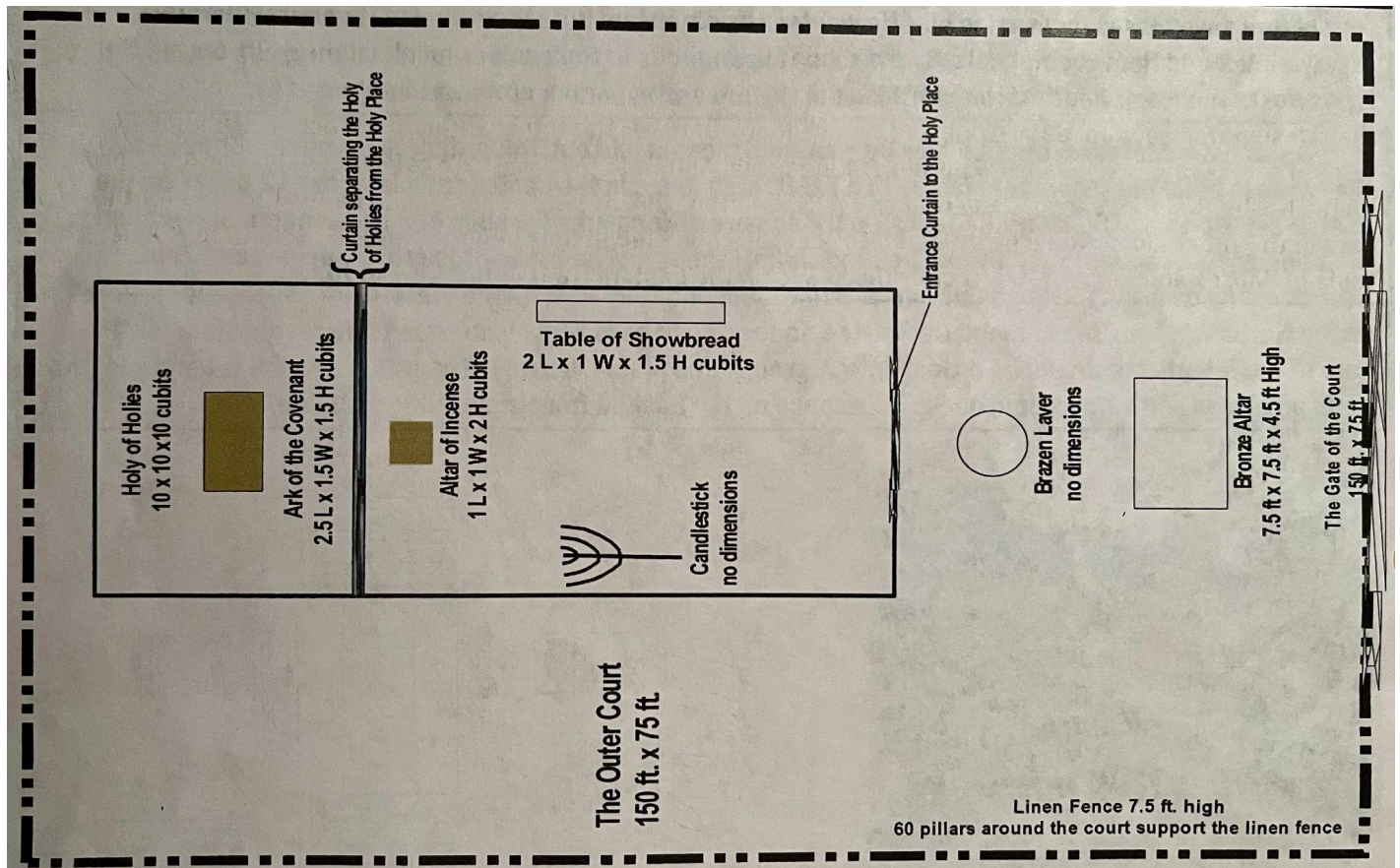
➤ God gave Moses instruction how He wanted the camp laid out: According to Numbers, Chapters 2-4, they were to build the Tabernacle Tent with a 7.5 ft. high fence in the center and place the 12 tribes on the East, West, North and South of the Tent. The tribes were divided into 4 groups of 3 tribes each, and placed in their designated section, each flying their individual standard. The tribes of Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun were to set up camp on the East; Ephraim, Manasseh, and Benjamin on the West; Dan, Asher, and Naphtali on the North; Reuben, Simeon, and Gad on the South. The tribe of Levi - who were to be responsible for the care of the Tabernacle, would be divided into 3 groups and placed between the tribes and the tabernacle; the tents of Moses and Aaron would occupy the space on the East, in front of the tribe of Judah.



Q. What did God establish as foreshadowing patterns when He instructed Moses how to set up the Camp and how to construct the Tabernacle?

Q. The image of the layout of the camp indicates there was a record of the exact number of males in each tribe. What is the source of this information?

