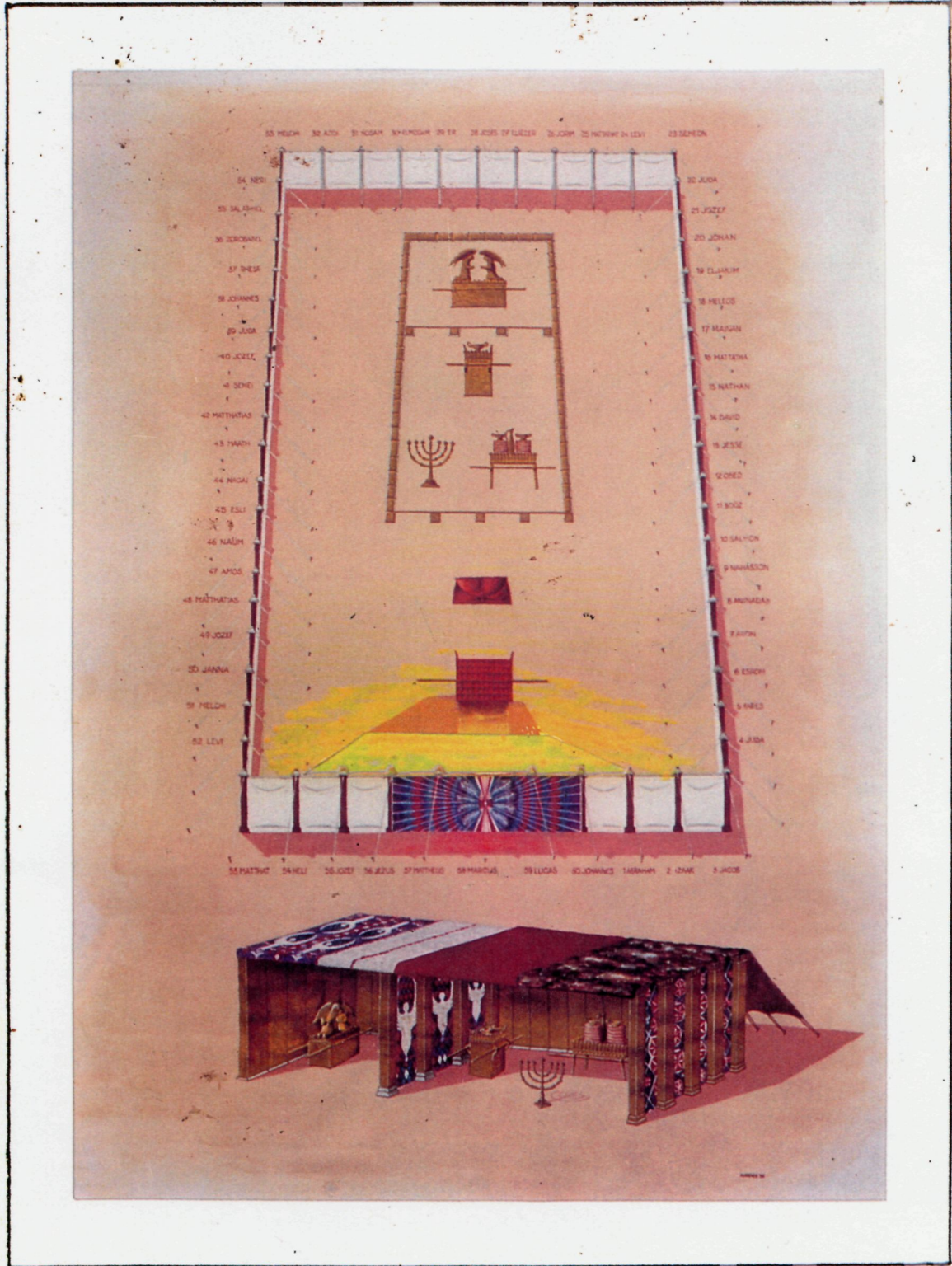


THE TABERNACLE

**AN EXPOSITION OF THE SPIRITUAL MEANING OF THE OBJECTS
OF THE TABERNACLE
FOR THE EDIFICATION OF THE CHURCH**

**BY REV. P.G. VAN GESSEL
PUBLICATION BY B.T.I. - HOLLAND**



**THE TABERNACLE
OF ISRAEL**

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Preface to the Tabernacle and the teaching concerning the preparation of the Bride of Christ.

The New Testament Church

All over the world God's Spirit is moving today to call out a people for His name. God is preparing the world for the second coming of Jesus. He is ordering world events and watching over His Word with a careful eye. God is at the same time preparing the Bride of Christ for a marriage that is not too far off in the distant future.

That Bride is the Church of Jesus Christ. God is moving by His Spirit in these days to get the Church ready for the coming of the Lord. The Bride that Jesus returns for will have to be a prepared bride. The Bride that He returns for is to be a glorious, wrinkle-free Bride that reflects the glory and image of her heavenly Husband. In these days of preparation, God wants to bring the Church to strength and power. He wants the Church actually become all that she was intended to be. He wants to use the Church as His powerful instrument in the earth to extend His Kingdom and achieve His purpose.

Our seminars are intended to help the Body of Christ better understand God's glorious purpose in the Church and their individual part in that purpose. They are intended to give the people of God a vision from God's perspective rather than man's. They are intended to expound on God's Plan from the beginning.

The Church - The Mystery

A Mystery before, but now revealed.

Part of the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to let God's people in on what He plans to do. He is the One who reveals the deep things of God, the things that God has prepared and the very purposes of God, to the spirit of man (1Cor.2:9-11). He is the One whose ministry includes showing us the things of the Lord even the things which are to come (John 16:15-16). He is the One who will lead us and guide us in all truth. Even as God by His Spirit revealed His plans and purposes to the faithful Simeon prior to the first coming of the Lord (Luke 2:26), so also we can expect God by His Spirit to give the faithful insight into His plans and purposes in these days prior to the second coming, that we stand with Simeon in terms of preparedness to meet the Lord when He comes not as the Lamb of God again, but as the Bridegroom Who returns for His Bride.

It is so important for us to recognize that God wants to have a special relationship to His people. He wants to reveal Himself in a special way. He wants to entrust us with stewardship over the "mysteries" of God (1 Cor.4:1).

Mysteries in the bible; there are many.

God's plan culminates in His purpose from the beginning. His eternal purpose was, is and will be accomplished by the church, the many-membered body of Jew and gentile, based on the acceptance of the sacrifice of His Son, to be prepared as the eternal companion of His Son, to rule with Him.

The mystery of God that Paul refers to involves the eternal purpose of God. God gave Paul an understanding in his area that had been hidden in times past. The revelation that Paul received totally transformed his life and ministry. When we come to a revelation of what God for all time has been moving toward, we too, will be changed in our perspective and life motivations, for God has a glorious purpose for His people.

To often when seeking to understand the purposes of God we have looked at God's dealings with the Jew and made that the whole. We have looked at God's dealings with the believer and have made that the whole.

We have looked at God's desire to destroy the works of darkness and have made that the whole. We have looked at God's desire to make us worshippers and have made that the whole.

But the thing that God is wanting us to do is to come up and sit with Him in heavenly places, where we can get a true perspective of God's eternal purpose. When we do this we will see that all of the aspects or portions of truth have a place and fit beautifully into the whole.

PREFACE

Tribute to the late Rev. F.G.van Gessel

(1892-1958)

Concerning the subject of the tabernacle and its spiritual meaning, many books already were published, before reverend van Gessel started to write down his notes.

Starting as early as 1857 Dr.Kohlbrugge and 1907 Johannes de Heer, saw the depths and importance of the tabernacle.

Independent from any of these publications late pastor F.G. van Gessel received the message concerning the meaning and application of the tabernacle.

It was in 1935 that he gathered with forty evangelists in a place called Patjet in the mountains of Indonesia. After praying and fasting for three days, they all went home, apparently without any result.

But few days after this meeting while reading John1:14 the Lord anointed his eyes to see into this scripture.

John1:14 'And the Word was made flesh and DWELT among us'.

That is the way this verse is printed in the bible.

The pastor though, read 'And the Word was made flesh and TABERNACLED among us.'

This opened his eyes to dig into the tabernacle (the greek word 'SKENOO' used in the original verse of John1:14 indeed means 'to tabernacle').

The tabernacle truly appeared to be a source of Divine revelation even unto this very day. And a true blessing in the ministry unto the church.

The study presented unto you in this book, is the original version of the revelation received by our late pastor.

It is our prayer that this study of the tabernacle may contribute to the edification of the Church (Eph.4:4; 1 Cor.12:12-14), to be prepared as the Bride of Christ.

Rev.C.Totays

TRIBUTE

THE TABERNACLE - Exodus 25-30

Introduction.

In the Old Testament days God gave the Tabernacle to the Israelites so He could LIVE among them.

Exod. 25:8 "And let them make Me a Sanctuary, that I may DWELL among them."

Exod. 29:45 "And I will DWELL among the children of Israel, and will be their God."

God Himself was the Architect and Chief-Consultant.

Exod. 25:9 "According to all that I show thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it."

Moses was the master builder of this plan, and God gave Moses two assistants. Men filled with wisdom.

Exod. 31:1-6 "And the Lord spoke unto Moses saying: See, I have called by name Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur of the tribe of Judah. And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge and in all manner of workmanship, to devise cunning works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass, and in cutting of stones, to set them, and in carving of timber, to work in all manner of workmanship.

And I, behold, I have given with him Aholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan; and in the hearts of all that are wise hearted I have put wisdom, that they may make all that I have commanded thee."

The Tabernacle was made after the pattern in Heaven, God showed this to Moses on Mount Sinai, while he fasted there for forty days and forty nights. God spoke to Moses and said "Make Me a Tabernacle after the pattern which I showed you in Heaven" - Exod. 25:8-9; Hebr. 8:1-5.

Even so the instruments had to be made.

Exod. 25:1-9 Materials needed for the Tabernacle, had to be collected.

For this God asked an offering from every man who would give it willingly with his heart - verse 2; compare with 2 Cor.9:5-8.

This tells us of the love of God, through which we should be moved to give all for the benefit of a Tabernacle in Heaven.

verses 3-7 What this offering consisted of.

verses 8-9 Meant for the Tabernacle.

Exod25:10-22.

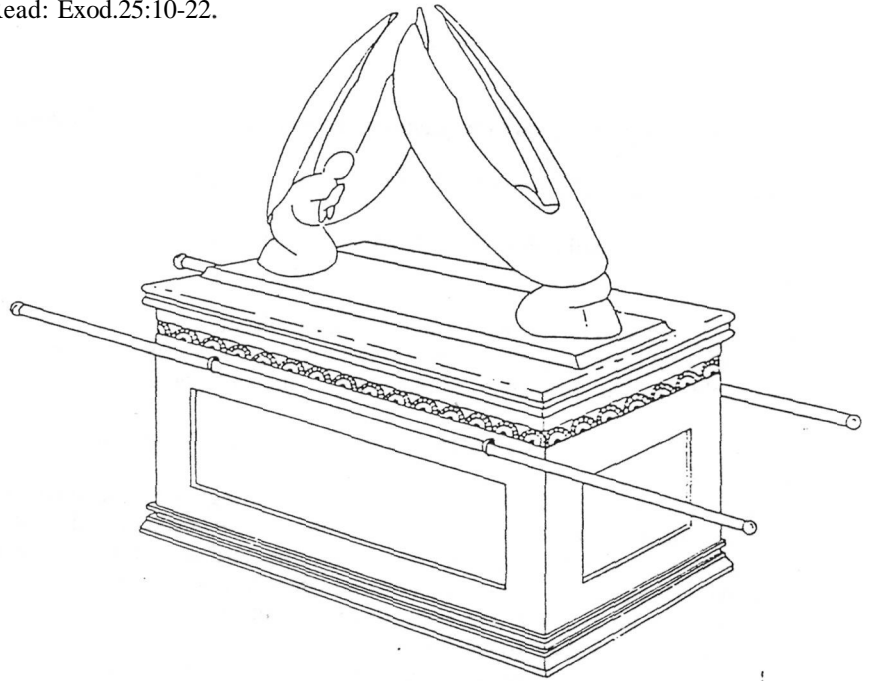
THE TABERNACLE
AND ITS SPIRITUAL
APPLICATION

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CHAPTER.1.
THE ARK OF THE
COVENANT

Exodus 25:10-22

Read: Exod.25:10-22.



The Ark of the Covenant

In His revelation, God always shows the most holy and most eminent things first. Of all the objects in the Tabernacle, the Ark of the Covenant is the most important one. Here God revealed Himself in all His Glory. God began with Himself. Compare Exod. 3 - God revealed Himself in the burning bush. The reason for this approach is Mark 12:30-34 "To love God above all", and 1 Cor. 10:31. "To do everything to the glory of God".

The Ark of the Covenant consisted of 2 parts:

- the ark (chest)
- the mercy seat with two cherubs

1. The Ark.

The ark was made of shittim wood and covered with pure gold, within and without.

The measurements:

- length: two cubits and a half;
- breadth: one cubit and a half;
- height: one cubit and a half.

The ark is the type of the church (the bride of Christ) in her ultimate state of holiness (perfection) where the flesh (wood) is completely covered.

The crown of gold:

- (upon the ark, not upon the mercy seat) represents the communion in holiness of the bride with her heavenly Bridegroom (the mercy seat).

Four rings of gold:

- 4 = the number that refers to the whole world. (N.S.E.W. the 4 directions of the wind) This refers to the love of God for the entire world, John 3:16.

Two staves:

- Two staves: made of shittim wood covered with gold; they had to remain in the rings; they should not be removed from it. The staves refer to the strong love of God that is able to uphold and sustain the bride.

2. **The Mercy Seat:**

The Mercy Seat including the two cherubs, was made of pure gold (no wood).

- The mercy seat - Jesus, the Son of God
- The first cherub - God the Father
- The second cherub - God the Holy Spirit

This is an exact type of the Holy Trinity.

The faces of the cherubs focused on the mercy seat e.g their attention is fully focused on Jesus and His atoning work accomplished for His bride.

The testimony:

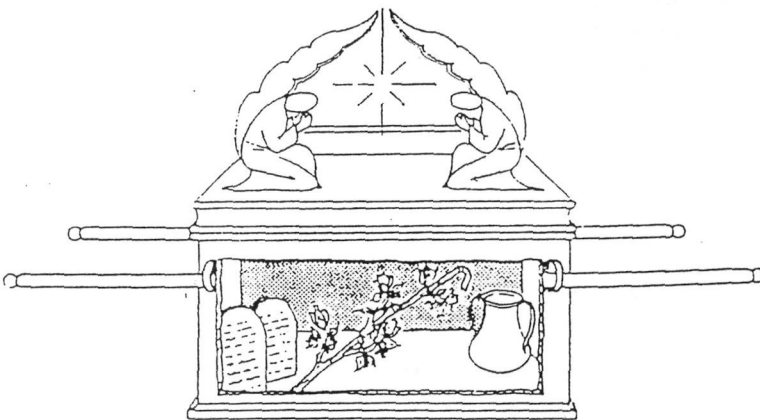
- Two tables of stone; on these the Ten Commandments of God, were written, exposing the shortcomings and sins of Israel and showing the judgment of God.

How wonderful it is to know that through the propitiation of Christ, the condemnation of the law has been annulled, as far as the bride is concerned (cp. the mercy seat covering the ark.)

In **Exod.25:22** God's appearance above the mercy seat. This is an image of the Throne of God, where He gives his commandments to his people and from where God reigns over his people.

Hebr. 9:4: Paul states that the content of the ark of the covenant were:

- The **golden pot with manna** = a type of Jesus, the Son of God. "The Bread of Life and the Manna of Heaven". **John 6:48-51.**
- The **budded rod of Aaron** = a type of the Holy Spirit. "The power for guidance, dominion, and to flourish and bear fruit." **Acts 1:8, John 16:13.**
- The **tables of the covenant** (of stone) = a type of God the Father (the source of holiness and love). **Lev. 11:44-45, 1 John 4:7-8.**



The Ark containing these three objects typifies the ultimate state of the bride. In this state of perfection, the Holy Trinity will permanently abide in her. Only in this state she will be as her heavenly Bridegroom is.

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CHAPTER.2.

THE GOLDEN ALTAR OF INCENSE

Exodus 30:1-10

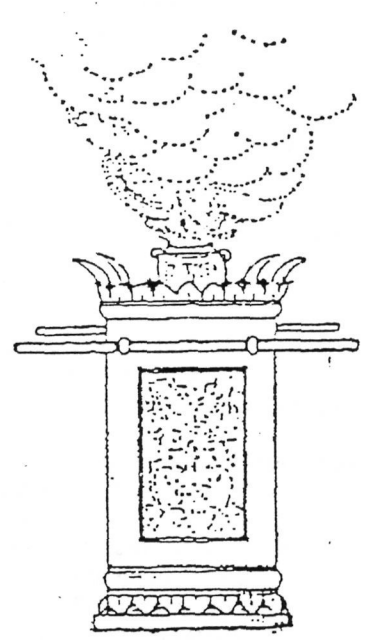
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Read for the Altar of Incense: Exod.30:1-10; Exod.30:34-38; Exod37:25-29

The description of the golden altar.

Exodus 30:

- verse 1. An altar of incense made of shittim wood (overlaid with gold, verse 3).
- verse 2. The measurements: height 2 cubits; length 1 cubit; breadth 1 cubit; 4 horns coming out of the altar.
- verse 3. The altar and the 4 horns were overlaid with gold, a golden crown was round about it.
- verse 4. 4 golden rings (on each side 2) to hold the staves that bore the altar.
- verse 5. 2 staves of shittim wood overlaid with gold.
- verse 6. Its position: in front of the inner veil, that was near the ark of the testimony.
- verse 7,8. Aaron = the high priest. He had to burn sweet incense thereon every morning and night when he dressed the lamps. And so in the morning and in the night (all day long) the sweet incense continually burned. It was a perpetual incense before the face of God.
- verse 9. It was forbidden to burn the following offerings on the altar: strange incense/ burnt offering/ meat offering/ drink offering.
- verse 10. Once a year Aaron had to make an atonement with the blood of the sin offering of atonements. This was most holy unto the Lord.



The Golden Altar of Incense.

The spiritual meaning.

Altar - This word is derived from the Latin word ALT ARE. Alta Ara means "high fireplace". This word gives an indication of its shape and purpose. So it is an elevated place where a fire burns.

The Hebrew word MIZBEACH which refers to a place where one offers a sacrifice is not applicable here.

It is more applicable to the altar of burnt offering upon which the slain sacrificial animals were burnt as an offering unto God. So it is not meant to be used for the altar of incense because it was forbidden to sacrifice burnt-, meat- and drink- offerings on this altar; Exod30:9.

The altar of incense.

It was an elevated place from where the incense rose.

It was a place of prayer where God and man met.

Burning incense refers to the prayers of the saints.

Luke 1:10 "...praying at the time of incense".

Psalm 141:2 "...let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense".

Rev.5:8 "...and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints".

Rev.8:3-4 "...at the altar, having a golden censer....much incense...with the prayers of all saints".

Material of the Altar,

Made of shittim wood, overlaid with pure gold.
Shittim wood = symbol of the flesh (man) that should be covered or overlaid with gold, which is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.
God's church must therefore be an altar of prayer full of the Holy Spirit. This means that prayer must not be forced or motivated by our ego or by our own strength, for this manner of praying is dry and doomed to (spiritual) death.

Prayer should be completely functionized and controlled by the Holy Spirit, the Paracletos (in Greek) who is pre-eminently the Helper **in our** prayerlife; **Rom.8:26-27; Zech.12:10.**

This applies to each individual Christian, but it is even more applicable to God's entire church for she should be an altar of prayer by means of united prayer; Rev.8:3-4.
This is God's irrevocable demand.

Measurement of the altar.

From the measurements we learn that the altar was square.
This refers to the 4 directions of the wind (north - east - south - west), meaning that prayer is intended for everybody in the entire world; **Mal.1:11.** Everyone may experience the joy, the privilege and blessing of prayer.
It is the duty of the church to pray for all men; 1 Tim.2:1-4.

The crown of gold on the altar.

For the explanation of the crown of gold on **the altar, we refer to the ark of the covenant** and the table of shewbread.
A crown refers to the holy and intimate communion at the altar of incense. We may experience this fellowship when we are in prayer.

The 4 horns.

