

## Tabernacle: God With Us

### The Bronze Altar and Laver

Exodus 25-31, 35-40

### 1. God gave His righteous law to His redeemed people.

The Ten Commandments were the summary of how God expected His redeemed people to live in relationship with Him and with others.

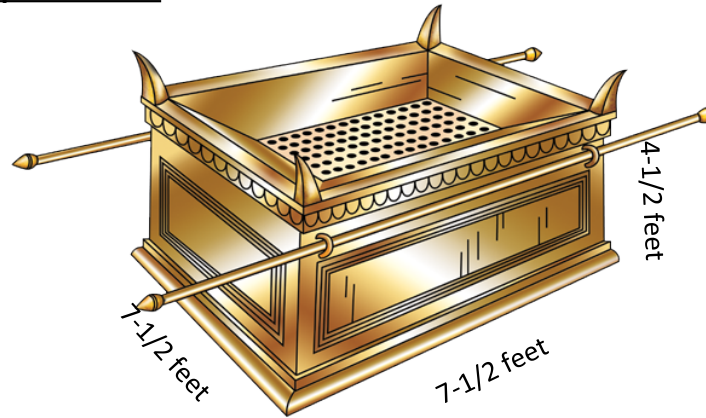
### 2. God's redeemed people didn't keep God's law.

Justice/anger

Guilt

Shame/humility

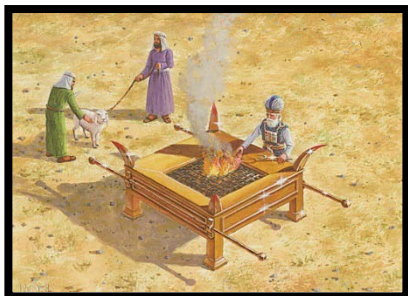
Relationship



### 3. Their FIRST NEED in coming to God was to be made right with Him.

#### The Bronze Altar

- Was made of acacia wood and covered with bronze.
- It was 7-1/2 feet square—a little bigger than a king-size bed.
- The only piece of furniture the people approached directly.



#### The Sacrifices: "The LIFE is in the BLOOD." Leviticus 17:11

- The Burnt Offering (Lev. 1): nothing kept back.
- The Grain Offering (Lev. 2): never offered by itself.
- The Peace Offering (Lev. 3): shared by the person, priest, and God.
- The Sin Offering (Lev. 4): dealt with the offender.
- The Trespass Offering (Lev. 5-6): dealt with the actions of the offender.

JESUS is the fulfillment of all the Sacrifices.

## The Gate was the Only Way into the Tabernacle



"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me." John 14:6

#### Common ways of dealing with sin:

- **Ignore it.** "What sin?" You don't even give it a second thought.
- **Minimize it.** "You call THAT a sin?!" You compare it to how bad it could have been or what others do.
- **Blame it.** "It's their fault." You see others as the cause for your wrong actions.
- **Excuse it.** "I had a good reason for what I did!" You use circumstances, tiredness, or weakness to justify wrong.
- **Agonize over it.** "How could I have done that?!" You apologize over and over, refusing to receive forgiveness.

*The sacrifices showed the sinfulness of sin, the perfection of the provision, and the simplicity of faith.*

-Frank Sells

**Throughout their history, the Israelites showed contempt for God’s sacrificial system.**

- Living in open disobedience while coming to sacrifice (Example: Eli’s sons were priests who were sleeping with the young women who served at the Tabernacle. I Samuel 1-2)
- Bringing sacrifices and incense as a ritual with no heart for God. (Isaiah 1 and 29:13)
- Having other idols alongside worship of God. (Ezekiel 8:3-5)
- Bringing defective sacrifices in order to be “economical.” (Malachi 1:6-18)

**4. Their SECOND NEED in coming to God was to be cleansed for service.**

**The Laver**

- The laver was made from the women’s mirrors on the inside and bronze on the outside.
- It was located between the bronze altar and the Tabernacle tent.
- The priests bathed their entire body when they were ordained. (Ex. 29:4)
- After that they had to wash their hands and feet every time they entered the Tabernacle or approached the bronze altar to minister. (Ex. 30:19-21)



**Questions to think about:**

- Have I kept God’s laws?
- What is my typical way of dealing with my sin? Do I think about how God feels about my sin?
- When was God reconciled to me?
- Have I been reconciled to God? How?
- For what purpose?
- Why would God want to be reconciled with me?
- In the life of Jesus, what things highlighted that He is the perfect and complete sacrifice for sin?

**Meditate on these verses:**

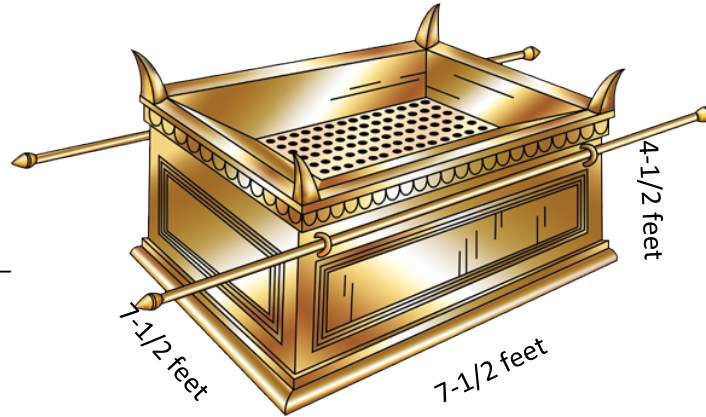
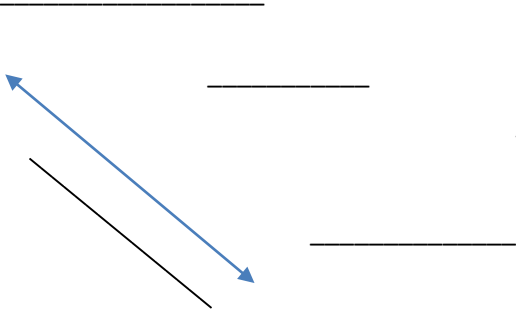
*“And there is **salvation in no one else**; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12*  
*If we **confess our sins**, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I John 1:9*

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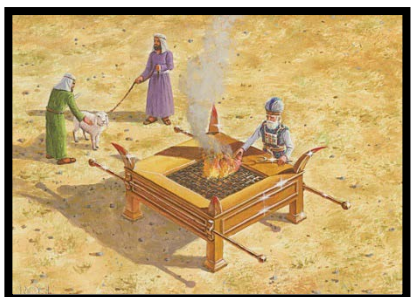
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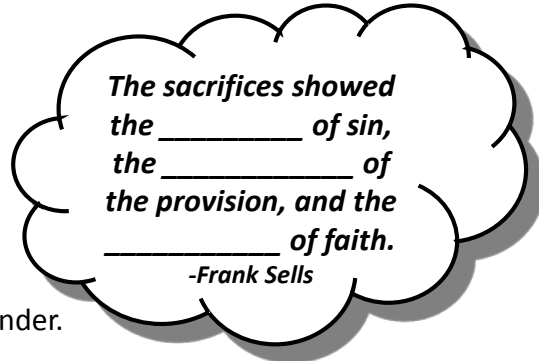
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