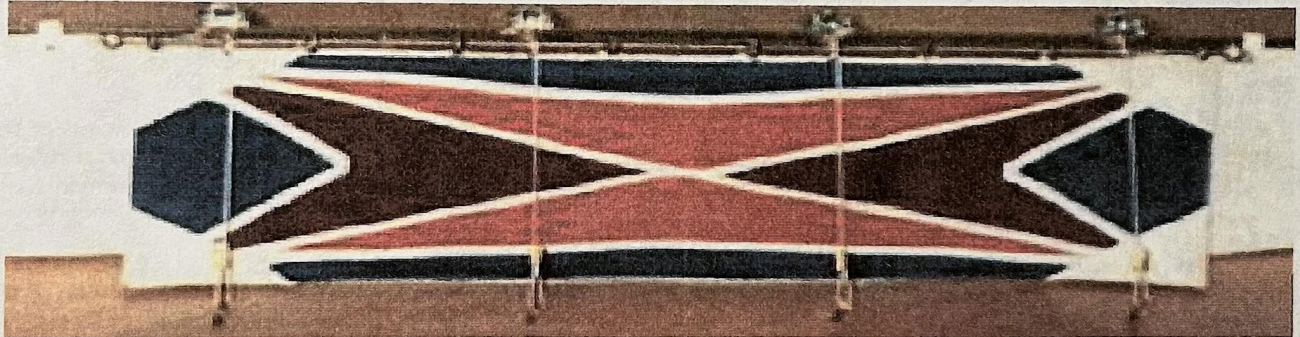
### The general layout of the Tabernacle Compound...



Q. God ordered a 7.5 foot high fence to be placed around the Tabernacle compound. Only the Levites and the Priests were allowed to enter. This fence served as a protective barrier preventing people and/or animals from suffering God's wrath because they had unknowingly crossed into God's Holy territory. Thus, it was meant to be seen as God's grace and a reminder of His presence that dwelt with them. How does this demarcation line translate into the life of the Christian today?

## The Gate Into the Tabernacle Courtyard

➤ God told Moses to position the Gate into the Courtyard on the east side of the fence, so that it would face the Sunrise. The gate itself was to have four posts and four bases. It was to be 20 cubits long [30 feet]. It was to be made of linen and embroidered with blue, purple, and scarlet yarn, along with finely twisted linen.



**This rendering is an Artist Concept by David Hamllton, Mishkan Ministries.**

Q. What was the purpose of the Gate into the Courtyard of the Tabernacle Compound?

Q. How does the Gate point to Jesus?

Q. Why would God specifically say to place the Entrance Gate where the first light of day would illuminate it?

Q. What do the colors God chose for the Gate represent in scripture?

◇ **Scarlet:** This color point to both our \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

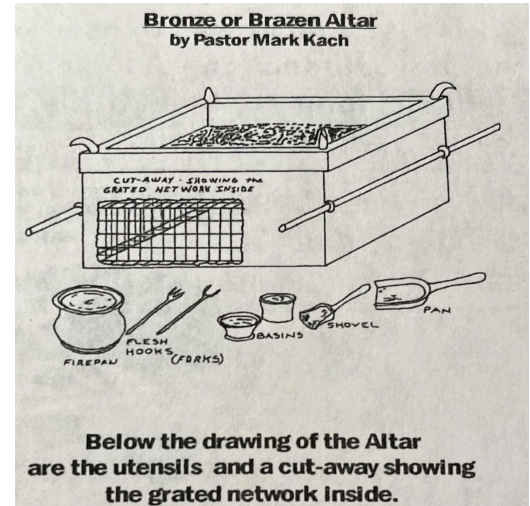
◇ **Purple:** The most rare & valued dye in antiquity; it was worn only \_\_\_\_\_.

◇ **Blue:** Blue was the color for \_\_\_\_\_.

◇ **White Twisted Linen:** White speaks of \_\_\_\_\_.

## We come to the Bronze Altar also called the Brazen Altar

The Brazen (Bronze) Altar in the Outer Court just inside the gate



Q. The Bronze or Brazen Altar was in the courtyard where the daily sacrifice took place. The Altar was really a simple hollow box with one distinctive addition: God told them to “make a horn at each of the four corners.” The horns and the altar were to be one piece overlaid with bronze. What was significant about the horns?

Q. There were two provisions regarding the Bronze or Brazen Altar: The Fire was never allowed to go out and the Sacrifice had to remain on the Altar until the next sacrifice. What is the meaning of these 2 provisions?

Fire:

Sacrifice:

Jesus, The Sacrificial Lamb:

► Hebrews 7:27-8:2, Unlike those other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices every day. They did this for their own sins first and then for the sins of the people. But Jesus did this once for all when He offered Himself as the sacrifice for the people’s sins. The law appointed high priests who were limited by human weakness. But after the law was given, God appointed His Son with an oath, and His Son has been made the perfect High Priest forever.

Here is the main point: We have a High Priest who sat down in the place of honor beside the throne of the majestic God in heaven. There He ministers in the heavenly Tabernacle, the true place of worship that was built by the Lord and not by human hands.

Q. How would one summarize the purpose of the Bronze Altar in the O.T. and how does it point to Jesus?

**Next in the Courtyard is the Bronze Laver. This is where we will pick up the story next time.**

**Next Time • Lesson #7  
“The Courtyard and Beyond”**