Horns overlaid with gold are a symbol of divine **power. Read Psalms 18:3; Hab3:3-4.** And of Christ's power, **Luke 1:68-69; Rev.5:6.**
A horn of salvation = the power of salvation = Jesus **our** Saviour; **Matthew 1:21; Luke 2:30.**
The blood of the sin offering of atonement = the price of salvation paid by Christ, Who has accomplished everything for us.
He entered once into the Holy Place. He obtained eternal redemption for us and He forever lives to make intercession for us. **Hebr.9:12; Hebr.7:25; Hebr.10:19.**
This blood of atonement = the basis **of the power of resurrection and the power** of the Holy Spirit.

Death - Resurrection - Outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

We can obtain this power by an intensive **prayer life that will lead to the renting of the "veil" of our flesh.**

The position of the altar.

The altar was placed in front of the veil, closest to the ark of the covenant; this implies that prayer holds a very important place **in the sanctuary.**
The veil is a type of the flesh.
When Jesus died on the cross the veil was rent and the way to the ark of the covenant, God's Throne, was opened. **Matth.27:50-51; Hebr.10:19-22.**
Prayer is the only way to mortify the flesh and all its desires.
The flesh will not dominate any longer when we allow **the Holy Spirit to control** us completely. (wood overlaid with gold).
After this, all heavenly treasures will be revealed **to us; if the veil is rent, the most Holy Place with the ark of the covenant will be visible.**
We shall then enter the domain of God's Mystery, which **will be changed into** the sphere of God's revelations.
Read **Mark 14:35-38 - Jesus's will crucified; disciples asleep; the Spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.**

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CHAPTER.3.
THE SWEET SPICES

Exodus 30:7-8

Read: Exod.30:7-8; Exod.30:34-38

The sweet spices are: (Exod.30:34)

- Stacte
- Onycha
- Galbanum
- Pure frankincense (white-coloured)

Stacte.

The literal meaning of the word "stacte", which is of Greek origin, is "everything that is dripping", like pure myrrh. Myrrh means "dripping like tears" and originates from the stem of a myrrh-tree. The meaning of the word in Hebrew is "bitter".

Myrrh tastes bitter; it smells strong and is used as a stimulant.

It is a very expensive spice and it staunches.

Gen.37:25 - expensive merchandise

Matth.2:11 - a precious gift

The spiritual meaning.

The blood of Christ, dripping from His wounds. It is bitter (suffering) when it is in reference to our sins; strong-smelling because of redemption and cleansing; staunching because it stops us from committing sin.

Sorrow caused by sin will disappear.

It is precious, 1 Peter 1:18-19. Our redemption through His Blood is very precious. The basis of our worship must be the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

Onycha.

A kind of shell that spreads a strong smell when it is burnt.

Also used as a medicine.

Its preparation and usage:

- beat it (grind) verse 36;
- burn it;
- afterwards, a sweet smell arises.

The spiritual meaning is clear. This is a type of Christ bruised on the cross, as He was consumed by the fire of God's wrath. This is a sweet savor to God, Eph.5:1-2. With 'this' Christ we must commune in prayer, which leads us to worship and to behold Him. This is the type of sacrifice that God demands of us, Rom.12:1-2.

It works as a medicine against egoism, against our old character and against our own will.

Galbanum.

It comes from a shrub with a white-coloured resin, having healing power.

It tastes bitter and is sweet-smelling. Galbanum means "destined for a sweet smell", It is like prayer, bitter for the flesh, sweet smelling for the soul, nourishing (healthy) for the spirit.

Pure frankincense.

The word in the original language means "be white".

The white-coloured frankincense is the best. It was used to produce smoke at offerings and for perfumes.

Summarizing.

These sweet spices tell us of the Life of Christ in His complete surrender, offering and sacrifice (His suffering) as the sweet savor of precious incense to God.

And of our worship. In our prayer we must have communion with 'this Christ', in order to be absorbed in Him and be conformed to Him.

Exod.30:35 A perfume, tempered together (mixed with salt), pure and holy. Only if we worship in a true way we will keep our spiritual lives tasteful, pure, inside as well as outside, and resistant to sin.

Exod.30:7-8 Every morning and every evening the sweet spices had to be burnt. Every morning for the entire day and in the evening for the entire night. This means: the child of God individually as well as the church as a body, should pray unto God without ceasing.

Verse 9a. No strange incense. No strange fire, no strange incense should be burnt. Prayer must always be based on a pure motive.

Read also John 4:23, Isai.1:13, Rev.18:13 - perfume and incense of Babel.

So in worship there should be no efforts of the flesh, untruth (lies, deceit, sin), selfishness, fame and honour of our own, passion and strength of our own, tradition and habits which are devilish fires. But in honest prayer to God there should only be pure worship.

Rev. 19:10 - Worship God.

No burnt-, meal- and drink-offering. No legalistic ordinances. They kill the prayerlife. In prayer there should be liberty. The Holy Spirit must be given the opportunity to do His work.

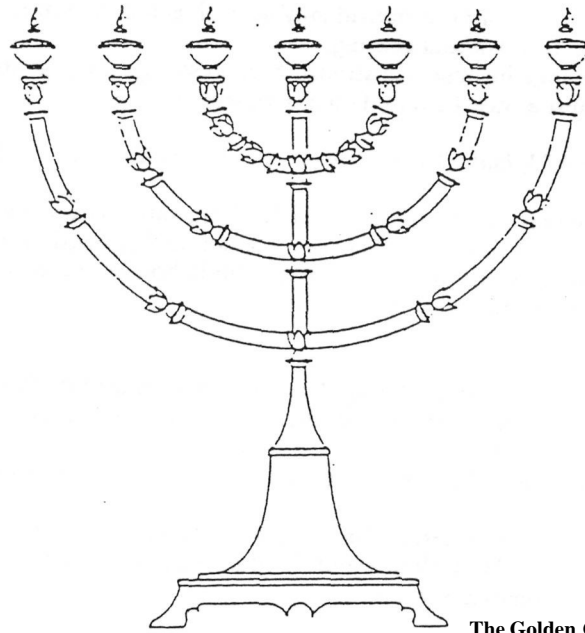
The offerings mentioned above belong to the altar of burnt offering, not to the altar of incense.

Prayer should not be considered a "must", a heavy duty or a burden, but should be voluntary worship. How often a soul obliges itself to pray for hours as a habit and prayer becomes a burden.

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CHAPTER.4.
 THE GOLDEN
 CANDLESTICK
 Exodus 25:13-40

Read: Exod. 25:31-40; Exod. 37:17-24.



The Golden Candlestick.

Description in Exod.25:

verse 31. It was made of pure gold, of beaten work, this is: beaten gold.

- the shaft
- 6 branches
- bowls
- knobs
- flowers

verse 32. 3 branches out of one side; 3 branches out of the other side; six (6) branches

verse 33. In each branch: 3 sets of a flower, a knob and a bowl. Thus out of 6 branches: $6 \times 3 = 18$ sets.

verse 34. The candlestick itself was the shaft. It had 4 sets of flower-knob-bowl, verse 35. A knob under 2 branches of the same, according to the six branches, this 3 times.

verse 36. All branches and knobs proceeded out of the candlestick; the entire candlestick had to be one beaten work of pure gold.

verse 37. There were 7 lamps; they had to light the lamps that they gave light.

verse 38. The tongs and the snuff-dishes; they had to be made of pure gold.

verse 39. The entire candlestick and all its vessels had to be made of one talent of pure gold.

verse 40. It should be made after the heavenly pattern.

The spiritual meaning.

The golden candlestick is a type of the church. Jesus Himself explained this in Rev.1:20.

Even in the Old Testament the vision of a golden candlestick is mentioned as a type of the church of God; Zech.4:2.

The 7 lamps are the 7 Spirits of God, in other words: the Holy Spirit in His sevenfold capacity; read Rev.4:5 and Zech.4:6.

Without the light of the golden candlestick, the Holy Place (Sanctuary) would be in darkness.

Likewise the Christian dispensation, the type to which the Holy place refers would be shrouded in complete darkness, without the Holy Spirit.

The following objects become visible by the lighted candlestick:

- The table of shew bread;
- The golden altar of incense;
- The door with its beautiful colours;

The Candlestick was made of one talent of gold.

It is one Holy Spirit who fills and leads all true Christian churches.

The purpose of the working of the Holy Spirit is to bring about spiritual unity in the Body of Christ. **Eph.4:4; 1 Cor.12:11-14.**

People are easily inclined to point out differences with each other, and in so doing they lose sight of the ultimate goal to which the Holy Spirit is working. Through the notorious "dark spectacles of criticism", one sees all the faults in other people and the Holy Spirit is hindered to lead us into the lovely brotherhood and the unity in the Body of the Lord.

The shaft and the 6 branches

Six (6) = the number of man.

Seven (7) = the Divine number.

The branches come forth out of the shaft; they are like branches planted in the vine.

The shaft (7th) = like the vine = Jesus.

The 6 branches = the church; **John 15:5**

So the church and her members are like branches rooted in Him (the shaft). We are one plant with Him, through His death and resurrection; Rom.6:5.

The bowls, knobs and flowers.

They point to the fruit-bearing qualities of the church. Not only to shine (that is to testify to the truth and its spiritual richness), but also to BEAR FRUIT. In other words: the fruit and gifts of the Holy Spirit must be seen in the church of God.

We see in each branch 3 sets of bowls (made like of the almond), knobs and flowers.

On each side of the shaft are 3 branches with 9 sets of bowls, knobs and flowers.

These are sublime references to the:

- 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit - **1 Cor.12:7-11;**
- 9-fold fruit of the Holy Spirit - Gal.5:22.

What a glorious picture of the church of God; a fruitful tree with her 9 gifts and 9-fold fruit of the Holy Spirit.

The middle shaft has 4 sets of bowls, knobs and flowers. One set more than the branches. This points to the Lord Jesus Christ, Who is filled with the Holy Spirit, without measure.

Read: **Isa.11:1-2; Isa.61:1-2; Luke 4:16-19; Rev3:1; Rev.5:6.**

There is yet another beautiful meaning of the golden candlestick:

The right branches hold 9 sets = 27 parts (bowl, knob, flower, per set).

The left branches hold 9 sets = 27 parts (bowl, knob, flower, per set.)

The shaft holds 4 sets = 12 parts (bowl, knob, flower, per set.)

All together the candlestick has 66 parts.

If we consider that in the Bible the Old Testament has 39 books (27 + 12) and and New Testament 27 books, all together **66** books, then the Bible is like a glorious, shining candlestick, providing Light in this dark world!

Psalms 119:105; **John 1:1,14,4,9.**

John 8:12 Jesus said: "I am the Light of the world."

Notice that there were not only knobs and flowers, but also fruit; this points to fruit-bearing at all stages.

Yes, we desire to have many gifts and fruit but we should wait in patience and allow the fruit to grow.

The branches spring forth from the knobs which are on the shaft, cp. the church springs forth from Christ by His Word and His Spirit.

Bowls, knobs and flowers are grown by the almond tree.

The almond tree is the early blooming tree.

It brings forth the first fruit of all the fruit-trees.

Exod.30:7-8 Every morning and every evening the sweet spices had to be burnt. Every morning for the entire day and in the evening for the entire night. This means: the child of God individually as well as the church as a body, should pray unto God without ceasing.
Verse 9a. No strange incense. No strange fire, no strange incense should be burnt. Prayer must always be based on a pure motive.

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So in worship there should be no efforts of the flesh, untruth (lies, deceit, sin), selfishness, fame and honour of our own, passion and strength of our own, tradition and habits which are devilish fires. But in honest prayer to God there should only be pure worship.

Rev. 19:10 - Worship God.

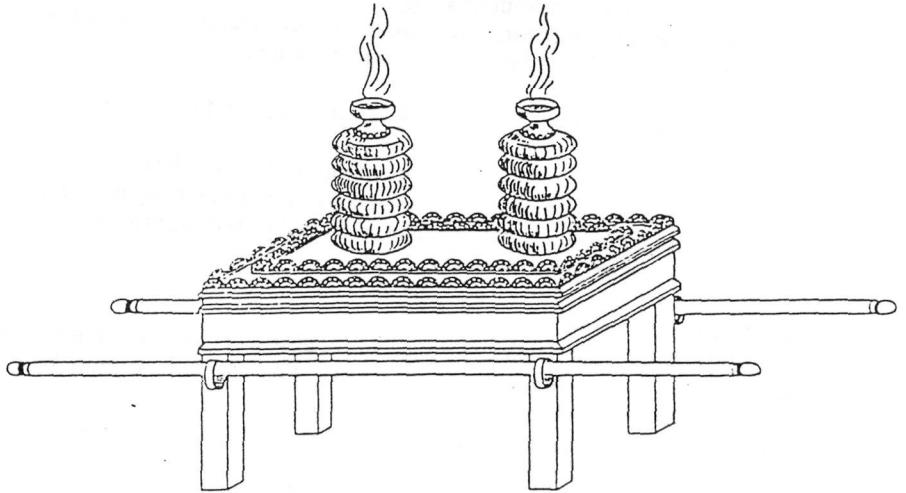
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Prayer should not be considered a "must", a heavy duty or a burden, but should be voluntary worship. How often a soul obliges itself to pray for hours as a habit and prayer becomes a burden.

CHAPTER .5.
THE TABLE OF THE 12
SHEWBREAD

Exodus 25:23-30

Read:

Exod. 25:23-30; Exod. 37:10-16; Lev. 24:5-9; Exod. 40:22-23



The Table of Shewbread.

Description.

The table was made of shittim wood and covered with pure gold.

The measurements: length two cubits; breadth one cubit; height one cubit and a half.

Two crowns of gold were made around the table forming a border of a hand breadth wide.

Exod. 25:25: "And thou shalt make unto it a border of a hand breadth round about, and thou shalt make a golden crown to the border thereof round about." Further four rings and two staves were attached to the table. Twelve cakes of bread were upon the table set in two rows of six pieces each. Also dishes and spoons and bowls and its covers, were all made of pure gold. The twelve cakes of bread or twelve cakes were made out of fine flour: two tenth in one cake.

Upon each row of six cakes they had to put pure frankincense for a memorial unto the Lord. On every seventh day (Sabbath) new pieces of bread were to be set (placed) and only the priests were permitted to eat of them.

The spiritual meaning.

As the table of shewbread is mentioned directly after the ark of the covenant, (**Exod.25:22-23**) it is easy to understand the importance of this object in the sight of God.

In the Holy Place, we see three objects:

- the golden altar of incense;
- the table of 12 shewbread;
- the golden candlestick.

These three objects do not only refer to the church of God, but also to the communion of the church with the Triune God, namely:

- The golden altar of incense = communion in prayer with God the Father.
- The table of 12 shewbread = communion with God the Son through the Word and the Holy Communion.
- The golden candlestick = communion in testimony with the Holy Spirit.

These are the three areas of communion that must be found in every child of God, **for** the children of God are in the sanctuary of God (Holy Place).

At first the blossoms are rose-red, then white. Almonds hold a refreshing liquid. Read: **Jer.1:11-12; Numb.17:8.**

The spiritual meaning

This is a glorious image of the watchful condition in which the church of God has to abide. Awake, active, refreshing, blooming, growing - with blossoms of love and purity (red and white colours). This we receive in the filling with the Holy Spirit. Not in the old nature but in the new-born man, who is one with the Holy Spirit.

The tongs and the snuff-dishes.

These refer to the process of cleansing; in using the tongs the lights will burn brighter. By means of the snuff-dishes, the lamps are extinguished (no light is shining anymore).

How dreadful it is if we refuse the process of cleansing of ourselves and quench the working of the Holy Spirit. It is even more dreadful if the whole church is like an unprovided and quenched candlestick that does not understand her task anymore. How can this happen?

It happens if we are no longer willing to submit to the process of cleansing by the Holy Spirit, or when "favourite" sins in a church are not dealt with, in a firm yet tender manner.

The process of extinguishing follows after the following sins:

Grieving the Holy Spirit - **Eph.4:30.**

Quenching the Holy Spirit - **1 Thess.5:19.**

Blaspheming the Holy Spirit - **Mark 3:29; Matth.12:31-32; Lukel2:10; 1 John 5:16.**

Grieving - Quenching - Blaspheming!

The flesh and all its desires and lusts are the main enemies of the **Holy Spirit; Gal.5:16-17; 1 John 2:16-17; Rom.8:5-8.**

We need to guard against the manifestations of the flesh in our lives. If we submit ourselves to the leading of the Spirit, He will reveal to us the following: the uncontrolled lusts of eating, drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, in which the flesh chiefly expresses. **Self** in these last days; **Matth.24:37-39.**

These are the appetizing and sexual lusts, and because of these (if uncontrolled) the children of God cannot become burning candles and finally the light is quenched.

Read concerning the quenching process:

Matth.5:15.

Mark 4:21; not under a bushel = eating and drinking.

Luke 8:16; not under a bed = marrying.

The process of cleansing seen in John 15:1-8.

The cleansing by the Word of God. **John 15:3; Eph.5:26.**

John 15:2. The purpose is: bringing forth more fruit and continuous fruit-bearing, which is the bright and continuous shining of a church like the golden candlestick.

The result will be:

- verse 2 - fruit-bearing, bear more fruit;
- verse 5 - bear much fruit;
- verse 16 - bear fruit that remains;
- verses 7,8,16 - the heavenly Father is glorified - answered prayers.

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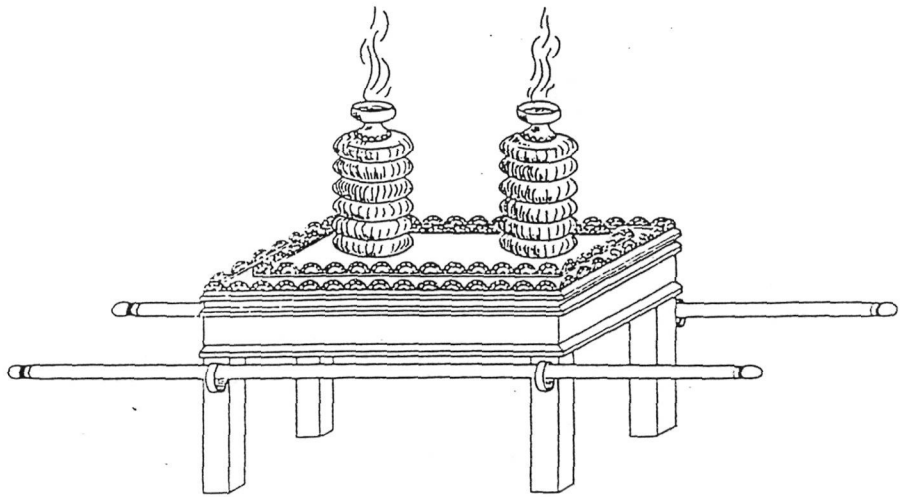
CHAPTER .5.

THE TABLE OF THE 12 SHEWBREAD

Exodus 25:23-30

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Read:
Exod. 25:23-30; Exod. 37:10-16; Lev. 24:5-9; Exod. 40:22-23



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The Table.

The spiritual meaning of the table = the human heart.

Proverbs 3:1-3 and Proverbs 7:1-3: the "table of thine heart" upon which the Law of the Lord has to be written.

Isaiah 28:8: refers to the "tables" of the priests and the prophets full of vomit and filthiness.

2. Cor. 3:3: the law of the Spirit written on the fleshy "tables of our hearts".

This table had to be pure and undefiled, prepared before the face of the Lord (Lev.24:6). Likewise our heart and the church should be pure, without any spot or wrinkle.

The purer the heart, the more the Bread of Life (the Word of God) is able to express Itself in it. Likewise also: The more the Word of Christ lives in us, the purer our heart will be.

Purity is achieved through the Word of God - John 15:3, Psalms 119:9,11.

The table was overlaid with gold; this points to holiness and purity through the Word of God, by the Holy Spirit. Our hearts must always be filled with the Holy Spirit. (The fleshy tables of our hearts completely overlaid with gold).

The Bread.

From the beginning of creation, bread was meant to be food for man.

Preparation of bread in former days was as follows: grain of wheat (Lev.24:5) was grinded fine between two stones unto fine flour and afterwards it was baked on fire into cakes.

JESUS - THE WORD - THE BREAD OF LIFE

John 12:24 Jesus is the grain of wheat that falls into the ground and dies.

John 6:48-51 Jesus is the Bread of Life that came down from Heaven

John 1:1,4,14 The Word made flesh.

When we eat bread, we chew it into fine pieces. After swallowing it comes into contact with all parts of the body; this speaks of fellowship between bread and the body.

In this way, Jesus to us is "the spiritual Bread" and through His Word we have a deep communion with Him, by which we receive eternal life for our entire being. (Compare John 6:53-54)

There is a mutual communion in "eating" the Word, namely:

- we in communion with Him;
- He in communion with US.

