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## *Christ in the Tabernacle*

Exodus 24:1-18

“The Tabernacle – Part 5”

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### III The Tabernacle

#### B. The Tabernacle Proper

##### 2. The Structure

b. The Boards

Chap 26: 15 - 29

c. The Bars

Chap 26: 26 - 28

d. The Pillars

e. Pins and Cords

##### 3. The Hangings of the Tabernacle

Chap 36: 35 - 38

a. The door

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b. The Inner Veil

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**H**ere we are again at the tabernacle. Last week we discussed the coverings of the Tabernacle, as well as its foundation, the one hundred silver sockets. Let, take a moment recap that section as an introduction to the balance of the structure.

**2. The Structure - a. The Foundation:** The foundation is made up of 100 sockets of silver. There were 2 under each of the 48 boards and 4 under the pillars of the veil. Each socket weighed approximately 100 lbs. The silver was raised from atonement moneys. (see Exodus 30:11-15.) This was the redemption price for each man. The price paid by Christ for each one of us.

*“... you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.”... “For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect” (1 Corinthians 6:20; 1 Peter 1:18-19).*

We were redeemed not by silver or Gold, but by the blood of Christ and it is this foundation of the blood price on which the Tabernacle is placed, on which our salvation exists, on which the church rests. But as with the price of redemption price for the Hebrew it was for each individual and it was the same price for all, rich, poor, etc. All must be saved by the shed blood of Christ. There is no other way to be saved.

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Again it is probably appropriate to reiterate the primary messages that we find in the Tabernacle. They are the elements of the gospel; that Christ is incarnate, that He is sinless, and that His death and resurrection is that absolute necessity for men to be saved. We have seen that the shed blood of Christ is that which flows through out the Tabernacle and really Scripture as a whole.

**b. The Boards:** We pick up the study by looking at the boards that make up the walls of the Tabernacle. These were made of Acacia, or Shittim wood, just as the brazen altar. The incorruptible wood speaks of the incorruptible humanity, that is the sinless perfection, of Jesus as a man. Unlike the brazen altar though the boards are overlaid not with bronze, but with gold. The gold speaks of the deity of Christ. Here then we find clearly spelled out the dual nature of Christ. He is both man and God. The aspects of deity and humanity are distinct, but they couldn't be separated with out major damage to one or the other.

As with brass gold is also refined by fire, the fire of judgment—perfection. Remember, as we previously noted, Jesus was perfected in the sense of being completed through His carrying out the work that the Father had set before Him, His death and resurrection on the cross.

*“When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit” (John 19:30).*

As we said last week it was on the cross that Christ was judged by God. He was punished in our stead. He suffered Hell so that we would not have to.

It is when effort is made to separate the two aspects of the Lord's nature, deity and humanity, that we end up with apostasy of one form or another. The dual nature of Christ also points out that he preexisted His Incarnation.

*“I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!”” ... “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ... Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made” (John 8:58;1:1, 3).*

**c. The Bars:** There are 15 bars of wood covered with gold. Five bars are on each side and the back. Three of these are extended in length going through the middle in rings from end to end on each side and the back. Twelve short bars are broken down into groups of four, again on each side and the back. The long bars were the beginning and ending of the tabernacle as Jesus is the beginning and the ending of our relationship with the Lord. The beginning;

*“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead”; and the ending; “He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels” (1 Peter 1:3; Revelation 3:5).*

The long boards held the structure together.

*“He is before all things, and in him all things hold together” (Colossians 1:17).*

**d. The Pillars:** There are three sets of pillars supporting the structure. Sixty surround the building, twenty on each side and ten at each end. They were topped in silver and set in brass sockets. There were five at the eastern end of the Holy Place and four between the Holy and Most Holy Place. At the eastern end the capitals were of gold and the sockets brass. On these

hung the Door. Exodus 36:37-38 Between the Holy and Most Holy Places the pillars had no capitals. They were cut off. The pillars were covered with gold and set in silver sockets. Exodus 36:35-36 Some see the three sets as speaking of Jesus as He spoke of Himself

***“Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me”” (John 14:6).***

The five pillars in the door are often taken as speaking of the attributes of Christ as identified in His names found in Isaiah 9:6.

***“And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, [b] Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”***

Can you see what the problem with this interpretation is? The best understanding of the verse takes Wonderful Counselor as one paired name, in which case we have only four names, not five. This is what happens when one overextends the approach to typology analysis.

The four pillars having no capitals, that is cut off, can safely be seen as relating to the fact that Christ was cut off, so that we can have access to the Most Holy Place. It is His death that gives us ready access to God.

***“By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken. He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth” (Isaiah 53:8-9).***

These pillars tied to their veil are a picture of the death of Christ as the basis for entry into the Most Holy Place, or the Holy of Holies.

**e. Pins and Cords:** The structure of the Tabernacle is secured in its place by the pins of brass and the cords of linen. The pins were pushed into the ground and the cords were passed over the badger skins. The Hebrew word pin is also translated nail in Judges 4:21; ***But Jael, Heber's wife, picked up a tent peg (nail) ...*** and stake in Isaiah 33:20; 54:2:

***“Look upon Zion, the city of our festivals; your eyes will see Jerusalem, a peaceful abode, a tent that will not be moved; its stakes will never be pulled up, nor any of its ropes broken.” “enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes.”***

Christ is called in Scripture the peg, nail, stake, depending on the translation, of the Lord.

***“I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. I will drive him like a peg into a firm place” (Isaiah 22:22-23).***

Christ applies this Isaiah passage to Himself in Revelation 3:7:

*“... These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open”*

Christ then is the one who holds the whole structure of God’s salvation program together. This shows His holding and drawing power of us.

