

The Aspects of the Tabernacle

I. The Space

A. Holy of Holies (Ex. 26:33-34)

1. The heart of the whole worship of God. It is the place in which God dwells among His people.
2. Represents heaven and the Garden of Eden; with cherubim around the throne of God (ark) and guarding the entrance (woven into the veil separating it from the holy place (Ex. 26:1, 31)).
3. Only the high priest can enter and only once a year to make atonement.

B. Holy Place (Ex. 26:33-34)

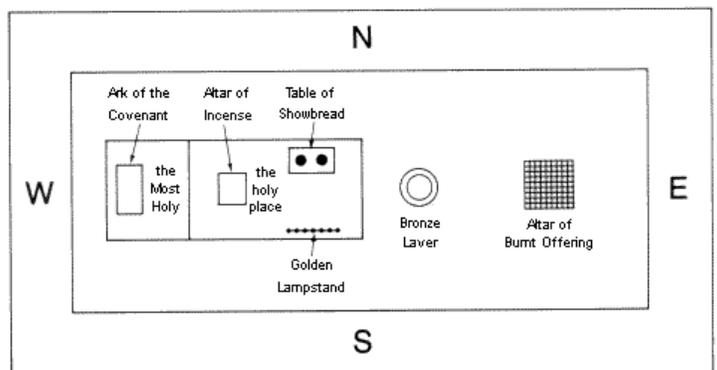
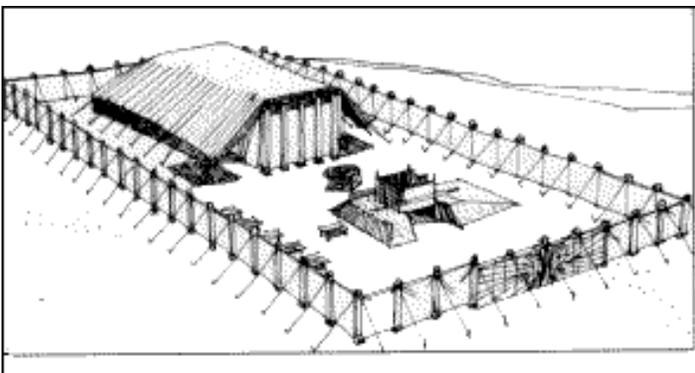
1. Houses the altar of incense, the lampstand, and the table of showbread.
2. Only the priests may enter to do the duties of worship.

C. Outer court (Ex. 27:9-19)

1. Has the altar of burnt offering and the wash basin.
2. Items made of bronze, as opposed to gold in the holy place and holy of holies.
3. Non-priests may enter but only to bring offerings.

II. The Articles

- A. **Ark.** God's figurative throne on earth (Ex. 25:20-22; Psa. 80:1; 99:1). The place where God grants atonement once a year for His people (Lev. 16:15-16).
- B. **Altar of incense.** The priests were to keep incense burning continually before the veil (Ex. 30:7-8). The smoke represents the prayers of God's people ascending to Him (Rev. 5:8; 8:3-4).
- C. **Lampstand.** 7-headed lamp, in the image of a tree (Ex. 37:17-22), that is to represent the light of God's presence shining on the showbread. The light was to shine continually (Ex. 27:20; Lev. 24:2).
- D. **Table of showbread.** Set opposite the lampstand (Ex. 26:35), with 12 loaves representing the tribes of Israel dwelling in the light of the lampstand (Lev. 24:5-9).
- E. **Altar of burnt offering.** The altar on which every offering is burned. It was to continually burn before the Lord with regular offerings (Lev. 6:8-13).
- F. **Wash basin.** The priests were to clean their hands and feet in the basin, representing their cleanness to minister before the Lord (Ex. 30:17-21). Perhaps also for the washing of parts of the sacrifices (e.g. Lev. 1:9).



The Priesthood

I. The High Priest

- A. Had to be of the line of Aaron through Phineas (**Num. 25:10-13**).
- B. Responsible for representing the people before God and ministering God's grace to the people.
- C. Is a "second Adam" figure by his right to enter the holy of holies, his responsibility to tend the tabernacle and oversee the true worship of God, and his position as covenant head of the people.

II. The Levites

- A. Chosen instead of the firstborn of Israel to serve in the tabernacle (**Num. 3:40-51**). They received no inheritance in the land, the Lord was their inheritance (**Deut. 10:8-9**).
- B. Responsible for setting up, tearing down, and transporting the tabernacle (**Num. 3**). Also given to minister in the name of the Lord and judge (**Deut. 21:5**).

THE HIGH PRIEST'S GARMENTS

EXODUS 28