The twelve pieces of shewbread.

The question is: "Why 12 shewbread?"

To be able to understand this, it is necessary to look at the 24 elders around the Throne of Heaven, sitting upon 24 Thrones and clothed in white raiment and on their heads crowns of gold - Rev.4:4.

Who are these 24 elders around the Throne? Are they the 12 Apostles of the New Testament and the 12 patriarchs of the Old Testament?

They are not in my opinion, because the 12 patriarchs are an image of the 12 apostles. Who are they then?

They are the 24 apostles of the church of Christ:

12 apostles in the days of the "early rain"; John 6:70;

12 apostles in the days of the "latter rain"; Rev. 12:1.

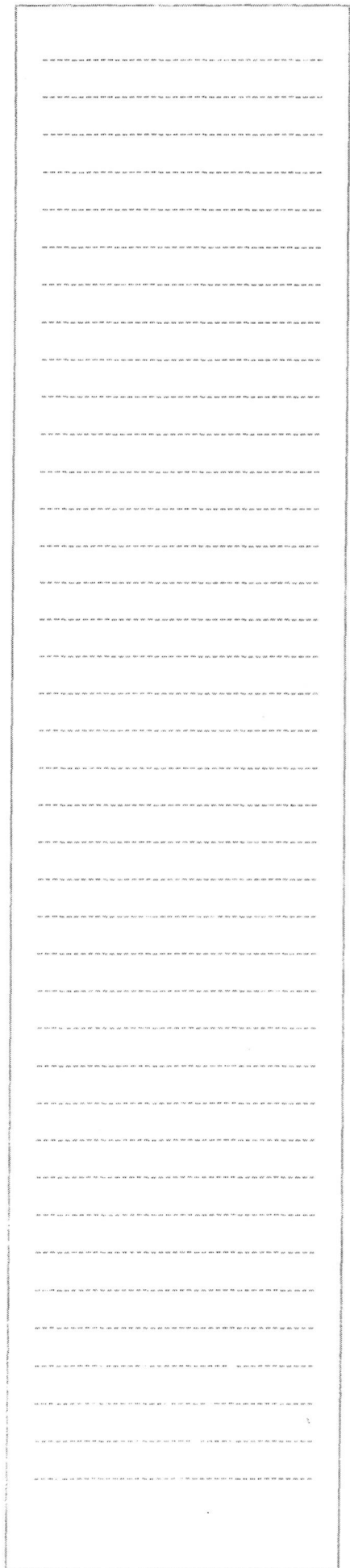
In the Old Testament they represent:

a. the first 12 apostles as the 12 wells of water at the start of Israels' journey through the wilderness - Exod.15:27;

b. the other 12 apostles as the 12 chosen men by Joshua, at the end of the journey through the wilderness - Josh. 3:12.

The 12 apostles of the Lamb sitting upon 12 Thrones - Matth.19:28, and the last apostles are the 12 stars upon the head of the Woman as the crown of the church - Rev. 12:1.

So all these are the 24 apostles of the true church of Christ.



In the New Jerusalem we see them as the 12 apostles of the Lamb - **Rev. 21:14** and the 12 angels (messengers) at the gates - **Rev. 21:12**.

In the heavenly Tabernacle we see these 24 elders sitting around the Throne of God-**Rev. 4:2,4**.

The 12 shewbread represent the 12 apostles of the church of Christ.

There is always a close connection between the Apostles and the ministry of **the Word** (the Living Bread):

Acts 2:42 The doctrine of the apostles;

Acts 6:2 The 12 apostles must not leave the Word of God;

Acts 6:4 We (= 12 apostles) will give ourselves continually to the ministry of Word.

What stands out clearly is **the communion with the Living Word** of God.

Bread is a symbol of:

1. Intense communion with Christ through the Word of God;

2. Communion with Christ as the Bread of Life at the Holy Supper.

(Compare: "a memorial" in Lev.24:7 with 1 Cor.11:24,25 "In remembrance of Me" at the Lord's Supper).

The golden crown and border with a golden crown.

The table of shewbread was adorned with 2 crowns: a golden crown, and a golden border crown.

There are different views as to the position of these two crowns.

Considering the spiritual meaning, the most acceptable one that corresponds with the Word of God, is the following:

- first crown - on the inside of the table surrounding the pieces of bread;

- second crown - to the border round about the table.

What is the meaning of the crown?

The words garland, crown and diadem have more or less the same meaning.

In the Bible the crown refers to **HOLINESS AND GLORY** and their characteristics.

Exod.29:6; Lev.8:9 - The high priest had the crown of holiness on his forehead;

Jer.13:18; 1 Pet.5:4 - The crown of glory - an ornament;

Isaiah 28:5 - A crown of glory and a diadem of beauty;

1 Cor.9:25 - Incorruptible crown;

2 Tim.4:8 - Crown of righteousness;

1 Peter 5:4 - Unfading (= eternal).

The continuous and intense communion with Christ through the Word of God and in the Lord's Supper gives us a double experience of holiness and glory, privately as well as for the congregation as a whole.

This can never be kept secret, but it shall be revealed as an ornament, sweet, graceful, glorious, full of truth, incorruptible and unfading.

One day the bride will be like "A Bride adorned for her husband" - **Rev.21:2**.

Ref. Proverbs 4:5-9: "Wisdom and understanding, acquired through fellowship with the Word of God, shall be an ornament of grace and a crown of glory".

The 4 golden rings and the staves overlaid with gold.

Exod.25:26-28

The 4 golden rings and the staves overlaid with gold refer to the love of God and the power of the Holy Spirit being spread abroad.

What must be spread abroad (in the sense of proclamation or preaching) and where?

The table with the shewbread speaks of the heart that is in fellowship with Christ through the Word of God and the Lord's Supper.

Matthew 14:13-21: Feeding of the five thousand people.

We read in verse 16 that Jesus said to His disciples: "Give them to eat".

That is to say that we who have fellowship with Christ through His Word must give the Bread of Life to the hungry multitude.

1 Cor.11:26 - Communion with Christ at the Lord's Supper, "For as often as you eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till He come."

Also here a preaching (distributing) the Word of God.

The essence of this verse is: the death of Christ = the Cross and related to the Cross:

- His labour;
- His suffering;
- His death;
- His resurrection;
- His ascension.

And as the Crown on this glorious Gospel, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit; compare 1 Cor.15:1-4 with Acts 2:22-24, 32-34.

Where and to whom should this Word be preached?

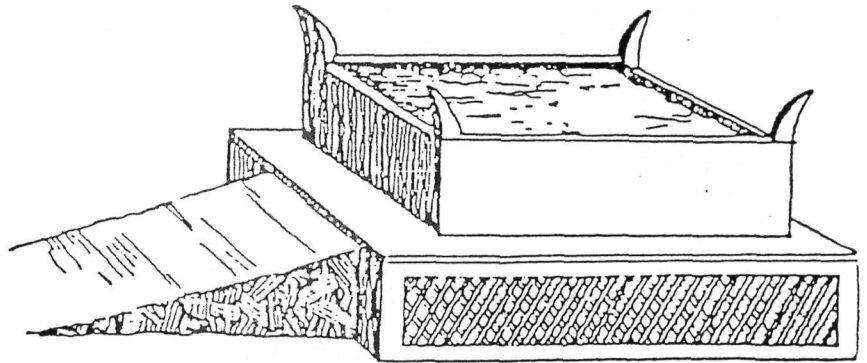
Everywhere and to everyone, in every place where God's children can go (in the whole world).

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CHAPTER .6.
THE BRAZEN ALTAR

Exodus 27:1-8

Read: Exod.27:1-8



The Brazen Altar.

The description.

verse 1. An altar made of shittim wood. The measurements: length 5 cubits, breadth 5 cubits (foursquare) and height 3 cubits.

verse 2. There were 4 horns upon its 4 corners. The horns were overlaid with brass.

verse 3. There were also: pans (to receive its ashes), shovels, basins, everything made of brass, and also fleshhooks firepans

verse 4. A grate of network of brass. Upon this net there were 4 brazen rings in the 4 corners.

verse 5. This network was put in the midst of the altar, under the compass of the altar beneath.

verse 6. There were staves of shittim wood overlaid with brass.

verse 7. These staves had to be put into the rings, upon the two sides of the altar.

verse 8. The altar was hollow, made of boards, according to the pattern which God showed to Moses on Mount Sinai.

The daily, weekly and the yearly offerings were brought on this altar.

The meaning of Altar.

"Altare" (in Latin) is a combination of: Alta = high, and Ara = a fire place.

"Mizbeach"(in Hebrew) = a place of slaying.

The altar therefore has three important factors:

a. a high place (its height is 3 cubits);

b. to slay (blood);

c. to burn (fire).

Leviticus 1 - The burnt offering,

verse 2. The offering of cattle, herd, flock (animals).

verse 5. The sacrificial animal was killed, and its blood was sprinkled round about.

verse 6. The sacrificial animal was called burnt-offering.

verse 7. The fire was put upon the altar.

verse.9. Everything on the altar was burnt to ashes in the fire. It was a burnt-sacrifice, a sweet savour unto the Lord.

verse 4. The burnt-offering was to make atonement unto Him.

The spiritual meaning.

The **ALTAR**, the heightened place, is a wonderful picture of **THE CROSS OF CALVARY**.

The cross of Calvary, where man was reconciled to God through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

John 12:32-33 - The cross = an elevated place.

2 Cor.5:18,19,21 - The reconciliation between God and man through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

John 1:29 - Jesus, the Lamb of God, our "sacrificial offering".

The first object.

The altar is the very first object that we meet in the court. It foreshadows the cross which is of supreme importance, through which we enter into God's sublime plan of redemption (presented in the order of the Tabernacle).

Death and resurrection.

Through the death and resurrection of Jesus (Cross) the following was obtained for the sinner:

- Remission of guilt;
- Reconciliation of sins;
- Total renewal;
- Justification;

Read: Rom.4:24-25.

The Lamb (sacrificial offering) was killed and on the altar consumed by fire. Here the demand of the law was fulfilled.

Likewise, all the punishment came upon Jesus, the Lamb of God, Who was slain for the sins of the world.

Isaiah 53:5 - the chastisement was upon Him...

Isaiah 53:7 - He was brought to the slaughter as a lamb...

An all-enclosing meaning.

What would have been the meaning of the entire Israëlitic religion without the offerings on the altar of burnt-offering?

This altar and its blood opened the way to the most beautiful object in the Holy of Holies, namely the ark of the covenant.

What would our Christian religion be without the cross, without reconciliation through the Blood? For the cross (that is by the Blood) is connected to the most holy "object" there is: The Throne of God - Hebr.10:19-22.

Hearts purged from an evil conscience - Hebr.9:14 (by the Blood of Jesus).

The Lord will focus our eyes upon the elevated place of the cross, through which we shall believe in Him, and we shall be saved by faith.

The brass of the altar.

This tells us about judgment on sin.

The biblical meaning of brass is "judgment"; this we conclude by examining the book of Revelation - Rev. 6:9-11.

To judge = to avenge.

The judgment of God is a righteous requital with regard to the works (actions, deeds, etc.) of every man - Rom. 2:5-8.

This results in two things:

1. ETERNAL LIFE for those who by patient continuance in well-doing, seek for glory and honour and immortality - Rom. 2:7,10.
2. INDIGNATION AND WRATH for those who are contentious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness and evil - Rom. 2:8,9.

The knowledge of sin is received by the law of God (= commandments of the Old Testament - Exod. 20:3-17, and God's new commandments in the New Testament - Matthew 5:27-48).

What is sin?

- 1 John 3:4 - Sin - transgression of the law.
- James 4:17 - Sin - to know to do good and not do it.
- Luke 18:13 - Sinner - someone who misses the target.
- John 16:9/ John3:18 - Sin - not believing in Jesus.
- Rom. 14:23 - Sin - anything that is not of faith.

- John 3:19 - Sin, which is "ripe" for God's condemnation - to know the light but to love darkness rather than light: this is condemnation.
- 1 Sam.15:23 - Sin - rebellion.

Summary: God's judgement and curse must come over this sinful condition of mankind, for God's righteousness must be met; God hates sin, but He loves the sinner.

Jesus Christ on the cross, bore the whole judgment for us; on that cross God's judgment came upon Him and the sinner was justified.

The references are: Isaiah 53:4,5,8; Rom. 4:25; 2 Cor.5:21; Gal3:13; 1 Pet.2:22-24.

Curse = a complete and thorough detestation, abomination.

The horns of the Altar.

The horns point to the mighty hiding place of redemption.

Horns = a symbol of power - Psalms 18:2,3; Hab3:3,4; Luke 1:68-71; Rev.5:6.

Read also Hebr.9:12 - an eternal redemption by His Blood.

The Altar is a Hiding Place.

Fugitives, who unintentionally committed homicide or evil things, were allowed to hold the horns of the altar and were safeguarded from direct requital - 1 Kings 1:50; 1 Kings 2:28.

It means justification: here the sinner was justified of all guilt.

The horns upon the 4 corners of the altar.

Redemption is for everybody: East, West, North and South.

Calvary's cross gives redemption to everyone who believes.

The altar also is foursquare. The spiritual meaning of this is again that reconciliation was for the whole world.

4 = The number of the world; 4 points to the compass: East, West, North, South. Compare: John 3:16 - 'For God so loved the world...'

The measurements of the altar.

The measurement was 5 x 5 x 3 cubits.

5 = the number of redemption (the 5 wounds in the body of Jesus Christ).

3 = the number of the Holy Trinity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Thus, we also see the Divine Love in the measurements, namely that God reconciled the world unto Himself upon the Cross - 2 Cor.5:19.

The white robes of Rev.6:11 are the robes of justification.

Rev.7:13-14 "...what are these which are arrayed in white robes? These are they which came out of the great tribulation and made their robes white in the Blood of the Lamb."

Rev.19:8 "And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints."

The burnt-offering - Leviticus 1

Introduction: to understand this, let us take a look at Heaven.

We see: a fiery throne; an ardent-loving God; He Who brought a passionate sacrifice for the lost world - this sacrifice is His Son, Jesus Christ.

Likewise, God asks a passionate sacrifice from us. He cannot accept a lukewarm or a half-hearted sacrifice.

verses 1,2. Any man = anyone, it makes no difference who the person may be. Israel brought the offering for their sins. God brought His sacrifice for our sins.

There were three sorts of burnt-offering:

- for the rich (vs.2) : bullock or sheep

- for the middle class (vs.10): sheep or goat

- for the poor (vs. 14) : turtle doves or young doves

verses 3,10. A male without blemish; without any spot or deformation.
The offering had to be a male (the best of all).
In God's creation we notice that God created the male stronger than the female: e.g. the cock, the cricket, the lion.

verse 4. Laying his hand upon = identification with the offering: to feel - to experience; only in this way, reconciliation is obtained.
When God sacrificed His Son, Jesus Christ, upon the Cross, He was one with Him in the sacrifice. This is the strength (the sweetness) of reconciliation.

verse 5. The blood sprinkled round about upon the altar:
Blood = the soul - Jesus's soul is round about the cross.
If we want communion with Him, we have to stay close to the cross.
The altar is the cross.
A soul, deeply purified, always remembers the Cross with many tears (broken hearted) of gratitude for such a tremendous sacrifice.

verse 6. To flay = the Glory of Jesus was stripped off.
The skin = the beauty of the animal.
He was stripped of all His glory when He was covered with our sins, read **2 Cor.5:21**. He always walked in glory but at Calvary He was stripped of everything, in such way that He cried out with a loud voice: "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?". We shall have the same experience if we are truly on the way of the cross, following His example.
To cut into pieces = the complete bruising of Christ on the cross. God felt it in the same way.

verse 7. Fire = the suffering of Christ; Wood = to increase the fire, to increase the suffering. Jesus Christ suffered intensely and completely upon the cross.

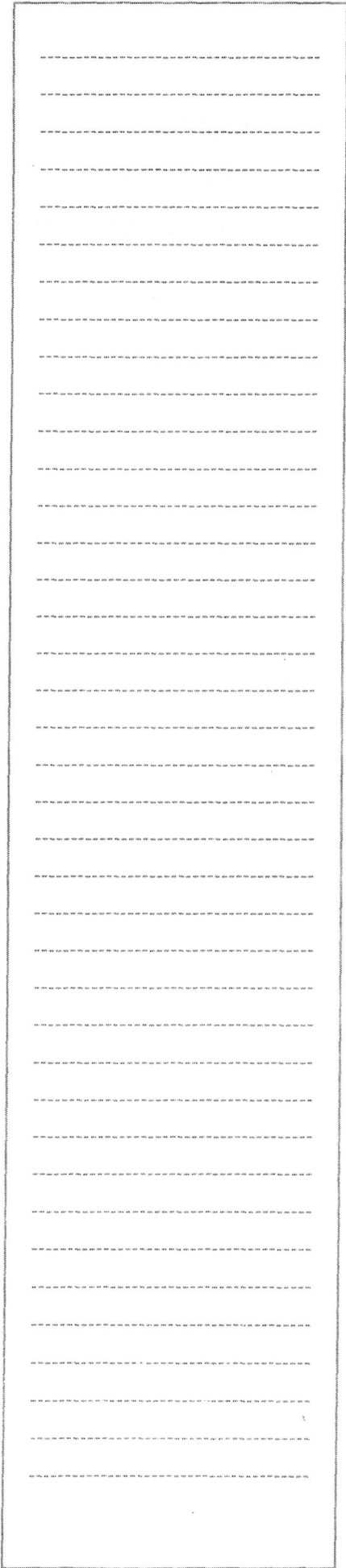
verse 8.
• The parts of the body: BODY.
• The head: SPIRIT.
• Fat (like the blood is the best part of the flesh, the soul is the best part of the body): SOUL.

It means to give up pleasure, thoughts, emotional feelings that are part of the old nature, upon the altar. The one thing left is: JESUS CHRIST AND HIM CRUCIFIED.

verse 9.
• Inwards: food and drinks (lusts) = INWARD
• Legs: our walk = OUTWARD
Inwards and legs should be washed. This refers to our character
This means that we have to offer our character and conduct to Jesus - completely pure; both, inwardly and outwardly.
These 5 parts of our body must be a sweet savour unto the Lord. In the same way Jesus on the Cross was a sweet savour to His Father.

verses 16,17. With the third sacrificial animal (pigeons) we notice the same:
• Crop: is the place where the food is digested - INWARD.
• Wings (to fly) correspond with legs - OUTWARD.
• Cleave the wings thereof (in parts) - BODY.

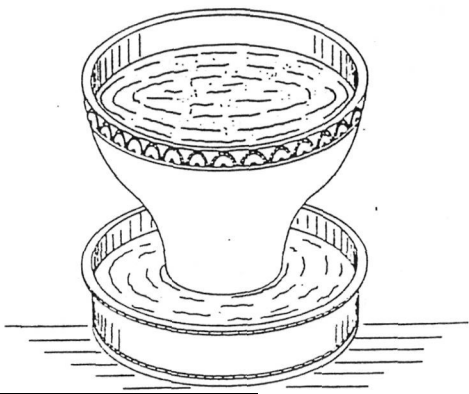
So all three sacrificial animals undergo the same process.
It makes no difference, rich, middle class and poor, they all have to experience the same offering.



CHAPTER .7.
 THE COURT
 &
 THE LAVER OF BRASS
 Exodus 30:17-21

Read:
 Exod 30:17-21

The description.
 verse 17. In this verse we notice God's command to Moses in connection with the construction of the brazen laver.
 verse 18. A laver of brass with a foot of brass the purpose = for washing; to put water therein.
 The position: between the Tabernacle of the congregation and the altar.
 verse 19. Aaron and his sons had to wash their hands and their feet there.



The Laver of brass.

verse 20. a. Before they entered the Tabernacle of the congregation, they had to wash themselves with water - that they would not die and
 b. Also before they came to the altar to serve and offer sacrifices by fire.
 verse 21. They had to wash their hands and feet so that they should not die. It should be a statute forever to them, even to him and to his seed throughout their generations.
 The laver was made of polished looking glasses of brass brought as a wave-offering to the Lord by the sacred women of Israel - Exod38:8; Exod.25:1-3. Compare with Rev.6:9-11.

The spiritual meaning.

The spiritual application of the laver is: water baptism.

The laver was:

- The last object in the court, between the brazen altar and the Tabernacle of the congregation. (The door = the baptism in the Holy Spirit);
- It was made of brass (= judgment);
- It was for cleansing of the priests before they entered the Holy Place to serve, that they would not die.

