

**Into the Promised Land
Joshua's Story
Lesson #8 – Going Inside
•HANDOUT•**

► In this study lesson we will go into the interior of the Tabernacle. But before we do that we'll take a very brief look at the framework and the various metals God instructed Moses to use. Again, we will see that even the smallest item points to or reflects God's gift of Messiah to His sin-hardened creation.

Then we will step from the Courtyard, through the barrier curtain, and into the Holy Place.

The Framework for the Tabernacle ...

Exodus 26:15-30 • "Make upright frames of acacia wood for the tabernacle. Each frame is to be ten cubits long and a cubit and a half wide, with two projections set parallel to each other. Make all the frames of the tabernacle in this way. Make twenty frames for the south side of the tabernacle and make forty silver bases to go under them--two bases for each frame, one under each projection. For the other side, the north side of the tabernacle, make twenty frames and forty silver bases--two under each frame. Make six frames for the far end, that is, the west end of the tabernacle, and make two frames for the corners at the far end. At these two corners they must be double from the bottom all the way to the top, and fitted into a single ring; both shall be like that. So there will be eight frames and sixteen silver bases--two under each frame." Also make crossbars of acacia wood: five for the frames on one side of the tabernacle, five for those on the other side, and five for the frames on the west, at the far end of the tabernacle. The center crossbar is to extend from end to end at the middle of the frames. Overlay the frames with gold and make gold rings to hold the crossbars. Also overlay the crossbars with gold. "Set up the tabernacle according to the plan shown you on the mountain.

Q: When one looks at the acacia tree what is most obvious is that it has a spindly trunk, small branches with small, almost delicate leaves and a flat-top profile. Why would God select this tree, out of all the available trees, to be the foundation of His Dwelling Place?



Q: Summarize how God told Moses to make the Frame.

Upright frame of:

Boards:

Under each frame:

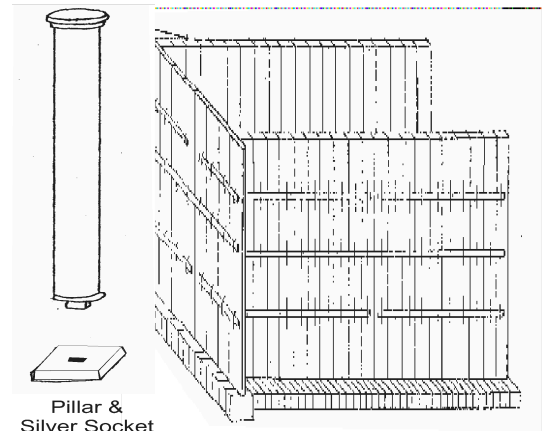
Board braces:

Gold rings:

Open side:

Between the Holy Place and Holy of Holies:

Over all of this:



Q: Three different metals are used in the framework construction: Bronze, Gold, and Silver. What symbolism do each represent?

Bronze:

Gold:

Silver:

Now, stepping inside the Tent let's take a look at the Inner Curtain

Exodus 26:31-33 • "Make a curtain of blue, purple and scarlet yarn and finely twisted linen, with cherubim worked into it by a skilled craftsman. Hang it with gold hooks on four posts of acacia wood overlaid with gold and standing on four silver bases.

Hang the curtain from the clasps and place the ark of the Testimony behind the curtain. The curtain will separate the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place.

Q: We have entered into the Tent of Meeting by stepping through the first "curtain-door" and are now standing in the first room – the Holy Place. In front of us is a second "curtain-door." What are the specific purposes of each curtain-door?

Q: In what way does the "curtain-door" foreshadow Jesus?

John 14:6 • Jesus answered, "I Am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Q: Why do scholars most always depict the Priests & the Levites barefoot when they were in the Holy Place?

Q: Now that we have entered into the Holy Place, what is it that we see?

The walls and ceiling:

On the Left:

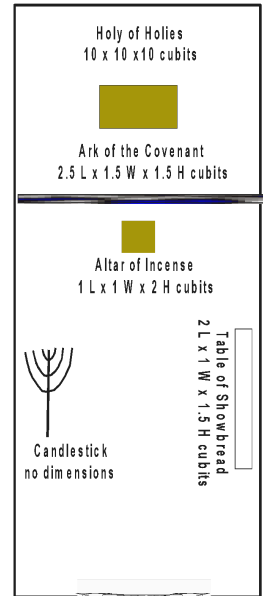
On the right:

End of the room:

In front of the curtain:

Our goal is to discover what the Holy Place represents and how it affects our Christian foundation and heritage. We begin with the Lampstand

► [Exodus 25:31-40](#) • "Make a lampstand of pure gold and hammer it out, base and shaft; its flower-like cups, buds and blossoms shall be of one piece with it. Six branches are to extend from the sides of the lampstand--three on one side and three on the other. 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. And on the lampstand there are to be four cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms. 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. The buds and branches shall all be of one piece with the lampstand, hammered out of pure gold. "Then make its seven lamps and set them up on it so that they light the space in front of it. Its wick trimmers and trays are to be of pure gold. A talent of pure gold is to be used for the lampstand and all these accessories. See that you make them according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.



Q: Although no actual measurements are given for the Lampstand, we are given a lot of details. What do we know about the construction of the Lampstand?

Q: What is the symbolism of the Lampstand being shaped like an almond tree branch?

Q: Who did God make responsible for tending to the Lampstand in the Holy Place?

Q: What does the Golden Lampstand symbolize?

Q: Other than the Golden Lampstand, what other light was there in Israel's camp?

Q: How was the Lampstand transported when Israel was traveling? [ref: Numbers 4:9-10]

Q: In addition to covering the lampstand and all of its accessories with a blue cloth but it was also to be covered with leather hides and carried on a frame. Why were these extra precautions necessary?

Directly across from the Lampstand, on the right, was the Table with the Bread of the Presence

► [Exodus 25:23-30](#) • “Make a table of acacia wood -- two cubits long, a cubit wide and a cubit and a half high. Overlay it with pure gold and make a gold molding around it. Also make around it a rim a hand breadth wide and put a gold molding on the rim. Make four gold rings for the table and fasten them to the four corners, where the four legs are. The rings are to be close to the rim to hold the poles used in carrying the table. Make the poles of acacia wood, overlay them with gold and carry the table with them. And make its plates and dishes of pure gold, as well as its pitchers and bowls for the pouring out of offerings.

Put the Bread of the Presence on this table to be before me at all times.”

The golden plates, dishes, pitchers and bowls on the Table are for the “Pouring Out of Offerings. Let's take a look at the meaning of this ...

Q: What is the “pouring out of offerings?”



Q. What did the “Pouring out of offerings” foreshadow?

► [Matthew 26:27-28](#) • Then Jesus took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sin.

Q: What does it mean that Jesus' blood is the “new covenant?”

Now, let's look at the Bread of the Presence ...

Q: In some translations this is called the “showbread” but most often it is referred to as the Bread of the Presence. Why is it called that?

Q: What are the particulars of the Bread of the Presence? [ref: Leviticus 24]

▶ Using Leviticus 24:5-9 we learn:

Q: We know that bread was used as a metaphor in the Bible, but why would God choose Bread to be a visual reminder of the Presence and Faithfulness of God?

Q: How would you summarize the relationship between the Bread of the Presence in the Tabernacle and the Communion Bread of the Lord's Supper?

**▶ In front of the interior curtain we find the Altar of Incense
This is where we will pick up our study next time.**



Next Time • Lesson #9

“The Altar of Incense & the Ark of the Covenant in the Holy of Holies”