*“I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love” (Hosea 11:4). “For Christ’s love compels us ...” (2 Corinthians 5:14).*

### **3. The Hangings of the Tabernacle:**

**a. The Door:** Now there are actually three entrances into the Tabernacle. The first as we have already seen is the gate to the courtyard. This speaks to Christ as the way. Only through Him can we have access to the Father.

*“Enter through the narrow gate. ... But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it” (Matthew 7:13-14) and again “Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me”” (John 14:6).*

Now we come to the second hanging, that which is the “door” to the structure proper. This door pictures Christ as the Truth as seen in the John 14:6 passage. This is because only by passing through Him, that is by accepting Christ can we truly know God. It is only in Christ that God can be worshiped in Truth. This speaks again to what comments we having been making regarding the cults. It is only by accepting the Christ of Scripture, that is the true Christ that we can be saved. The antichrists of the cults can not get anyone to God. Only with the proper sacrifice can one enter into the Tabernacle into the presence of God. We must keep going back to the fact that the only proper sacrifice is Christ Himself.

*“I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. ... I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved” (John 10:7, 9).*

**b. The Inner Veil:** Now we can proceed two ways. Having entered the Holy Place, passing through the door, we see before us the furniture, and the veil to the Most Holy Place. Now we could next examine the furniture, but instead I’d like to finish looking at the hangings of the Tabernacle. Let’s discuss the teachings behind the veil.

The inner veil is one of the most important parts of the Tabernacle. It is that which is probably most known by the non-Jew, and is talked about through out Scripture. I’d like to give you a number of related passages. (see Exodus 26:31-35) It is the veil that is shown at the death of Christ.

*“And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom” (Matthew 27:50-51) and again “With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last. The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom” (Mark 15:37-38). and again “... for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two” (Luke 23:45).*

The whole veil represents the Lord before His crucifixion. Men were separated from God and only once a year on the Day of Atonement could the High Priest pass beyond it. He sacrificed for the sins of the people, looking towards that day when Christ would make the final sacrifice for the sins of all men of all ages.

The veil was woven with Cherubim which kept man out from the glory of God, just as the Cherubim guarded the entrance to the Garden of Eden. Now the most important item of the Tabernacle was not normally found in it, and that is the rent veil.

***“At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom” (Matthew 27:51).***

As we have already seen in the Hebrews passage the rent veil is the picture of the broken body of Christ. It is through His pierced flesh we have access to God. It is only by accepting His sacrifice that men can enter into the Most Holy Place, the place of God’s presence.

***“Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need” (Hebrews 4:16).***

And of all the symbolism of the Tabernacle this is explained the most clearly as we read in Hebrews 10:19-22:

***“Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, ...”***

The veil was approximately 4" thick and was replaced yearly. Tradition tells us that each year it was tied between a team of horses and tested to show that it couldn't be torn. It is important to note the veil was rent at the hour of the evening sacrifice. It was at that point our sins were paid for and the way to God was open. Christ died at the time of the sacrifice, because He was that sacrifice.

*If you from sin are longing to be free,  
Look to the Lamb of God;  
He, to redeem you, died on Calvary,  
Look to the Lamb of God*

*Are you weary, does the way seem long?  
Look to the Lamb of God;  
His love will cheer and fill your heart with song,  
Look to the Lamb of God.*

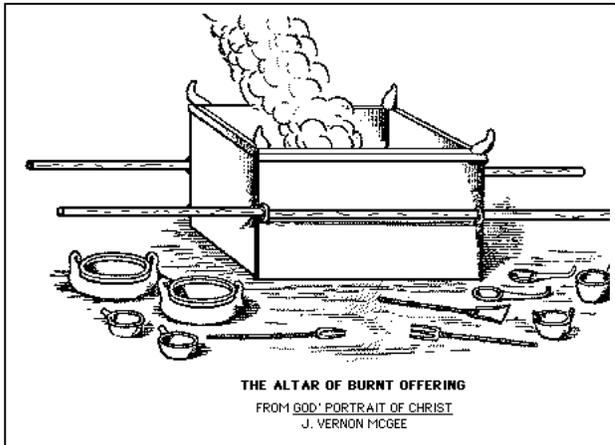
*When Satan tempts, and doubts and fears assail,  
Look to the Lamb of God;  
You in His strength shall over all prevail,  
Look to the Lamb of God.*

*Fear not when shadows on your pathway fall,  
Look to the Lamb of God;  
In joy or sorrow Christ is all in all,  
Look to the Lamb of God.*

*Look to the Lamb of God,  
Look to the Lamb of God,  
For He alone is able to save you,  
Look to the Lamb of God.<sup>1</sup>*

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<sup>1</sup> Jackson, H. G., Avoda Y'shua, “Look to the Lamb of God,” Purple Pomegranate Productions, San Francisco, CA, #20.



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#### 3. The Hangings of the Tabernacle

- a. The door
- b. The Inner Veil

#### 2. The Structure:

- a. The Foundation

*(1 Corinthians 6:20; 1 Peter 1:18-19)*

- b. The Boards

*(John 19:30, 8:58, 1:1, 3)*

- c. The Bars

*(1 Peter 1:3; Revelation 3:5; Colossians 1:17)*

d. The Pillars  
(*John 14:6; Isaiah 9:6; Isaiah 53:8-9*)

e. The Pins and Cords  
(*Judges 4:21; Isaiah 33:30, 54:2; Isaiah 22:22-23; Revelation 3:7; 2 Corinthians 5:14*)

### **3. The Hangings of the Tabernacle:**

a. The Door  
(*Matthew 7:13-14; John 14:6, 10:7, 9*)

b. The Inner Veil  
(*Matthew 27:50-51; Mark 15:37-38; Luke 23:45; Matthew 27:51; Hebrews 4:16, 10:19-22*)