The court.

We will first take a look at the meaning of the court itself, in order to understand the spiritual significance of the laver.

What is the court? - **Exod.27:9-15; Exod.27:17-19.**

It refers to the period of the law (1500 years); the era in which the law expressed its judgment upon sin.

It is a space enclosed with fine twined linen.
 The fence surrounding it: the length = 100 cubits, the breadth = 50 cubits and the height = 5 cubits.
 This fence (unfolded) would cover a surface of (100 + 100 + 50 + 50) x 5 = 300 x 5 = 1500 square cubits.
 The area of the ground of the court is: 100 x 50 cubits = 5000 square cubits.

The court is a part of the whole structure.
 The whole Tabernacle complex consists of 3 parts, namely:

- The court;
- The holy place 20 x 10 x 10 = 2000 cubits cube;
- The holy of holies 10 x 10 x 10 = 1000 cubits cube.

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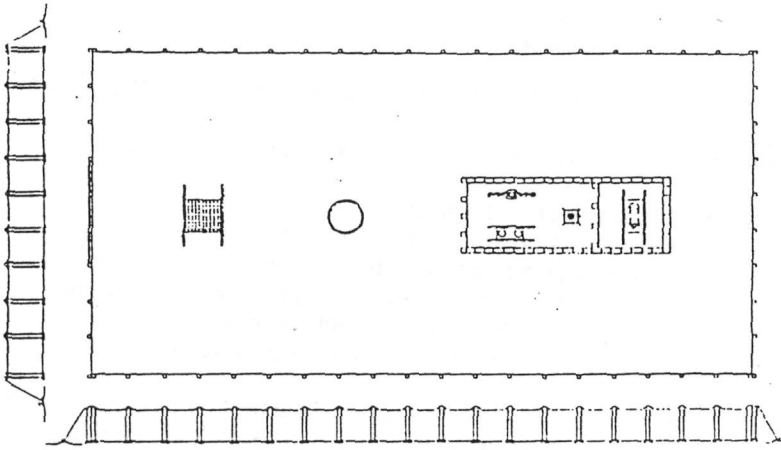
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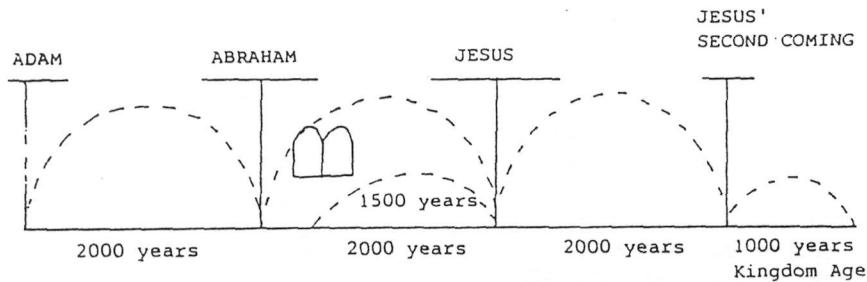
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The holy place: a type of the Christian dispensation of 2000 years.
The holy of holies: a type of the kingdom age (1000 years).
The total ground area inside the fence (of the Court) = 5000 square cubits.
This refers to God's territory of 5000 years.



On this court-ground, the holy place was situated, as a type of 2000 years, and also the holy of holies, as a type of 1000 years. So a part of the court-ground still remained, as a image of another 2000 years. This period of 2000 years was the time in which God acted with His people, from Abraham to Christ. According to the Bible this is indeed a period of 2000 years.

The area of the fine-twined linen, however, was 1500 square cubits and this linen kept God's territory fenced in. This fine linen is God's justice and in this case the justice of God's law, because the Law of God is holy, righteous and good; **Rom.7:7-12.**

These 1500 square cubits = an image of the period God's law lasted. It was given 1500 years before Christ and fulfilled in Christ - Matthew 5:17.

The holy place and the holy of holies represent the church age and the kingdom age. Although these are not under the law, they have the foundation of God's law, namely, the fulfilment of the law by our Lord Jesus Christ.

This fine-twined linen was carried by 60 pillars on brazen sockets. These 60 pillars represent the 60 progenitors of the object of our faith, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Brass = Judgment and power against sin. Judgment is always against sin. Read in this context: **Deut.28:15-23.** "And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass...". The altar of the burnt-offering in the court also was made of brass.

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The brazen serpent: Numb.21:9
Christ = sin for us; 2 Cor.5:21
Christ = the curse for us; Gal3:13

The concept of the court is that it typifies the period in which the law proclaims judgment over sin.
The lawful ground is the territory where one is within reach of God's curse.

We now return to the object of **the laver**.

The laver was made out of brass, drawn from the looking glasses of the women. These objects were polished bronze plates that gave a dim reflection. The spiritual concept is in accordance with the significance of baptism. Namely: the looking glasses in their natural application stimulate the passion for sensual beauty among women, etc.; these bronze plates were offered, to make a laver out of it.

This refers to the destruction of the dominion of the flesh. This concept must fill our hearts. The old (= the flesh) has passed away, behold, all things are becoming new (spiritual life).

Brass = Judgment

Math3:7-8 - to flee from the wrath to come.

Gal. 3:13 - the judgment fell upon Him on the Cross.

Who has received Him and is buried with Him (the baptism), will be justified by putting on Christ - Gal3:27 - and in that way be free from God's wrath. The Pharisees and Scribes wanted to flee from the wrath to come without receiving Christ. That was impossible.

Rev.15:2,4-8 - the judgment (= the significance of the brass).

At the sea of glass (= baptism) in the heavenly Tabernacle. The great multitude who will flee from the judgment are those who stand at the sea of glass and sing the Song of Moses (**Exod.15:1-9**) and the Song of the Lamb (**Rev.5:9-10**).

Exod.15:1-9 - The Song of Moses = after the drowning of Pharaoh's hosts in the Red Sea. There we see the significance of judgment (death) and salvation (resurrection) as in water baptism:

- Judgment = Pharaoh and his hosts;
- Salvation - Moses and the Israelites;
- **Rev.5:9-10** = The Song of the Lamb;
- The cross (bloodsign) and service to God (priesthood).

The sea of glass - Revelation 4.

The laver of the Israelitic Tabernacle was an image of the sea of glass - **Rev.4:6;**

Rev.15:2,8. In the Bible only in a few places the sea of glass is mentioned.

Rev.15:2 states: "The conquerors standing at the sea of glass while the last judgments of God are poured out upon the earth." No one was able to enter into the Temple, before these judgments were fulfilled - **Rev.15:8.**

The Christian baptism is a shadow of what will happen in heaven when we Christians who are saved, will die, namely:

- a. the cleansing of all spots of sin;
- b. a beginning of the full glory.

Therefore, we read in **Rev.15:8** that the holy multitude of God's children cannot enter into the Temple before the last judgments have been poured out over the sins of the world. Sin has been dealt with.

What a grace to be baptized in this way, namely the scriptural baptism, with the assurance of the fulfilment of God's ordinances.

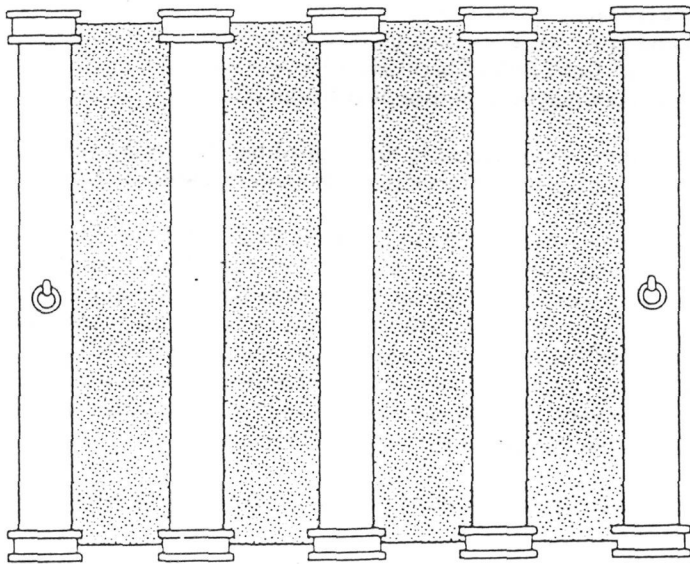
The stains of sin has been removed and now, after coming out of the water grave, we are fully clothed in the white garment of righteousness. Hallelujah.

Let us carefully follow the Christian chain of salvation, link by link, so that we will not be found lacking in God's eternal ordinances.

Rom.6:10-14 - God's children who have been baptized recently, or several years ago (Paul spoke in verses 1-13 about baptism), should take notice of this.

Read:

Exod 26:36-37; Exod 36:37-38.



The Door

CHAPTER .8.

THE DOOR OF THE
TABERNACLE

Exodus 2636-37

Introduction.

After we pass the altar of burnt-offering and the laver of brass, we come to the door of the holy place.

The description.

Exod.26:36 - A hanging screen or curtain, made of sky-blue, purple, wrought with scarlet needle-work, of fine-twined linen.
Exod.26:37 - Five (5) pillars of wood overlaid with gold.
The hooks also made of gold. Five (5) sockets of brass (to support the pillars).

The spiritual meaning.

The colours of the curtains used in the gate, the door, the veil and in the Tabernacle-curtain, as well as the colours in the ephod of the high priest, are all the same and their spiritual teaching refer to the walk in faith of Jesus Christ in His incarnation, in His four-fold identity:

- Sky-blue = The resurrection-power of Jesus Christ as a Servant (referring to the gospel of Mark)
- Purple = Dignity of Jesus as King (referring to the gospel of Matthew)
- Scarlet = The suffering of Jesus as Son of Man (referring to the gospel of Luke)
- Fine-twined linen = The righteousness of Jesus as the Son of God (referring to the gospel of John)

This is the spiritual garment that Jesus manifested in His High Priestly walk on earth.

The Embroidery: These 4 colours formed an embroidery. So did the above mentioned qualities of Jesus. They adorned His whole being during His stay on earth.

Three entrances.

Let us take a look at the three entrances of the Tabernacle complex as a whole. We see the gate, the door and the veil, each as an entrance to give access to diverse parts of the complex.

Each entrance had two sides: an inside and an outside. The inside speaks of safety, and the outside of danger and insecurity. Examples: Noah's ark - 1 Peter 3:20; The blood stained door - **Exod.12:7; Exod.12:12-13**; The door of grace - **Matthew 25:10-13**.

The three entrances in the Tabernacle had the same colours and were made of the same material. They all contain a similar meaning, namely: the walk in faith of our Lord Jesus Christ when He was on earth, leading us into the teaching concerning the 3 phases of Christian life:

- The Gate - gives access to the altar of burnt-offering and the laver of brass. Jesus gives entrance to" conversion and water baptism. (The soul is SAVED).
- The Door - gives access to the Holy Place. Here we find the table of shewbread, the golden candlestick and the golden altar of incense. Je- sus gives access to baptism in the Holy Spirit through which we have communion with Him. We shall shine as lights and worship Him. (The soul is REDEEMED). This is the domain of SERVING.
- The Veil - gives access to the holy of holies, in which we find the ark of the covenant. Jesus gives access to God's Throne: either when we die or during our lifetime at the coming of the Lord.

At each of these three entrances one can be **inside or outside**.

At the gate:

Outside = remaining in the wilderness, where God does not reign.

Inside = you are inside God's domain.

The spiritual meaning of:

Outside the gate = you are lost;

Inside the gate = you are saved.

At the door:

Outside = you are in God's territory, but in the domain of the court.

Inside = In the holy place.

The spiritual meaning of:

Outside the door = one is saved, yet standing in the domain of the law, na- mely the domain of the flesh that still has to be mortified and judged.

Inside the door = to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. In this domain there is communion with Christ through His Word: not by the flesh but by the Holy Spirit, Who will help us in growing, shining, fruit-bearing and in our worship to God. (True worship is in spirit and truth).

At the veil:

Outside = in the Holy Place with the Table of Shewbread, the Candlestick and the Altar of Incense.

Inside = in the Holy of Holies, where the Ark of the Covenant is placed.

The spiritual meaning of:

Outside the Veil = being baptized in the Holy Spirit, yet the flesh is not to- tally mortified (= the Veil, this is our carnal mind, the flesh is not yet rent).

Inside the Veil = a totally crucified life in which we can have the same expe- riences as Apostel Paul. He was caught up into the third Heaven. This is the domain in which God always is present: the domain of glorification and per- fection.

The five pillars of the door.

The 5 pillars refer to 5 persons who testified and confirmed that Jesus truly is the door. In the Gospel of John, chapter 5, this door is revealed.

In John 5:1-30 Jesus already revealed Himself in the 4 main qualities of His Person, namely as:

- The perfect Servant (verse 17) - John 5:1-18;
- The Son of God - John 5:19-23;
- The King - Ruler of Life and Death and executing judgment
John 5:24-27a;
- The Son of Man - John 5:27b.

This personal testimony must be confirmed, if it is to be effective and acceptable. In the mouth of two or three witnesses every word will be established - **Matthew 18:16.**

The Five testimonies about Jesus (5 pillars of the door) - **John 5:33-37.**

1. John the Baptist (= the prophets) - verse 33: **John 1:29;**
2. The works of the Holy Spirit - verse 36: **John 15:26. Matt3:11;**
3. The Father - verse 37: **Matt.3:17;**
4. The Scriptures (= the Word) - verses 38,39: **John 1:14;**
5. Moses (the Law) - verses 45-47: Deut.18:15.

These are the five testimonies referring to the five pillars, confirming that Jesus is the door to the Kingdom of God.

Gold and brass are the dividing line between the domain of the court adhering to the letter of the law (= judgment) and the sanctuary of the Holy Spirit (domain of grace).

The door signifies the baptism in the Holy Spirit. This means the ending of a life of self-righteousness, self-power and works of the flesh, and the start of a life led by the Holy Spirit, full of grace, glory and peace.

Our own personality also holds five "pillars", namely our tactile sense, sense of hearing, sight, smell and taste. If our senses are used to satisfy our sensual desires and lusts, then we have become servants of sin.

In this state we can never enter the holy place.

Particularly after our water-baptism we are tempted by the devil. He attacks us and tries to keep us away from entering the door of the holy place. If our surrender is complete, both at the cross (altar of burnt offering - bloodsign) and in our water-baptism (laver of brass - water, death and resurrection in Christ), then we will be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This Holy Spirit then living in us, gives us the strength and guidance not to live in our carnal desires and lusts but in the Holy Spirit (= wood overlaid with gold).

The door in the book of Revelation:

What did John see through this door at Patmos?

Rev.15:2-4: Conquerors standing on the sea of glass; verse 2-4: They sang the Song of Moses and the Lamb; verse 4: After this the Temple of the Tabernacle of Testimony was opened = the Door.

This is the door of the Temple in heaven that was opened.

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The veil is the flesh of Christ.

In Hebr.10:20 Paul said that the veil is the flesh of Christ.

He referred to the veil that was rent in twain when Jesus was crucified - Matt.27:50-51. Through this, Jesus has consecrated for us a new and living way into the true holy place, which is the Throne of the living God.

The veil = "the flesh". (carnal mind)

In Hebr.9:8 we read that the way into the holy of holies was not opened because the first Tabernacle still existed. But by the death of Jesus Christ on the Cross, the veil was rent. Which means that the first Tabernacle of the Israelites was made invalid by the breaking of His flesh. Through His death, Christ opened the way to the true most holy place, the heavenly Tabernacle.

Our flesh is the veil that separates us from God's Throne in Heaven.

The veil of the Christian church

The veil of the Christian church separates it from the kingdom age (Millennium).

In other words: when the church is made completely perfect, and is entirely crucified (= when the flesh has entirely lost its power) the church will leave the dispensation of the Holy Spirit to enter into a new era, the Millennium.

Jesus on the mountain of transfiguration - Matthew 17.

Even in our earthly life it is possible to have this experience to come to glory through the Holy Spirit.

Our example is our Supreme Leader, our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the mountain of Glory, while Jesus was deeply in prayer, He was transfigured. His face shone like the sun, His raiment was white like the light; verse 1-2.

Because of His life of prayer which was intense as well as superb, Christ's flesh underwent a breaking, giving way to His Divinity to shine forth out of His body. What happened to Jesus can also happen to us, but only through Him; verse 8 "Jesus only"; John 14:12,14 - This is prayer.

A life of prayer to the Christian means mortification of the flesh. Paul in the epistles to the Corinthians and later John at Patmos had the same experience of overruling their flesh (body), being caught up in the Spirit. The flesh had lost its restraining powers through prayer, and they had the experience of being caught up in the Spirit. 2 Cor.12:1-4 - Paul; Rev.1:9,10 - John at Patmos. What happened to Paul and John can also happen to us Christians of the 20th Century.

WARNING: We must seriously warn you of excesses that might manifest whenever people try to force or experiment with holy things.

Don't exaggerate your spirituality. Some people want to be more spiritual than the Holy Spirit or the King Himself...

A spirit of competition.

Like the spirit of competition in the world, in sport, etc., there are some children of God who have this spirit in them and it reveals itself in:

- a. wanting to pray more than others;
- b. wanting to be holier than others;
- c. wanting to study God's Word more than others.

They idolize their own "experiences", but God finds no pleasure in them.

A gradual progress.

In the Kingdom of Heaven, all things progress gradually. We also see this in nature. When you plant a seed, you do not expect it to bear fruit immediately but only after a period of time, e.g. the mango tree or any other tree. In the same way, we bear the sweetest fruits of holiness in our spiritual life after a period of following the Lord intensely.

The colours of the veil.

Summarising:

1. blue = the resurrection-power of Jesus as a Servant.
2. purple = the dignity (royal power) as King.
3. scarlet = the suffering of Jesus as Son of Man.
4. fine-twined linen = the justice of Jesus as Son of Man.

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These colours indicate the divine qualities of Jesus in his incarnation. The veil in particular reveals his Glorious Resurrection when he - in his glorified body - was manifested as Son of God. During this stage of resurrection, his divinity was revealed. This is what is indicated by the cherubim. The cherubim were woven into the veil. These cherubim were no angels. They refer to the divinity of Christ.

The four pillars standing on four silver sockets.

These pillars refer to four persons in the bible redeemed by the blood (silver = redemption).

These four are holding up the veil; they show forth true resurrection. Their life on earth in the flesh really demonstrated, that by the full indwelling of the Spirit of God, they were able to pass corruption and may now stand in front of the throne of God in glorified bodies.

In the bible only four persons are mentioned who passed death and stand in **front** of the throne of God with glorified bodies:

- Henoah
- Moses
- Elijah
- Jesus

CHAPTER 10.
THE CURTAIN OF FINE
TWINED LINEN

Exodus 26

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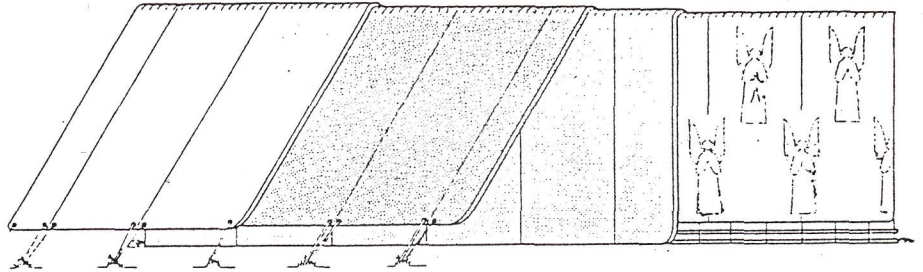
Exod. 26:1-14

Introduction.

There are 4 curtains which covered the Tabernacle like a tent, namely:

1. the curtains of fine-twined linen - **Exod.26:1-6** (chapter 10)
2. the curtains of goats' hair - **Exod.26:7-13** (chapter 11)
3. the covering of rams' skins - Exod.26:14a (chapter 12)
4. the covering of badgers' skins - **Exod.26:14b** (chapter 12)

We will explain the meaning of these curtains and their spiritual values, so that our "tabernacle" may also be covered with these graceful garments.



The curtains of the Tabernacle or briefly the Tabernacle - Exod.26:1-6.

Description.

The first covering is named 'the Tabernacle' because it is the first covering. It covered the Tabernacle on top and the boards on the north-, south- and west-side.

It was made of 10 curtains of fine-twined linen, sky-blue, purple and scarlet with cherubims of cunning work.

The measurements of one curtain: length 28 cubits, breadth 4 cubits.

These 10 curtains were coupled together, 5 curtains one to another, that is to say: this covering consisted of 2 major coverings, each of 5 curtains.

On each covering were made 50 loops upon the edge of the one curtain from the edge of the outermost curtain in the coupling. Exod. 26:4.

So on both coverings there were 100 loops (2x50); these loops took hold one of another.

There were also 50 taches (or clasps) of gold; they couple the 2 major coverings together, one to another - so it was ONE Tabernacle.

The spiritual meaning.

We can see that these curtains were generally used as coverings and ornaments.

The Tabernacle, a type of the church of Christ, has to be covered with these curtains, in spiritual application.

What do these curtains stand for spiritually?

Before we answer this question, let us first take a look at the meaning of the colours of the Tabernacle curtain. It is remarkable to see that the gate of the court, the door to the sanctuary and the veil, all have the same colours.

They refer to the walk of faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, or briefly:

FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.

At the gate, the door and the veil, faith always forms the entrance to a new phase of our life and walk in faith in Jesus Christ.

In the curtain of the Tabernacle, however, we see that this faith is like a covering upon the Tabernacle; likewise the church of God has to walk under this covering of faith. So faith must cover the church of God, for 'whatever is not of faith is sin' - Rom.14:23.

- The characteristics of this covering of faith are:
- Justice of God - the fine-twined linen.
 - The resurrection power - the colour blue.
 - The royal dignity of Christ - the colour purple.
 - The human suffering - the colour scarlet.

The cherubim woven in the curtains of the Tabernacle are a type of the God-head. In the curtain of the Tabernacle in particular this type is the manifestation of the Godhead in the walk — of — faith.

If we would be in the sanctuary of the Tabernacle, we would see:
behind us - the door;
 in **front** of us - the veil;
above us - the curtain of the Tabernacle.

If we dwell now in the sanctuary of the Christian dispensation, we see:
behind us upon - faith in Christ, Who justified us;
in front of us - faith that will lead us into the total crucifixion of our flesh
above us - faith in Jesus Christ, Who ascended to Heaven and Who gives us the Glory of God in the baptism in the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
 At all times it must be a walk of faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

The ten curtains.

The 10 curtains were put together in two groups, each of 5 curtains.

The spiritual meaning.

- The number 5 = the number of faith in the cross:
- the 5 wounds of Christ;
 - the 5 stones of David against Goliath;
 - the 5 offerings of Leviticus (1-5).

The spiritual teaching of these two groups of 5 curtains is:

FAITH - AND - THE WORKS OF FAITH.

In Rom.3:20,28 we read that a man is justified by faith and not by works of the law. The sinner, damnable to God in body, soul and spirit, will not be justified by his own works or works of the Law.

Examples:

- The rich young ruler - **Matthew 19:16-24;**
- The Pharisee and the publican - **Luke 18:9-14.**

Good works and one's merits do not change the condition of the heart (the sinfull-state). They are more like a cover-up. But the heart does change, if one believes in Jesus Christ, receives Him (**John 1:12**) as his Saviour, Redeemer and Lord.

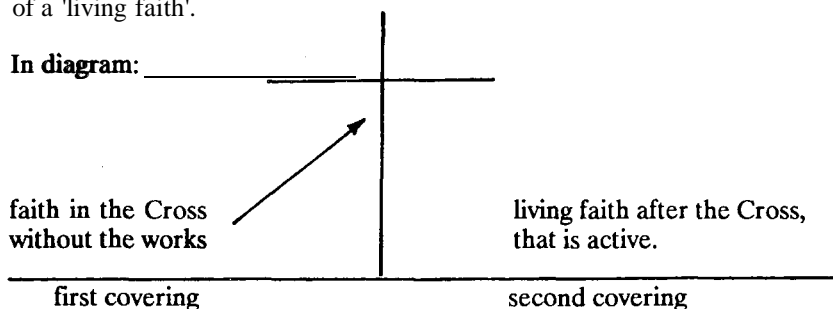
All sins are nailed to the cross and one receives forgiveness and salvation. One receives the righteousness of Christ and is justified before God.

Rom.5:1 - one is justified by faith. One has peace with God.

However in James 2:14-16 we read, that faith without works is dead, and that at the end we are justified by the works of faith. **James 2:24.**

This means that if faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ unto justification (without one's own works or merits) is indeed a fact - it will invariably express itself as an ACTIVE FAITH; because of its works. Only then you can speak of a 'living faith'.

In diagram:



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So there were two groups of five curtains each in this Tabernacle-covering: The first section (5 curtains) stand for faith in the cross, without works of the Law or our own merits.
The second section (5 curtains) stands for living faith and works.

The division of these two groups of curtains was exactly at the point where the inner veil was hanging, as a separation between the holy place and the holiest of all.

The inner veil = the symbol of the flesh of Jesus Christ crucified at Calvary, and by this He has consecrated for us a new and living way - Hebr.10:20.
So the dividing line of these two parts of the covering of faith is, in words of spiritual interpretation, at the cross.
Thus, faith and the works of faith meet at the cross.

We shall go deeper into this concept, as we come to the SPIRITUAL MEANING of the 2 x 50 loops and the 50 taches (clasps).
The two groups of curtains were coupled together with these 2 x 50 loops and 50 clasps.

Fifty = the number that indicates Pentecost.
Loops = two things should be coupled together.
Clasps = something should get fastened.
Gold = the Holy Spirit.

Now it is easy to see that faith and works of faith should be coupled firmly together so that the works should follow (clasped). Faith and these works must be done through PENTECOSTAL POWER. This means that the Holy Spirit must be the power through which the works come about and not by one's own power.

Before, we learned that the two groups of curtains meet at the cross, and now we see that these two groups of curtains are coupled together through the Holy Spirit in Pentecostal-power.

From this we learn that the Cross and Pentecostal-power form a unity, and we can understand now that faith and works are very closely coupled together as well.

A warning: many children of God only have the first covering of faith and miss the second covering of works. This is like walking half-naked on the Christian way of faith, and the uncovered part of such a life of faith is very vulnerable to the fiery darts of Satan.

Oh, child of God, do something for your Saviour.
Prov. 6:6-11 - be no sluggard (lazy).
Rom. 6:22 - holiness, everlasting life through serving.
Matth.25:21-23 - '... thou good and faithful servant'.

Don't do the works in your own power, but by and through the Holy Spirit in the Name of Jesus Christ.

Not in your own power, nor in your own fire, not through eloquence, nor by the so-called amiability. These all lead to sad results. Not through imitation of the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Before you do something for your Saviour, first go to your prayer-closet. It is this vacuum that attracts the Holy Spirit. This is the way to do the works of faith through the Holy Spirit.

Study as an example Peter before and after Pentecost.

Read: Exod.26:7-13

Description.

Upon the curtain of the Tabernacle (i.e. the first covering) there was a covering of goat's hair, placed like a tent upon the Tabernacle.

This covering of goat's hair was made of 11 curtains.

The measurements: the length of 1 curtain = 30 cubits, the breadth of 1 curtain = 4 cubits

These 11 curtains were divided into two groups: one of 5 and one of 6.

The 6th curtain of the first group was double in front of the tent.

These two compiled curtains were coupled together with 50 loops on the coupled side of each group.

There also were 50 clasps of brass, and these clasps were put into the loops: so the tent of goats' hair became a whole.

The half of the second group of curtains covered the backside of the Tabernacle, and on both sides of the Tabernacle the curtain of goats' hair was one cubit longer than the Tabernacle-curtain. So the curtain of goats' hair covered the entire Tabernacle.

The spiritual meaning.

Hair is given to us as a covering, and what is more, it is a covering of the Sanctuary. Think of the hair of the head - a covering of the Sanctuary - 1 Cor.11:5,6.

The vow of a Nazarite (= one separated unto God) - Num.6:5. Here we read that upon the head of a Nazarite no razor should come, until the days were fulfilled in which he separated himself unto the Lord. So he should be HOLY and should let the locks of his hair grow. So it is a symbol of holiness.

In Judges 16:17-21 we read how Samson's 7 locks (= a symbol of the power of God) were shaved off and he became powerless.

Samson was a Nazarite = one separated unto God.

The power of the Holy Spirit was upon him: this was expressed in the 7 locks.

In other words, these 7 locks are a symbol of the 7 Spirits of God or the Holy Spirit - Rev. 5:6.

So we conclude that 'hair' symbolizes:

THE HOLINESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Song of Solomon 4:1 Here even is a deeper meaning, namely, the hair of Solomon's Bride (Song of Solomon 6:6) is a flock of goats that appear from Gilead.

The Bride of Solomon is a symbol of the BRIDE OF CHRIST and her 'hair' is typified as goats (a type of the children of God) who peacefully eat the food of the pasture. In other words: children of God who enjoy together the food of the Word of God in holiness and in peace (God's pasture).

The complete meaning of 'hair' = the Holiness of God upon the children of God.

In Lev.14:8-9 we can clearly see the opposite, namely if the Israelite fell in sin and this manifested itself in leprosy it was his duty to shave off all his hair.

The 11 curtains.

Like the first covering of the Tabernacle which consisted of 2 sections, typifying faith and works of faith (p.18) this covering of holiness also consisted of two sections.

The first group : 5 curtains.

The second group : 6 curtains (5 + 1); the 6th curtain was doubled and hung in front of the entrance of the door. It typifies HOLINESS AND WORKS-OF HOLINESS.

Faith and the works of faith are not sufficient to enable man to behold the Face of Jesus in His second coming.

There should be something more, namely HOLINESS. Faith and the works of faith are wonderful, and they will help us to overcome any attack of the devil. But holiness and its works keep the eyes of man fixed upon Jesus's return and work out a cleansing of the child of God - 1 John 3:2-3. Sanctification is wonderfully connected to HOPE.

CHAPTER 11.
THE CURTAIN OF GOATS HAIR

Exodus 26

The 6th curtain.

The 6th curtain hanging in front of the entrance of the Tabernacle was double woven and expressed the truth written in **Hebr. 12:14**, that 'without peace and holiness, no man shall ever see the Lord'. These two, Peace of God and Sanctification, are united.

So this 6th heavy and DOUBLE CURTAIN OF PEACE AND SANCTIFICATION hung in front of the sanctuary of Israel. We shall never see the Glory of God if we do not go through the double curtain of peace and sanctification - two things which are closely related to each other.

Do you have peace in your heart? Do you have a deep desire for sanctification? Do you have these two divine qualities in your heart, in your life, in your home?

This cannot be found in the old life, in the old man, but only in the new man who is renewed by the Holy Spirit.

If peace is missing there will be discords, quarrels, fights and impurity.

Lusts will also be present - James **4:1-3**.

For the root of quarrels and fights is impurity (lusts, desires, etc.) **1 Peter 1:2**. The loops mean that holiness and the works of holiness are linked to each other. They are the results of PENTECOSTAL POWER and can never be attained in one's own power. Otherwise one will be a victim of deception.

Be aware of the mask of the so-called "holiness" that is so easily put on. This "so-called holiness" may not continue to exist, for it will surely be exposed by the Holy Spirit.

The fifty clasps of brass.

The 50 clasps of brass, which were put into the loops.

- They were made of brass, not gold, like in the first curtain (the Tabernacle-curtain).
- These clasps were put INTO the loops.

We have noticed earlier, that 'brass' represents JUDGMENT. Which means therefore that sanctification implies judgment.

In other words, if works show unholiness, judge yourselves.

This judgment, however, is of such a nature that it co-operates in joining together and not in destruction (it is therefore said that the clasps were put into the loops).

The right attitude against unholy actions, which we discover in ourselves, is not to rebel or to be discouraged, but honestly acknowledge it and confess it to Jesus, Who forgives us and through His cleansing brings us nearer to God, **-1 John 1:9**.

If we judge ourselves, we shall not be condemned by God with the world, **-1 Cor. 11:31-32**.

Holiness and the works of holiness are from God and are mutually expressed by God's children in their relationship with one another. We see this truth in the curtain which consisted of millions of hairs which were braided together.

Do not consider holiness in being a hermit, but be holy in close fellowship with God's people.

The Tabernacle-curtain (first curtain) is a type of FAITH.

The Goat's hair-curtain (second curtain) is a type of HOPE.

The covering of Ram's skin dyed red (third curtain) is a type of LOVE. Exod.26:14a.

The covering of Ram's skin dyed red - Exod. 26:14a

Description.

The scripture indicates only: "Make a covering of ram's skins dyed red". Neither measurements nor parts were indicated. Mention is made only of the red colour (of blood) and the skins, were of course attached together. The number of skins was not mentioned.

The spiritual meaning.

The red colour = the Biblical colour for BLOOD.

Gen.22:7-13 The most brilliant type of Jesus Christ as sacrificial offering is Isaac, the son of Abraham.

When God saw that Abraham was willing to sacrifice his only son, He did not allow Abraham to proceed with the offering. He provided him a RAM.

So Abraham sacrificed the ram as a burnt-offering instead of his son.

Because Abraham had surrendered and consecrated himself to God, he was able to offer such a sacrifice.

The ram points to SURRENDER and CONSECRATION.

We see that at the consecration of the priests 2 rams had to be sacrificed:

- the first ram as a burnt-offering;
- the second ram as a wave- and heave-offering.

These 2 rams symbolize the qualities of surrender and consecration which are demanded of the priests.

The meaning of the covering of rams' skins dyed red is clearly expressed here, namely: THE LOVE OF GOD IN SURRENDER AND CONSECRATION.

John 3:16 The ram = Jesus, red because of the blood that He shed on the Cross.

A love - not limited - WITHOUT MEASURE - without human, earthly or mundane measures - a Love which cannot be measured. Even as the covering of the rams' skins dyed red was without measure.

Here it is not spoken as of 2 parts, like the former curtains which refer to faith and works of faith, holiness and works of holiness.

ONLY LOVE is mentioned here - a curtain of Love that covers everything - the source from where everything that is holy and full of faith springs forth.

Faith and works of faith, holiness and works of holiness - all these things must be covered with the covering of Love.

LOVE COVERS ALL THINGS - 1 Cor.13:7.

God is Love - 1 **John 4:7-8**

The origin of Love is God, and this Love expresses itself in love for one another, like the Love of Christ for all mankind. Therefore more skins were used for the covering.

This kind of love is expressed in our willingness to lay down our lives for the sake of others - a love that knows how to give itself, yes, even to the extent of giving our lives for each other. As in **1 John 4:10-11**, like a ram, willing to be slaughtered. Jesus, the Lamb of God, was slaughtered, **Rev.5:6**; reproached and taunted to the bitter end.

A love for everyone. Not only for particular persons or groups, for love of that kind leads to division and disaster. Each person who possesses this love, which is meant for everyone, belongs to the spiritual Tabernacle.

He who hates his brother is in darkness. He is not walking in conformity with the Tabernacle and falls under the direct judgment of God - **1 John 2:9-11; John 3:19**. This is the judgment of God over darkness.

We should take care to remain constantly in this brotherly love.

Anyone who withdraws from this brotherly love will come under the judgment of God. No matter how "sick" the church is, even though there are many quarrels and discords, we should not withdraw ourselves from the church.

On the contrary: we must let our lights (= love) shine.

CHAPTER 12.

THE COVERING OF RAM'S SKINS DYED RED

Exodus 26:14a

*THE COVERING OF BADGER'S SKINS

Exodus 26:14b

Lined area for notes or additional text.

If we withdraw ourselves, it means that we want to evade the spiritual battle, or that we are exalting ourselves (in a spiritual sense). Then we tend to forget our own state of mind - Rom3:9-20, in other words: we see ourself as self-righteous - **Luke 18:9-14**.

The church is covered by 3 coverings:

- the Tabernacle-curtain = the curtain of FAITH.
- the Goats' hair-curtain = the curtain of HOPE.
- the covering of Rams' skins dyed red = the covering of LOVE.

These are the coverings of: FAITH - HOPE - LOVE

Love is the most important. That is why the curtain of Rams' skins dyed red covered the other two curtains. **1 Cor.13:13** - 'But the greatest of these is love'.

We may have faith, we may be sanctified and still not possess Love (the third curtain)

We can for instance, be indifferent in regard to our fellowmen being lost. Indifference leads to fratricide - **Gen.4:9**.

To speak about love is simple. To teach about love is easy, in pointing out to others that they do not possess love is even more simple. But the point is: to possess love yourself and to dispense it to others, following the example of Christ - **John 13:34; John 15:12; Eph.5:1-2**.

• THE COVERING OF BADGER'S SKINS - Exod.26:14b.

Just like the covering of rams' skins, there is no indication at all of parts or measurements.

Some say it was made of the skin of seals. The leather of this skin is very tough **and** all-weather resistant. The badgers' skin protected the entire Tabernacle, **and** because it was the upper covering, it was exposed to storms, rain, and all other weather conditions.

It indicates spiritually protection from JUDGMENT.

An example is the ark of Noah. It protected the eight people in the ark against **the deluge** = the judgment of God.

The badgers' skin covering did the same.

JESUS: Likewise the full force of God's judgment came upon Him - **Gal.3:13, Isaiah 53:7**. He was "oppressed" and all who are "in Him" (wrapped in Faith, Hope and Love) are free. But those who are not in Him will fall under the judgment of God.

The colour: The colour of the badgers' skin was grey and uncomely.

So was the face of Christ and all who are in Him - **Isai.52:13-14; Isai.53:2-3**.

Without measure: his curtain was without measure: infinite.

Likewise is God's judgment, if His infinite Love is rejected.

The mercy of God = giving Himself in His Son could not possibly be exceeded by anything. This was the ultimate expression of His tremendous Love. If we reject this Love, we will fall under His infinite judgment. Not because of His anger but because of our rejection of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Oh Lord, fill us with this all-consuming Love of God .

CHAPTER 14.

THE BOARDS
AND THE BARS OF
THE TABERNACLE

Exodus 26

Read: Exod.26:15-25; Exod.26:26-30

The description.

Exod.26:15. Boards standing up made of shittim wood.

verse 16. The measurements of the boards: 10 cubits long and 1 1/2 cubits wide.

verse 17.2 grooves on each board, so that they all could fit together. All boards had 2 grooves each.

verse 18.20 boards for the southside of the Tabernacle.

verse 19.40 silver sockets under the 20 boards; 2 sockets under one board, for his 2 grooves, and 2 sockets under another board for its 2 grooves.

verse 20,21. The same as the verses 18 and 19, only on the northside.

verse 22.6 boards on the westside.

verse 23.2 boards for the corners of the Tabernacle in the rear on both sides.

verse 24. They had to be coupled together beneath and coupled together on top with one ring.

verse 25. 8 boards, having each 2 sockets = 16 silver sockets; 2 sockets on each board

verse 26.5 bars made of shittim wood, on one side of the Tabernacle.

verse 27.5 bars on the other side of the Tabernacle and another 5 bars on the westside of the Tabernacle

verse 28. The middle bar halfway up the boards had to pass through from end to end.

verse 29. The boards and bars overlaid with gold.

verse 30. The Tabernacle was erected according to the fashion shown on the Mountain.

The spiritual meaning - Exod.26:15-25.

The boards are a type of God's children redeemed by the Blood of Christ, starting from His first appearance on earth. Together they form the sanctuary and the most holy place (holy of holies). They are God's dwelling place. There is no other dwelling place for God on earth than the Temple of the living stones: God's children on earth, the church. This is the highest and only dwelling place of God. God finds no pleasure in another temple.

After Christ's first coming all the other images fell into disuse, also the Tabernacle of Moses and the Temple of Solomon. God chooses to dwell amongst His children.

1 Cor.3:16 we are God's Temple;

1 Cor.6:19 we are the Temple of the Holy Spirit;

2 Cor.6:16 we are the Temple of the Living God;

Eph.2:20-22 a holy Temple in the Lord; God's dwelling place in the Spirit;

Hebr.3:6 a house of Christ, the Son of God;

1 Peter 2:5 a spiritual house.

We are the living Temple, where the Holy Trinity, that is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the LORD JESUS CHRIST dwells.

Prophecy of Ezekiel 40-48.

It is claimed that according to this prophecy during the 1000 years of God's Kingdom of Peace, the whole Temple and its services will be restored and animal sacrifices will once again be sacrificed.

What a profanity! What a God-dishonouring thought. People want to replace the Blood of Christ by the blood of animals, while God only has pleasure in His Son's sacrifice; Hebr.10:4-15.

To replace the living Temple of God, built by the blood-cleansed children of God, with a temple of stone. No, a thousand times no!

The Temple in Ezekiel 40-48 is a spiritual Temple with a spiritual background. There is never any decline in the Kingdom of God, only progress. And thus the Blood of Christ can never be replaced by animal blood.

The boards made of shittim wood.

Wood = flesh.

The wood had to be overlaid with gold. This refers to God's children who are baptized in the Holy Spirit. The living Temple of God consists only of children of God who are baptized in the Holy Spirit.

The objects of the Tabernacle were made of wood overlaid with brass or gold. It means that the flesh is either under the control of the Holy Spirit or under the curse of God (= brass).

The contents of the Tabernacle.

The length = 20 boards x 1 1/2 cubits = 30 cubits.

The breadth = 6 boards x 1 1/2 cubits = 9 cubits.

If we add to this two corners, then the breadth will be about 10 cubits.

The height of each board = 10 cubits.

The contents is 30 x 10 x 10 cubits = 3000 cubits cube.

The measurement of a cubit has a prophetic background. It refers to a period of 1 year (see chapter 7), so 3000 cubits cube refer to a span of 3000 years.

The two compartments of the Tabernacle.

How can we calculate the contents of the holy place (= 2000 cubits cube) and the holy of holies (= 1000 cubits cube), knowing that the total is 3000 c.c.

The veil separated these two compartments from one another.

The Bible gives us no indication of the veil that it was placed at two-thirds of the Tabernacle room.

The place where the veil hung is clear though, from Exod.26:33, namely "under the clasps" of the Tabernacle curtain (described in Exod.26:1-6).

In Exod.26:6 we read that these clasps were placed on the dividing-line of the two coverings, each consisting of 5 curtains fastened together.

The breadth of each curtain was 4 cubits, so each covering was 5 x 4 cubits or 20 cubits broad.

The first covering thus covered the Tabernacle from the door up to two-third of the length of the whole Tabernacle, that was 20 cubits.

The second covering was also 20 cubits broad. It covered the rest of the 10 cubits from the area of the Tabernacle tent + the 10 cubits of the back-side of the Tabernacle.

Thus the problem as to the position of the veil is solved.

The silver feet

Silver = a symbol of atonement.

We can understand it more clearly if we open Exod.30:11-16, Exod.38:25-28.

Here we read that the ransom in silver of the children of Israel was used for the foundation on which the Tabernacle stood.

So God's church is not built on sandy soil (desert sand) but on the Rock of atonement, Matt.7:24-27 (cp. Jesus was sold for 30 pieces of silver).

Half a shekel of atonement.

Every Israelite had to pay the price of atonement, which was 1/2 a shekel after the shekel of the sanctuary, (see chapter 13)

Each board stood upon two silver sockets: 20 boards southwards; 20 boards northwards; 8 boards westwards (6 boards + 2 corner boards).

So this was a total of 48 boards, standing upon 96 sockets.

Then there were 4 pillars at the veil standing upon 4 sockets.

In total, the Tabernacle structure stood upon 96 + 4 = 100 sockets of silver.

Read Exod.26:31-32.

Each socket was made of 1 silver talent, Exod.38:27.

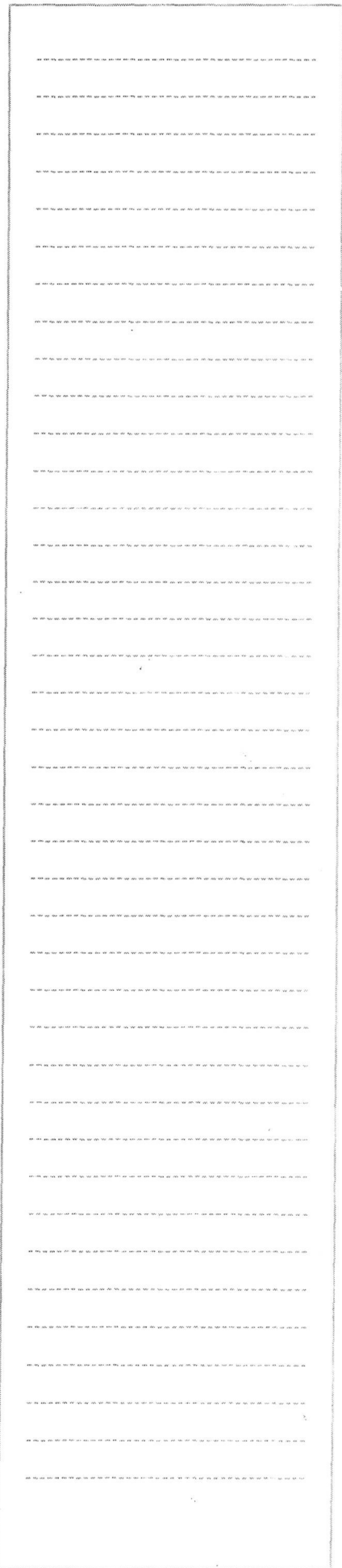
So all together 100 silver talents were needed.

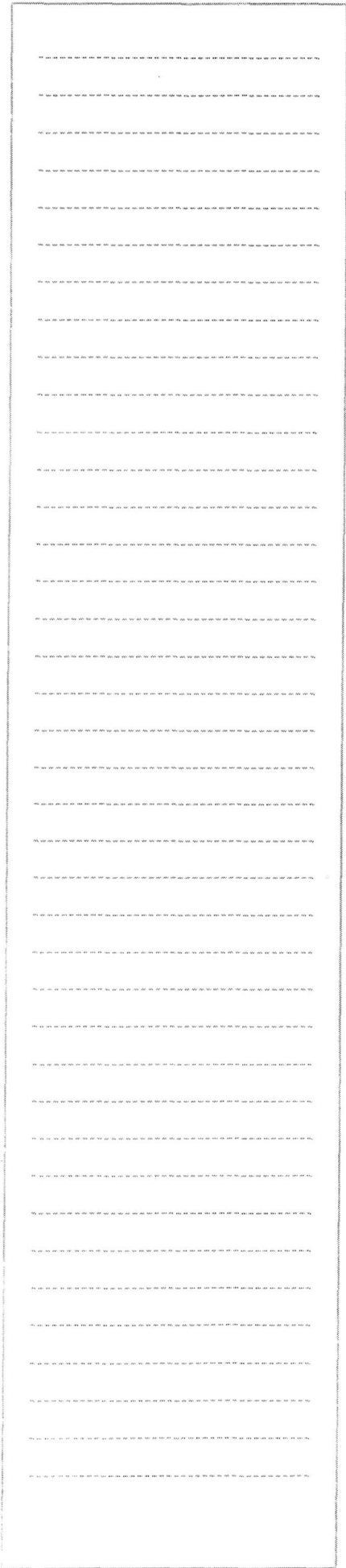
1 silver talent = 3000 shekels or 6000 x 1/2 a shekel.

100 silver talents = 600.000 x 1/2 a shekel.

The number of the Israelites who belonged to the counted, and who each had to pay the price of 1/2 a shekel, was 603.550.

There were used 600.000 x 1/2 a shekel for the sockets of the boards and the pillars. The rest (603.550 - 600.000 = 3.550 x 1/2 a Shekel or 1.775 shekels) was used for the hooks and the chapters of the pillars, Exod.38:28.





In 1 Peter 1:18 the apostle Peter said that we are not redeemed by perishable silver but by the precious and unperishable Blood of the Lamb.

So like the whole Tabernacle stood upon the ransom of God's children, so does the church of Jesus Christ. She consists of the children of God who are redeemed by the precious Blood of Jesus Christ.

The boards are God's children; those who stand with both feet upon the Blood of reconciliation.

The bars - Exod.26:26-30.

The spiritual meaning.

The bars were so tightly attached to the boards that together they form a unity. It is not mentioned in what way they were fixed together. The only thing we know is that the middle bar, in the midst of the boards, reached from one end to the other. Speaking to a carpenter we learned that the cross-connection is the most solid one.

We have a beautiful picture of: Christ as the middle bar and the cross as the other 4 bars.

This shows us that Jesus Christ, Who was crucified for us, forms the most solid connection in the fellowship among God's children.

You cannot find any other true connection in the fellowship of God's children. Each other basis of fellowship (organizations, regulations, denominations and rules, precepts, etc.) will fail. The Word of God declares that real unity can only be achieved through the cross of Jesus Christ.

It must be our desire that all of the brethren will live in the power of the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We have to help the weak and assist them to live in the power of the cross and resurrection - Phil.2:1-4; 1 Cor.10:24,33; 1 Thess.5:11.

The number 5 (spiritually) surrounds the entire Tabernacle.

- 5 pillars at the east side;
- 5 bars at the west side;
- 5 bars at the north side;
- 5 bars at the south side.

Five is the number referring to reconciliation by the blood of Jesus Christ.

The unity of the Tabernacle was secured by the 5 bars. This illustrates that the whole church can only be ONE by the power of the CROSS.

The first Pentecostal confirmation: this was the unity among the Christians of the first church, when they all were filled with the Holy Spirit in the upper room. We can only receive the Holy Spirit if we are reconciled by the Blood of Jesus Christ.

The disciples were gathered in the upper room, all in one accord and focusing on the cross (Peter, Mary, Thomas, etc.) and they were filled with the Holy Spirit - Acts 1:13-14; Acts 2:1-4.

The unity of the church can neither be achieved by rigidity of the church nor by uniformity (oecumene).

This unity can only be achieved by the baptism in the Holy Spirit and in unity with our Saviour Who died but was raised from the dead, to obtain eternal salvation for us.

The boards and bars overlaid with gold.

The boards and bars overlaid with gold illustrate the bond and unity of God's children, by which God's House is kept standing in perfect oneness all the way. The Holy Spirit (= gold) glorifies the cross of Jesus Christ (= the bars) - John 15:26; John 16:14; John 17:22.

"The glory which Thou hast given Me", speaks of the Holy Spirit by Whom unity is accomplished.

Read: Exodus 28.

Introduction.

In **Exodus 28** two kinds of sacred garments are mentioned:

- 1. The garments of the high priest - Exod.28:1-39,42,43;
- 2. The priestly garments - **Exod.28:40,42,43.**

The garments of the high priest.

The garments consist of the following parts:

- an ephod;
- a blue robe;
- a broidered coat;
- a girdle;
- a mitre;
- ® a foursquare breast-plate of judgment (vs.15,16);
- the linen breeches.

Description of the garments.

1. The ephod (Exod.28:6-14). A graceful upper garment which was a skilfully-woven rich composition of beautiful colours: gold, blue, purple, scarlet and fine-twined linen.

At the end of the 2 joint shoulder-pieces, 2 large onyx-stones were set in setting of gold. The stones were engraved with the 12 names of the sons of Israel; upon each stone 6 names.

2. The blue robe(Exod.28:31-35). The robe was sky-blue and became visible right where the ephod ended. Around its hem pomegranates were attached. The pomegranates had the following colours: blue, purple, scarlet. The pomegranates were attached around the robe's hem with golden bells between them. **Exodus 28:32.** The robe was made out of one piece of linen with an opening for the head **in** the middle at the top.

3. The Broidered Coat (Exod.28:39). The coat became visible right below the blue robe and was made of fine white linen with eyelets embroidered in it.

4. The curious girdle of the ephod (Exod.28:8). This girdle had the same colours as the ephod, gold, blue, purple, scarlet, and fine-twined linen.

5. The mitre (Exod.28:36-39). On the forefront of the mitre a golden plate was fastened with the engraving "Holiness of the Lord". This golden plate should be placed on the front of the mitre, upon the forehead of the high priest. This illustrates that he bore the "iniquity of the holy things".

6. The breast-plate of judgment (Exod.28:15-30). The breast-plate was foursquare with the same colours as the ephod, gold, blue, purple, scarlet and fine-twined linen. The measurements : the length was one span and the breadth was one span. A span is the distance from the tip of the little finger to the thumb when the hand is spread as far as possible. On this foursquare plate, 12 stones were set, divided into 4 rows of 3 stones each. On these 12 stones the names of the sons of Israel were engraved. The Urim and Thummim were found inside the breast-plate. They had to be upon Aaron's heart when he went in before the face of the Lord.

7. The linen breeches (Exod.28:42-43). The linen breeches of the high priest and the priests should be worn to cover their nakedness.

The spiritual meaning.

We shall now study the spiritual background of these sacred and graceful garments. These garments are related to the conduct of our High Priest, our LORD JESUS CHRIST.

CHAPTER 15.

THE SACRED GARMENTS OF THE HIGH PRIEST AND THE PRIESTS

Exodus 28

Our Lord Jesus Christ fulfilled the entire work of reconciliation during His life on earth through His death, resurrection and ascension. And it is because of these events (Death - Resurrection - Ascension) that we may now live like priests and walk in white clothes of righteousness.

During His life on earth until His death He gave us an example. We must intensely reflect our lives in His life and follow Christ's footsteps - 1 Peter 2:21. Paul exhorts us to be imitators of Jesus Christ and His sacrifice - Eph.5:1-2. Studying this subject, we will therefore discover the most remarkable teaching from the hidden truths of God's Word.

The ephod.

This garment had the same colours as the door, the veil and the Tabernacle covering. The only difference was that gold thread was woven in it.

The colours consequently represent the walk of faith of our Lord Jesus Christ in its five-fold capacity, namely:

- heavenly-blue referring to resurrection-power;
- purple referring to King's Majesty;
- scarlet referring to human suffering;
- fine-twined linen referring to Divine Justice;
- gold referring to the Holy Spirit.

Let us take a closer look at these colours:

Heavenly-blue: resurrection-power, which the servant of God must possess to destroy the works of the devil. We read this mainly in the Gospel of MARK, where God's power appears par excellence.

Purple: refers to King's Majesty (think of the purple King's Robe). We recognize this aspect mainly in the Gospel of MATTHEW, where Jesus presents Himself as King in His forgiving Love.

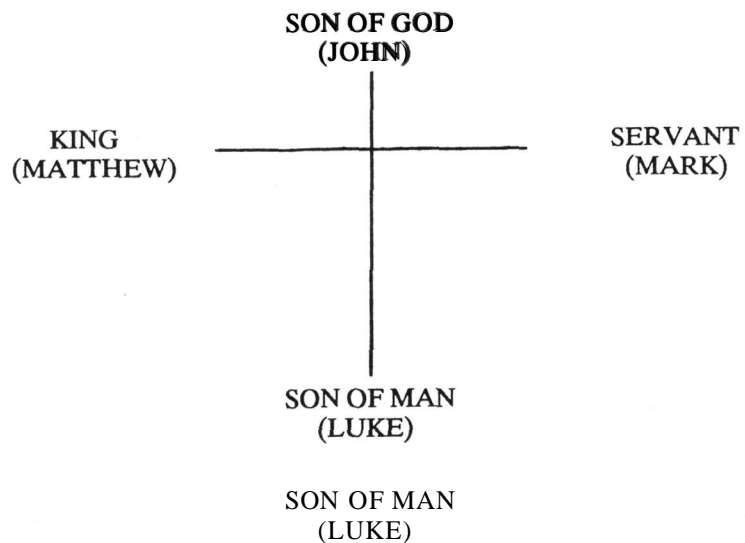
Note: A king is always the opposite of a servant.

Scarlet: refers to the blood of human suffering. It becomes clear in the Gospel of LUKE, where Jesus is presented as the Son of Man. In other words: the pure human aspect of His being appears.

Fine-Twined Linen (white): refers to Divine Justice and this brings us to the Gospel of JOHN, where Jesus is presented to us in His righteousness as the Son of God.

Note: The Son of God is in contrast to the Son of Man.

These four expositions in the four Gospels are complementary to each other. This is clearly demonstrated to us in the picture below.



So the ministry of Jesus on earth was a picture of the cross through the Holy Spirit.

Gold of the Ephod.

The way of the cross of Jesus could only be achieved by the Holy Spirit, as is expressed by the gold thread.

Ephod = the walk of the cross.

Goldthread = the Holy Spirit.

The Lord Jesus Christ was continuously full of the Holy Spirit.

The 2 stones with the 12 names of the sons of Israel.

They formed the points of support to which the ephod was fastened by the shoulder-pieces. Those 12 names in type refer to the 12 apostles He chose during His stay on earth.

They form the carrying-capacity (the points of support at the shoulder-pieces) of the church, that would be formed through His life.

The 2 stones were according to the engraver's work engraved like the engravings of a signet. So the names of the sons of Israel were engraved on the stones like the engraving of a seal.

This refers to the sealing in the Holy Spirit, Whom the 12 apostles and the other children of God received. Indeed! All God's children must be baptized in the Holy Spirit and this message must be preached everywhere.

The blue robe of the ephod - Exod. 28:31-35.

Blue = the colour of resurrection.

The blue robe = the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The blue robe and the ephod = the resurrection and death

Blue robe = resurrection.

Ephod = death on the cross.

Pomegranates.

These were found at the hem of the blue robe, with a golden bell between each 2 pomegranates.

The pomegranates represent the church. For the church is formed by the power of His resurrection, which is poured out from above.

The early church was formed on the first day of Pentecost.

What does the pomegranate look like? Exod. 28:33.

It has the following colours: blue, purple, scarlet, the same colours as the ephod. In these colours we see God's command to the church to walk exactly like their Lord and Master.

The inside of the real pomegranates is divided into compartments and in these compartments pink berries are found.

This is the image of God's children. All have different activities and offices, but are united by the red colour of God's Love. (In reality the opposite may also be seen: there are divisions because of quarrels, discords, jealousies, etc.).

Our prayer should be: "Oh God, give us that unity, not by power or by might, but by Thy Holy Spirit only."

Everything done in one's own strength to achieve this unity results in great schisms. Schisms are caused by pride, self-righteousness and egoism and these things cannot be resolved by systems or by anything else.

It can be done only through the Holy Spirit.

What we need is to ask God a deep conviction of sin and a look at our own sinful existence. Then we shall not judge others.

The golden bells.

Between two pomegranates there was a golden bell. What does this mean?

A golden bell is an object with a sound: when the high priest was in the sanctuary, the bells gave a lovely, clear sound.

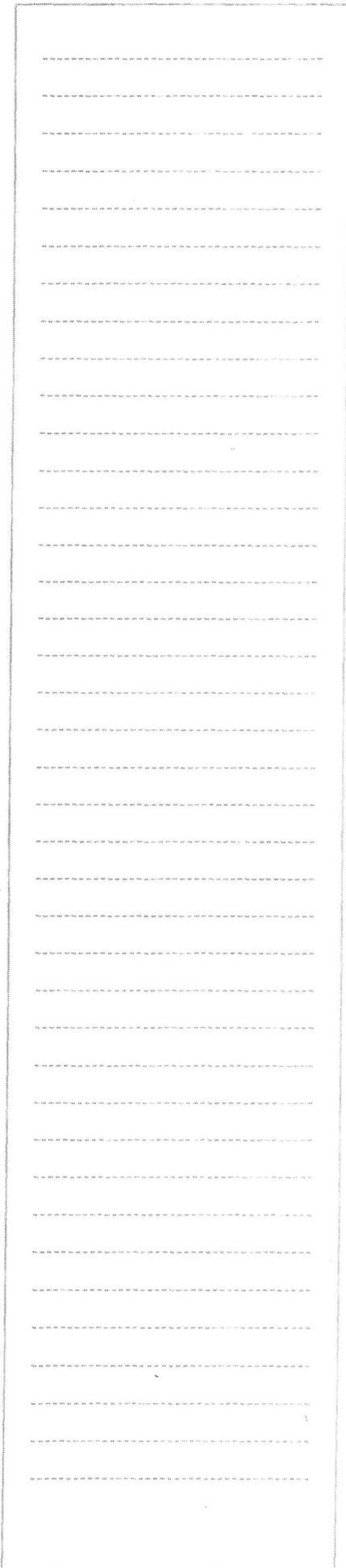
Gold refers to the Heavenly riches, the Holy Spirit. If the Holy Spirit becomes active in the church (and Jesus is truly present in the church) we hear the lovely sound of love and worship, which culminates in speaking in tongues.

1 Cor.14:2-3 "For one who speaks in tongues, speaks to God (not to man) and edifies himself." To pray is good - to worship is more delightful; for the soul is lifted up in exalted worship because of God's grace. Worship is the incense of the altar that fills the holy place with a sweet scent.

The embroidered white coat of fine twined linen - Exod.28:39.

This was the third garment after the blue robe and the ephod. We already noticed that the ephod refers to the walk of the cross. And the blue robe of the ephod refers to resurrection.

Therefore it is not difficult to conclude that the embroidered white coat points to Jesus's ascension.



For these three facts characterize Jesus's life.
DEATH - RESURRECTION - ASCENSION.

We see Jesus ascending to heaven from Mount Galilee.
The Bible does not mention that He ascended in His shining garments of splendour although we may see this, if we study the type in Leviticus 16:2-4.

This chapter describes the Israelitic high priest:

- entering the holy of holies within the veil on the great day of atonement,
- not dressed in his complete high priestly garments, but only
- in the white coat.

One wonders why the high priest enters the holy of holies not in full garment but only in the white coat?

The answer is found in the spiritual background, namely that the white coat of the high priest is an image of the GLORIFICATION OF CHRIST IN HIS ASCENSION because:

- the walk of the cross is past (the ephod has been laid down);
- the resurrection took place 40 days ago (the blue robe of the ephod also has been laid down);
- only the ascension remains, as signified by the high priest going within the veil which in turn signifies Christ's entrance into eternal glory.

All this is typified by this white coat which the high priest wore when he entered the holy of holies.

The eyelets.

The eyelets embroidered on the white coat show us that the Lord in Heaven always looks at His children. This is through the Holy Spirit. He has sent the Holy Spirit as His Divine Substitute to dwell among us, and therefore He sees with the eyes of the Holy Spirit.

Zech3:9 The stone with 7 eyes is the type of Christ, full of the Holy Spirit.

The curious girdle - Exod.28:8.

This girdle was placed on the ephod and it had the same colours as the ephod. It kept the 3 garments together, namely: the ephod, the blue robe, the white coat.

These garments which had the same colours as the ephod (gold, blue, purple, scarlet and fine-twined linen) speak of the three stages of the life of Jesus Christ in His incarnation, namely DEATH, RESURRECTION AND GLORIFICATION.

These 3 facts are like 3 garments, like 3 seals, characterising the life of Christ. They unmistakably prove the revelation that Jesus Christ is the Son of the Living God.

These 3 facts must characterise every disciple of the Lord Jesus also.

His identification with Christ in His Death is in conversion; with His Resurrection by water baptism and the filling with the Holy Spirit and with His Glorification in the rapture at His second coming.

These are the 3 events, the Church of Christ experiences EASTER, PENTECOST AND RAPTURE.

Beforehand at the feasts of the Israelites, there also were 3 events which were called to remembrance PASSOVER, PENTECOST AND FEAST OF TABERNACLES. Truly these feasts are like the three garments which were bound together by the curious girdle of His Incarnation.

The mitre with the golden plate - Exod.28:36-38.

On this golden plate which was put on the forehead, words were engraved in Hebrew HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

In Rev.7:3; Rev.14:1 and Rev.22-4 it is stated that on the foreheads of God's children the Name of the Father is written. Read also Rev.3:12.

The words "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" engraved on the golden plate, are connected to the exalted Name of THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

All things must be done in His Name only, for example:
To pray in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, John 16:23,24,26.
To eat, drink or do something else in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Col3:17.
To cast out sickness in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, **Col3:17**.
To resist the devil and the demons in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Col3:17.

If we are baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ and bury our old life, and flee the final stain of sin, we will receive the Holy Spirit as a seal of Christ (Eph.1:13,14) ; (cp the engraving).
How wonderful it is to be a name-bearer of that one and only glorious Name; Lord Jesus Christ. How wonderful it is when our hearts and minds are filled with that Name, day and night, and that we may call upon that Name in worship, and in everything we do. Indeed, the Holiness of the Lord will then be found in us. For it is this Name which bears the iniquity of God's children.

The breast-plate of judgment - Exod-28:15-30.
We will discuss this garment now as one of the last objects.
Although the eyes see this garment first, the treatment has been placed somewhat behind, because of its special place.
It was a foursquare breast-plate on which 12 settings of stones were set.
The length and the breadth of the breast-plate was one span.
A span is the distance from the tip of the little finger to the thumb when the hand is spread as far as possible.

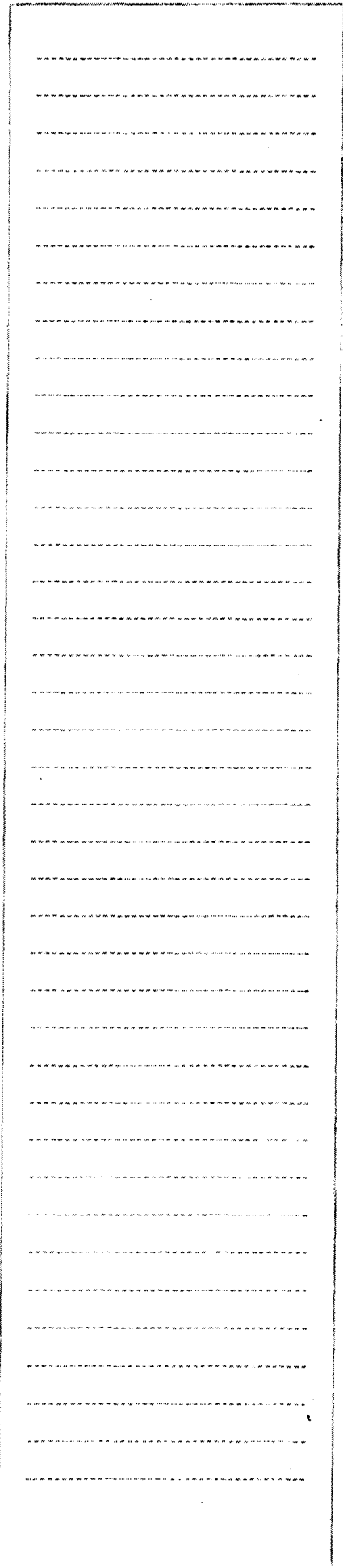
What does this mean in spiritual application?
God is the Creator of the human body and He has created everything by wisdom and knowledge. God has given His measurements to the human body. These measurements do not only have their material values but also their spiritual values. Because man is not only a physical but above all a spiritual being. Our body is about 7 times a span measured upright from the neck to the feet. Our head and body symbolize: Christ is the Head (**Col.1:18,24**) and the Church is the body.
The body consists of those who are redeemed by the Blood of Christ (the Lamb of God) as symbolized by the sacrificial animals from the fall of Adam and Eve until the Kingdom age. A total period of approx. 7000 years.

We notice that the New Jerusalem is a foursquare city - Rev.21:10,16 - the Church of the Lord is gathered. This New Jerusalem will descend from Heaven to the new earth.
The foursquare breast-plate typifies the New Jerusalem, the foursquare city remaining with the Lord in Heaven for a thousand years.
These 1000 years = one span.
The body = 7 spans.

The time set for the preparation of body of the Lord, the church, measures a period of 7000 years.
So the foursquare city (the breast-plate) measuring one span, stands for 1000 years.
During these 1000 years God keeps this New Jerusalem close to His heart and after this period, the Holy Jerusalem will descend from Heaven to the new earth - Rev.21:2,9,10.
God's aim is to bring the bride of Christ, the church that will remain **till** the end of times, unto this New Jerusalem.

A second contemplation.
The foursquare breast-plate, the ephod and the curious girdle.

All these objects have the same colours: gold, sky-blue, purple, scarlet and fine-twined linen.
The ephod (= Jesus's life) has the same colours as the foursquare breast-plate.
The New Jerusalem is the bride - **Rev.21:2,9,11**.
We conclude from this that the bride will some day have the perfect spiritual likeness to her Heavenly Bridegroom.



The 12 stones on the breast-plate.

The 12 stones are related to the names of the sons of Israel. The high priest bore 2 stones upon his shoulders in ouches which were connected with the ephod. On these 2 stones 12 names were engraved.

These names typify the first 12 apostles who were chosen during Christ's earthly life (the early rain).

The 12 stones upon the breast-plate with the 12 names of the sons of Israel refer to the last 12 apostles to be chosen in the period of the latter rain.

These apostles will lead the "last church", namely the church of Christ that will be caught up in glory.

The first 12 and last 12 apostles refer to the 24 elders in Heaven as seen by John in Rev.4:4.

The Urim and the Thummim.

In Exod.28:30 we read that the Urim and the Thummim were set in the breast-plate. In the Bible we do not find any explanation for the Urim and the Thummim. Many suppositions have been made but we shall restrict ourselves to the meaning of the names: Urim refers to LIGHT (Revelation); Thummim signifies PERFECTION (Judgment).

We do not claim that the Urim and the Thummim are stones, or a lamp and a stone, or anything else. But let us look into its spiritual background in order to get an exact meaning of the names.

In the Bible it is written that 'God is Light' -1 John 1:5 - and that the work of perfection in Christ is executed by the Holy Spirit. In Rom.15:16 and 1 Cor.6:11 we read that we are sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Our perfection is truly executed by the Holy Spirit. A beautiful symbol to this truth is demonstrated by the breast-plate which was close to the heart of the high priest, containing the Urim and the Thummim. This is a type of the New Jerusalem (the bride of Christ), close to the heart of Jesus Christ, together with God the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Herewith, we have discussed the spiritual significance of the garments of the high priest.

The Lord Jesus laid down His garments when He hung on the cross, John 19:23,24. Afterwards, these garments were torn and lots were cast for it.

We first receive spiritual clothing at the cross. Oh, what Love which comes only from God! He laid down His garments in order to clothe us. That everyone will be clothed with His beautiful garments.

The priestly Garments - Exod.28:40-43.

The priestly garments consisted of a coat, a girdle, a bonnet.

Their colours were not mentioned but they served as garments of glory.

The linen breeches also formed a part of the priestly garments.

The spiritual meaning of the coat of the priests.

In Exod.28:40 it is not stated in which colours the coat had to be worn. Some take the coat of white linen and some take the coat with the colours of the Ephod. Anyway, the garments were garments of glory.

We have to put on the spiritual garments because we are called to be priests, 1 Peter 2:9; Rev.5:9-10. These white garments, with which Jesus was clothed on the Mountain of Glory, Matthew 17:1-13, shall someday be the garments of the bride of Christ, Rev.12:1.

We notice that the high priest as well as the priests were not allowed to wear these garments on their naked body (flesh) but linen breeches were first put on to cover their nakedness.

The spiritual garments will be given to us if we stop walking in the desires of the flesh.

With this we close this magnificent chapter of the Divine garments. May each child of God wear these garments daily and walk in these garments before the face of God.

May every child of God put on these garments daily, as a part of their new nature to walk in the face of God. If we have put off these garments for any reason, may God then give us the awareness of nakedness, like Adam and Eve who became aware of their own nakedness.

Special advice from the Word of God concerning the garments and ornaments.

Deuteronomy 22:5 No equality of the two sexes. This equality is an abomination unto the Lord.

Ecclesiastes 9:8 Obligation to be clean and care **for** clothing.

Matthew 6:28,30-34 Unnecessary anxiety (to be too busy) about clothes is forbidden by God.

1 Timothy 2:9-10 Always practise modesty and purity in clothing and ornaments. Clothing of the priest speaks **of** a holy ministry. His conduct is his outward ministry.

1 Peter 3:1-5 It concerns the imperishable ornaments of the (hidden) inner man (as God wants to see it). A covering of holiness (hope). Chaste, pure and honourable!

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CHAPTER 16.
THE CONSECRATION
OF THE PRIESTS

Exodus 29

Read: Exodus 29:1-35.

Introduction - Exod.29:1-9.

The consecration of priests is a wonderful part of the Tabernacle study. Showing us the way the priests were sanctified to minister in the priest's office. Our conduct (our spiritual garments) and our consecration must be after the example of the Lord Jesus Christ, our High Priest.

The consecration.

In the Old Testament sacrifices were needed for this consecration, namely: one bullock, two rams without blemish, unleavened bread, unleavened cakes tempered with oil, unleavened wafers anointed with oil, read Exodus 29:1-3. If we take a further look at these sacrifices we see clearly what the requirements were for the consecration of priests.

In these sacrifices we notice a threefold animal-sacrifice and meal-offering that typify the threefold sin- and meal-offering of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Threefold animal-sacrifice - threefold sin-offering
Threefold meal-offering - threefold meal-offering

A threefold offering
of our Lord Jesus
Christ; the Godhead.

The animal-sacrifice speaks of the remission of sins and guilt;
the meal-offering speaks of fellowship (unity) with Christ.

Regarding the offerings we shall first explain some actions which the high priest and the priests had to go through in connection with their purification and sanctification.

Exod.29:4 - They had to be cleansed with water before they could enter the sanctuary (the holy place). This reminds us of water baptism. Each child of God should be baptized before serving in Gods sanctuary. A complete remission of sin - Rom.6:1-4. This is the absolute demand of God if you want to dedicate yourself to Him.

Exod.29:5-9 - It is described here that the HIGH PRIEST had to be ANOINTED IN HIS HOLY GARMENTS, but the PRIESTS HAD TO PUT ON THEIR COATS and had to appear with GIRDLE and MITRE, in their official vestures. However, here it is not mentioned whether the priests were anointed with oil or not.

Verse 21 points out that the garments of the high priest and the priests had to be sprinkled with blood and oil.

What does this refer to? This refers to the ANOINTING WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT of our High Priest: Our Lord Jesus Christ - Isaiah 61:1; Luke 4:18.

The garments of the priests represent the full justification that God's children receive through the Lord Jesus Christ. This spiritual garment must be worn by God's children before any service in the sanctuary will be done.

Verse 9b states that the hands of the high priest and the priests HAD TO BE FILLED. Hands refer to spiritual instruments, through which God's power is transmitted. They are to be used for:

1. Raising (of holy hands) to worship -1 Tim.2:8.
2. Laying on of hands for the impartation of the gift of God - Mark 6:5; Luke 4:40; Acts 9:12; Acts 19:6; 1 Tim.5:22.
3. Filled hands as a holy giving to God. 2 Cor.9:5-8, Luke 6:36-38.

The hands should be filled with the offering of God. In other words, the full power of God flows through the hands if we worship God in complete surrender.

How little God's children are aware of the holy working of the parts of their body. The body is a Temple of God and of the Holy Spirit!

What a glory is revealed when God's child worships Him in full devotion with hands raised to Heaven or if one, with a heart that is moved with compassion and full of devotion, lays his hands upon a believer who seeks healing of the

body or the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Example of hands giving to God: The anointing by Mary of Bethany.

The offerings.

Now we will discuss the offerings in which we find the demands for our dedication.

The bullock (a young bull) - Exod.29:10-14.

The description.

A bullock had to be brought before the Tabernacle of the congregation. Then the high priest and the priests would lay their hands upon the head of the bullock. After this, the bullock was slaughtered before the face of God and with a finger the blood of the bullock had to be spread upon the horns of the altar of burnt-offering.

Furthermore, all the blood had to be poured out beside the bottom of the altar. After that, the following procedures were observed:

the fat that covered the inwards, the caul that was above the liver, the two kidneys and the fat of the two kidneys, had to be burnt on the altar.

The flesh, the skin, and the dung had to be burnt outside the camp as a sin-offering.

The offering of the entire bullock refers to the PROPITIATION of sin.

The spiritual application: before we consecrate our lives to God, the following things must be dealt with:

- The sin-problem. The sin problem in our life must be cleared definitely. There is an unbridgeable gap between the sinner and His Creator. God provided the only way. through the blood-offering of sacrificial animals, which point to the 'once and for all' sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ - **Hebr.9:11-14**. So the bullock is a type of our Lord Jesus Christ in His atonement for the sins of the world. Laying of hands upon the head of the bullock signifies a COMPLETE AND CONTINUOUS contact with the sacrifice - 2 **Peter 1:8-9**.
- It is not only the sin-problem that must be cleared in our lives before we can speak of true consecration, but even more is required. We must take upon us the responsibility to pray for the sinners and go to the Throne of God, and plead for their redemption. If our hearts have no compassion with the sinner we can never speak of being dedicated to the Lord Jesus.

In the bullock we see not only the life of Jesus Christ upon the altar, but in Jesus we also see our own lives on the altar.

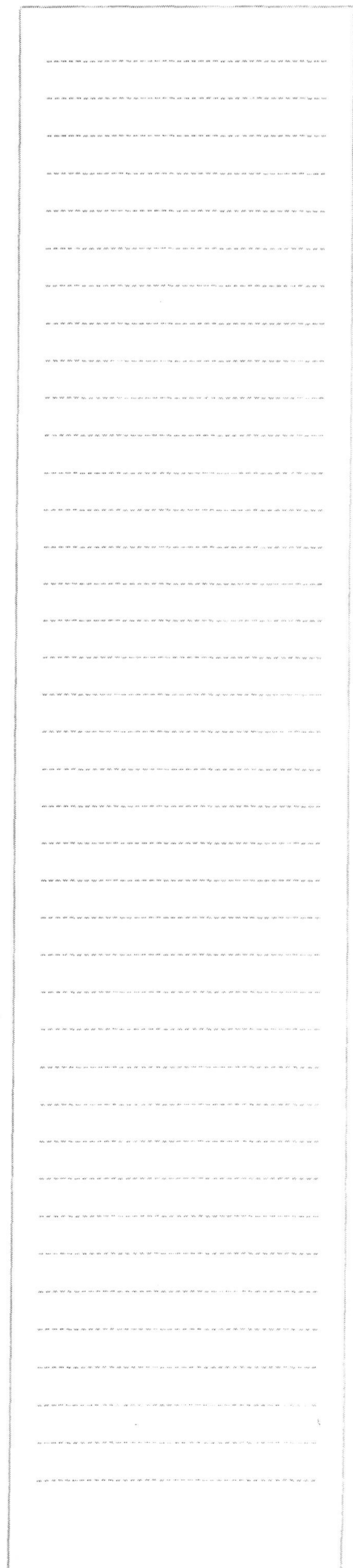
The fat of the inwards, the caul that was above the liver, the two kidneys and the fat of the kidneys,	} Had to be burnt upon the altar.	} Meaning the inner suffering of our Lord Jesus Christ because of the sins of the world.
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The flesh, the skin, and the dung,	} Had to be burnt outside the camp	} Meaning the <u>public suffering</u> of our Lord Jesus Christ because of the sins of the world which took place outside Jerusalem (= the camp).
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If Jesus calls us to follow Him, He leads us to the cross of Calvary, outside the camp. We too must bear the inner and public shame by following the cross - **Hebr.13:13**.

The blood upon the horns of the brazen aaltar of burnt-offering refers to redemption of guilt for every sinner. Every man slayer (unintentionally) might escape from punishment at the horns of the altar.

These horns tell us about our justification through the work that is fulfilled at Calvary. For a thorough consecration of our lives we need to focus on our



justification, that our hearts will be moved to tell sinners about the finished work of Calvary. How about you, beloved brethren and sisters? Are your sins covered by the Blood? Are there no conscious sins in your heart? Do you truly prefer light above darkness? Or is there something in your heart leading you to sin, and do you feel the squeezing ties of it? You can be released from this burden right now. What is it that you need to do? Kneel down at the cross. Be aware of your burden, and confess it unto God. You will receive forgiveness. Accept Jesus as your Redeemer and Saviour and then you will receive the JUSTIFICATION IN CHRIST. Oh, the grace of God is so great!

Now we will discuss: the first ram - Exod.29:15-18.
 The procedure: the high priest and the priests would lay their hands upon the head of the ram and then the ram would be slain.
 The blood was sprinkled round about upon the altar.
 After that the ram was cut into pieces. After washing the inwards and the legs, they would put these unto the parts of the ram and unto the head of the ram. After that, the whole ram was burnt upon the altar as a burnt-offering or as an offering made by fire unto the Lord.

Looking at the bullock our attention was upon the aspect of propitiation of sin. Looking at the offering of the first ram, we see the aspect of COMPLETE SURRENDER.

Verse 18 As a burnt-offering and an offering made by fire as a sweet savour unto the Lord. This is the surrender the Lord desires, completely consumed as in a burnt-offering. In this way Jesus sprinkled His blood of life. He was wounded and beaten and was, as it were, cut into pieces but He accepted every blow. Thus, God's child who is consecrated to this service will be prepared to accept every blow willingly.
 The hands laid upon the head of the ram speak of full identification (communion) with the offering. Thus, every child of God serving Christ, has to be in close contact with the Christ of the Cross.
 Sin- and burnt-offering mean that there cannot be a complete surrender (burnt-offering) without a thorough deliverance from sin (sin-offering). That's why first the sin-offering had to be done and after that the burnt-offering had to be offered.
 The washing of the inwards and the legs refer to the purification of the inner and outward life, after which complete surrender can take place.
 May everyone who is dedicated to God, long for sanctification.

The second ram - Exod.29:19-35.
 In this offering we see consecration as demanded by God.
 If we consider the spiritual background of the procedure concerning this second ram, we receive a clear insight of true SERVICE TO THE LORD.
 The sequence will be:
 ATONEMENT, SURRENDER AND CONSECRATION.

Exod.29:19-20 Once again, the high priest and the priests laid their hands upon the head of the ram. After that, the ram was slain.
 They took the ram's blood and with this blood they would cover the right ear, the thumb and the great toe, and then they would sprinkle it upon the altar.

The spiritual meaning.
 Laying hands upon speaks of the continuous identification of the priests with the sacrificial animal. We, who are consecrated unto Him, must also be in continuous contact with Him.

The ear - THOUGHTS The thumb - our ACTIONS The toe - our CONDUCT	}	Thoughts, actions, conduct must be under the blood of Christ: our life must be crucified with Him.
--	---	--

This is God's irrecoverable demand on His children. Our whole life belongs to Him for we are purchased by the Blood that was shed on Calvary.

Exod.29:21 With the blood of the altar and the anointing oil, the garments of the high priest and the priests were sprinkled.

Thus, our spiritual garment (our character) must be sprinkled with the atoning BLOOD and the OINTMENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

A ministry, in which the character is not cleansed thoroughly by the Blood of Christ and which is not anointed with the Holy Spirit, is likely to be a disgrace than unto glory of His Name.

The wave-offering - Exod.29:22-24.

The following pieces were taken from the ram: the fat, the rump, the fat that covered the inwards, the caul above the liver and the two kidneys and the fat that was upon them, and the right shoulder.

Also were added: one loaf of bread, one cake of boiled bread and one wafer. All of these were put in the hands of the high priest and priests to wave them for a WAVE-OFFERING before the Lord.

In the preceding pages we pointed out that our character (garment) has to be under the Blood and the Anointment. Here the inwards and the right shoulder were demanded for a wave-offering. In other words: we have to be endowed with the power of God. It is striking to hear that when believers are under God's power, the inwards and shoulders are heavily shaken. We experience that many times and really, God is still the SAME.

What we need for a good dedication is not only a character washed in the Blood and under the Anointing, but also endowed with POWER from Above.

Acts 2:13,15 being drunk of the Holy Spirit:

Eph. 5:18 our wave-offering.

The offering made by fire - Exod.29:25.

The above mentioned wave-offering was burnt on the altar of burnt-offering as a sweet savour unto the Lord. This was the offering made by FIRE.

With the first ram we have already noticed that this offering should be consumed as a burnt-offering and this refers to 'our surrender'.

After this in serving, we have to surrender, OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

God knows that it is necessary for us to come to surrender over and over-again because there are still so many things and elements in our lives that need to be surrendered. A CONTINUOUS SURRENDER in our consecration is the essence of this lesson just presented.

How about us, brethren and sisters?

God cannot fully bless us unless we offer unto Him the continuous surrender of our lives. God would harm our souls if He blessed us constantly without any surrender from our side.

The heave- and peace-offerings - Exod.29:26-28.

Needed for these offerings were the breast of the ram and the thigh of the ram which were first offered as a wave-offering and after that as a heave- and peace-offering.

In a spiritual sense we also have to give our heave- and peace-offerings.

In other words: we have to offer our gratitude at the feet of our Lord Jesus Christ and praise Him with lifting up of hands.

Our entire consecration has to be effected by gratitude to Christ. It has to come forth out of the abundance and urge of a grateful heart, and not out of pressure, habit or burden. This gratitude must be self-evident.

The holy garments of Aaron - Exod.29:29-30.

The holy garments of Aaron, the high priest, should be his sons' after him and in those garments they would be anointed. The son of Aaron who became high priest, had to wear these garments for 7 days. This means that in the course of time our CHARACTER must become SIMILAR TO THE CHARACTER OF OUR HIGH PRIEST, our Lord Jesus Christ.

7 (seven) = the number of perfection.

7 days = on time of perfection.

Wonderful grace of God. The same character-garments of the Saviour will one day be worn by the church of Christ, the BRIDE, because of her consecration to Christ.

The subsistence of the high priest and the priests - Exod.29:31-35.

The remainder of the second ram had to be boiled and used together with the bread in the basket as food for Aaron and his sons.

They ate of the things which were used for the atonement. A stranger was not allowed to eat of the ram and the bread, and what was left over, had to be burnt.

This is the precious promise to the servants of God for their subsistence.

Paul said "They which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel", **1 Cor.9:14.**

This is a most honest case before the face of God.

If our lives are truly cleansed, surrendered and dedicated to God, God will prove that He is able to feed His children out of His Word.

Review.

We will now first review the subject discussed.

Introduction: Exod.29:1-9 - Our entire justification expressed in water baptism and in our relation to Christ.

Exod.29:10-14 - The bullock - reconciled through the sacrifice of Christ we are obliged to take the sins and afflictions of the world and place them before God's Throne.

Exod.29:15-18 - The first ram - our complete surrender: this only happens after the above mentioned reconciliation has taken place in our life.

Exod.29:19-20 - The second ram - the consecration of our thoughts, actions and conduct - this comes after the surrender.

Exod.29:21 - Our character cleansed by the Blood and anointed with the Holy Spirit in behalf of our consecration.

Exod.29:22-24 - We have to be endued with Pentecostal-power from above.

Exod.29:25 - As mentioned before, after our first dedication a continuous surrender is needed.

Exod.29:26-28 - Our deepest gratitude through the Power of the Holy Spirit.

Exod.29:29-30 - The perfection of the character by a daily consecration.

Exod.29:31-35 - God's provision for those whose lives are completely dedicated to Him.

Child of God, meditate on this chain of consecration that goes from GLORY to GLORY.

Truly, to be an ambassador for Christ and to minister reconciliation, is real happiness - **2 Cor.5:18-20.**

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At the atonement of the altar we see:

- Christ as a bullock in His sin-offering;
- Christ in the Lamb as a burnt-offering;
- Christ in the flour and oil as a meal-offering;
- Christ in the wine as a drink-offering.

These daily sacrifices teach us always to remember:

1. Our remission of sin, redemption, (the sin-problem) that was achieved by the atonement of Christ as a sin-offering.
2. Our reconciliation (burnt-offering).
3. Our food through His Word (meal-offering).
4. Our filling with the Holy Spirit (drink-offering).

The burnt-, meal-, and drink-offering have to continue without end. For this is the atmosphere of God having communion with His children. His Voice (His Will) teaches us to understand whenever He speaks unto us.

Oh, what a Grace! Nowhere else than at the cross of Calvary God wants to meet the 'fallen' man, because it was there that His only begotten Son was sacrificed for us as a sin-offering, a burnt-offering, a meal-offering and a drink-offering.

The cross definitely testifies of the Blood of the Lamb. He has redeemed our debts and sins. The sinner will experience this personally when he comes to the cross with all his sins and debts and will be accepted by God to become His child. God will dwell in him - 2 Cor.6:14-18.

All is dissolved in worship of the Blood of the Lamb.

Additional to the Tabernacle Study of Rev. F.G.van Gessel.

Next to the study book of the Tabernacle there are three pages with extra drawings of some of the Tabernacle objects. As far as the artistic view of these drawings we like to bring to your attention that not all artists draw the same details. Our goal though, is not a artistic presentation of the tabernacle, but a spiritual presentation and application of the truth speaking from it.

Figure 1. The Ark of the Covenant - page.4.

1. Two staves of shittimwood overlaid with gold.
2. Four golden rings.
3. The golden crown.
4. Sprinkling of blood in front of the Ark (7x).
5. Sprinkling of blood on top of the Ark (7x).
6. The golden pot with manna.
7. The rod of Aaron.
8. The two tablets of stone.
9. Two cherubim.
10. Shekina Glory.

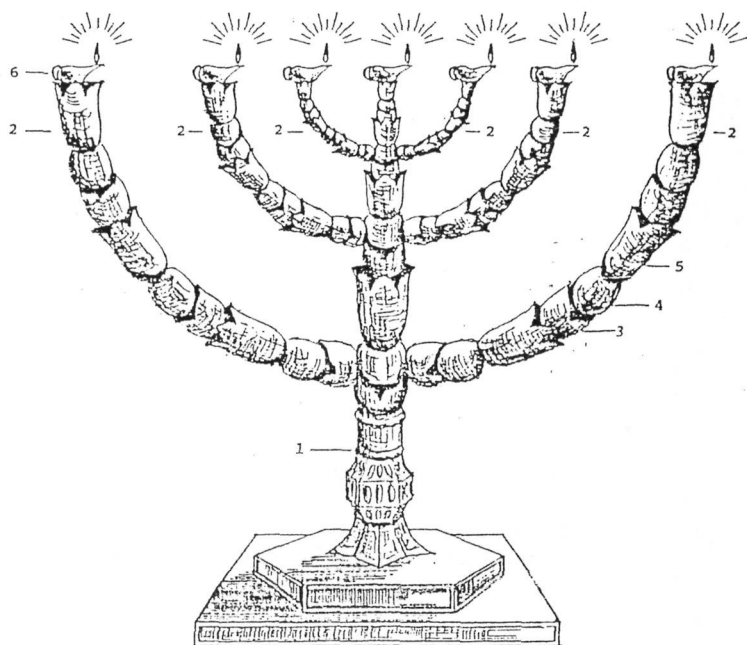
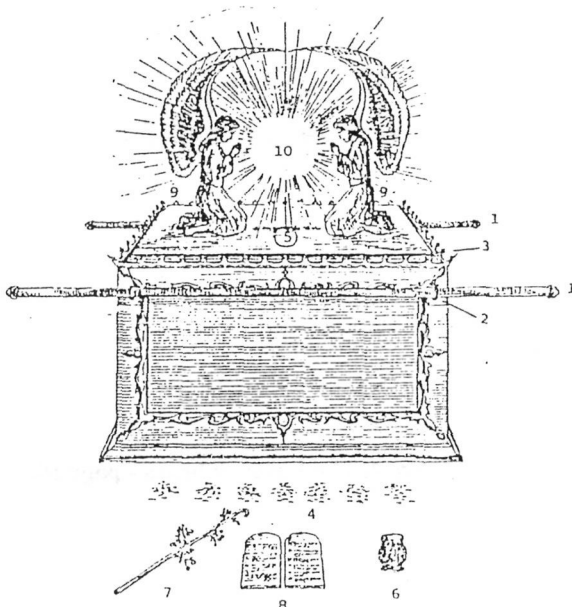


Figure 2, The Golden Candlestick - page 10.

1. The middle shaft.
2. Six branches from the middle shaft.
3. Bowl.
4. Knob.
5. Flower.
6. Seven lamps.



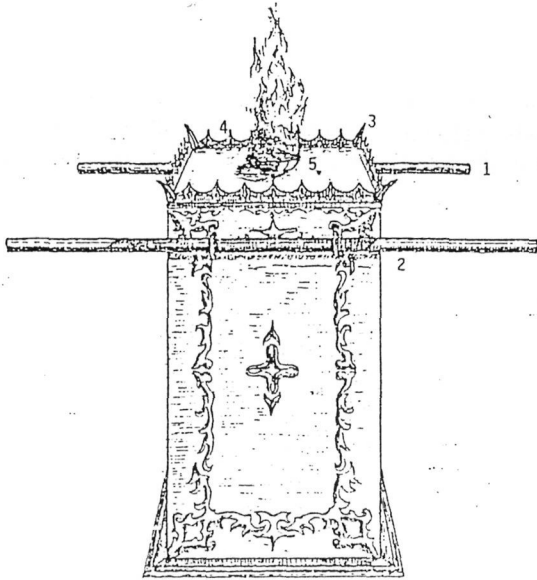


Figure 3. The Golden Altar of Incense page 6.

1. Two staves of shittimwood overlaid with gold.
2. Four golden rings.
3. Four horns overlaid with gold.
4. Golden crown.
5. Golden censer **with** incense.

Figure 4. The Laver of brass - page 18.

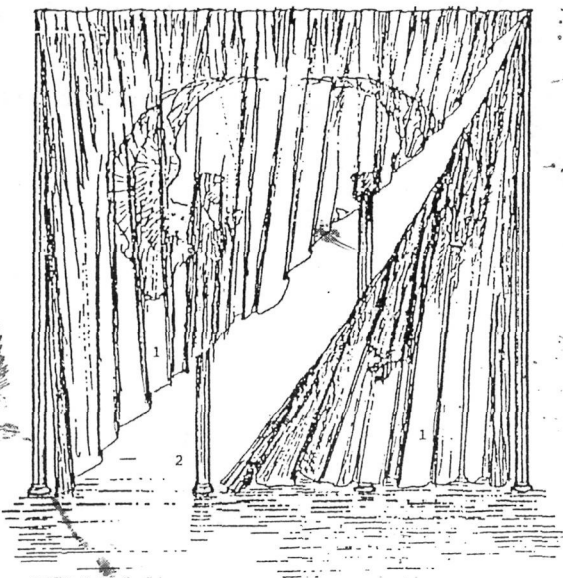
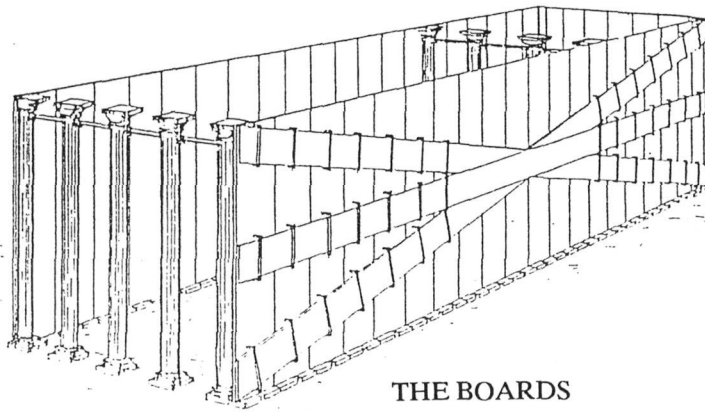


Figure 5. The veil - page 28.

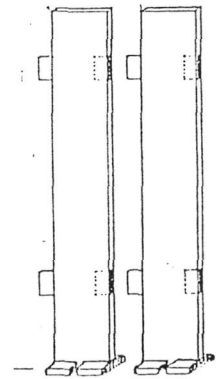
1. The veil.
2. Four pillars of shittimwood overlaid with gold.

Figure 6. The boards and bars - page 40.

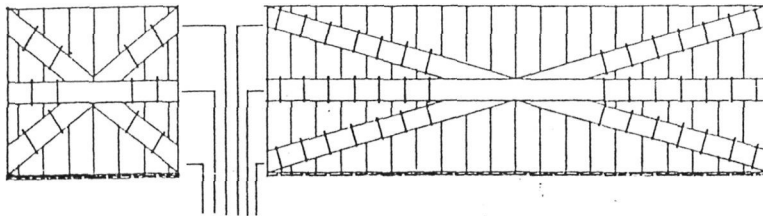
The boards were made of shittimwood, overlaid with gold, standing on two sockets of silver each.



THE BOARDS



TWO SOCKETS OF SILVER



THE BARS

Figure 7. The garments of the high priest - page 43.

1. The ephod.
2. The blue robe.
3. The white coat.
4. The curious girdle.
5. The bonnet.
6. The foursquare breastplate of righteousness.



The doctrine concerning the Bride of Christ

The 27 books of the New Testament
in the order of Tabernacle

Study-outline

Rev.F.G.van Gessel

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The Teaching concerning the Bride by late Rev. F.G.van Gessel.

Preface: Is it biblical to speak of the Bride?

The Bible uses terms such as **Bridegroom - Marriage Supper - the Bride's raiment - and the Bride**, to present this message.

The Old Testament presents the Bride message in parables and types as found in the books of the prophets and in the Song of Solomon.

Who is the Bride of Christ ?

The Bible refers to the New Jerusalem as the Bride of Christ. It also mentions the **group that enters** the New Jerusalem, as well as the **group that does not**. Rev. 21:2 + 9 and Hebr. 12:22,23.

The primary mission of the Bride.

To testify of the Bridegroom and invite all to come **to the Bridegroom**. Acts **1** and Revelation 22.

Her first steps are.

Blood baptism - repentance;
Water baptism - by immersion in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ;
Spirit baptism - receiving the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

These are the three witnesses on earth -1 Joh.5:8.

Her further development will take place through continuing in:

- | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--------------------------------|
| <p>1. the doctrine of the apostles and the breaking of the bread
(Table of Shewbread)</p> | } | <p>which will lead to the permanence of the Word</p> | } | <p>Golden pot with manna</p> |
| <p>2. the fellowship in the brotherhood
(Golden Candlestick)</p> | } | <p>which will lead to the permanence of the Holy Spirit in gifts & spiritual fruit</p> | } | <p>Blossoming rod of Aaron</p> |
| <p>3. the prayer
(Golden Altar of Incense)</p> | } | <p>which will lead to the permanence of the Love of God the Father</p> | } | <p>Two tablets of stone</p> |

These are the three witnesses in heaven -1 Joh.5:7.

This all is written in Acts 2:42.

Moreover, it must be observed that the **Holy Communion**, when participated in the Spirit, will be a true seedbed for the spiritual gifts and fruit.
Read: **1 Cor. 11,12,13,14.**

How are gifts, ministries and works developed?

The spiritual gifts by the Holy Spirit -1 Cor.12:4.
The spiritual ministries by the Lord Jesus, the Son -1 Cor.12:5.
The spiritual works of love of the Father -1 Cor.12:6.

The spiritual gifts

The spiritual gifts are stimulated by the Holy Spirit in prayer and also in the Holy Communion. The Holy Spirit distributes the gifts as He pleases, because He knows our condition, our ability and our understanding.

These gifts are distributed in

- 1. **The Word of Wisdom**
 - 2. **The Word of Knowledge**
 - 3. **The discerning of the Spirit**
- } **Gifts of Revelation (life)**
(Table of Shewbread)

The Kingdom of God must be completely revealed. The invisible world must be presented to people in its glory also showing its dangers.

Further are the gifts of

- 4. **Faith**
 - 5. **Healing**
 - 6. **The works of power**
- } **Gifts of Power**
(Golden Candlestick)

Power is needed for the body in action and conduct, thus for the movement. The purpose is to present the great power and the beauty of God. The Body of Christ has to grow, be healthy and possess the wonderful power of resurrection.

Faith brings us to the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

Further, there are the gifts of

- 7. **Prophecy**
 - 8. **Tongues**
 - 9. **Interpretation of tongues**
- } **Gifts of Worship**
(Golden Altar of Incense)

These gifts are related to the **breathing** of the **Body of Christ**, that is **worship**. As breath proves that a body is alive, a body without breath proves that death has infiltrated.

It is evident that these gifts are stimulated by **intensive prayer** because it is through prayer that the Holy Spirit is poured out and the Holy Spirit distributes the gifts.

Though it is rather difficult to understand how these gifts are stimulated by the Holy Communion, yet this will happen if our eyes are open to the relationship between **1 Cor.11** and **1 Cor.12 and 13**.

The spiritual ministries

In Ephesians 4:8 we are given the relationship between gifts and ministries. When we are given the gifts of the Holy Spirit mainly to be used for the welfare of the Church, the Lord Jesus will make our ministries permanent through the gifts.

The necessity of this ministry is, the **ONENESS OF TEACHING**, to know our position in the Body of Christ, the Bride.

The ministries are fully mentioned in **1 Cor.12:28-30** and in **Ephesians 4:11** and they correspond with the spiritual gifts.

In proper correspondence we discover the following order.

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The first group:

- Apostles** = **Word** of Wisdom
- Teachers** = Word of Knowledge
- Pastors (leaders)** = Spiritual discernment

The second group:

- Helps** = Faith
- Evangelists** { **Healers** = Gifts of healing; and
- Power** = Gifts of working with power

The third group:

- Prophets** = Prophecy
- Tongues** = Diversities of tongues; and
- Interpretation of tongues** = Interpretation of tongues/ languages

These spiritual ministries, in particular that of the apostle and the teacher, exhort us that the teaching of the apostles should wholly be accepted by the Bride.

This apostle's doctrine in particular finds its fulfillment in the New Testament and is embodied in the Old Testament.

The teaching concerning the Bride.

The 27 books of the New Testament in the order of the Tabernacle.

The first 9 books of the New Testament refer to the theme of the court of the Tabernacle and deal with the subject of RESURRECTION of the Heavenly Bridegroom for his Bride.

These 9 books are:

- Matthew
- Mark
- Luke
- John
- Acts
- Romans
- I Corinthians
- II Corinthians
- Galatians

Each of these books contain messages in the light of the court. Referring to the theme of the court, we mean to identify the experiences from the beginning of Christian life: death - resurrection - ascension or glorification.

We will experience death, resurrection, and ascension in our lives, when we really surrender to the message of these 9 books.

All three of these experiences circle around one central event and that is the resurrection. For the life of a Christian is above all a life of resurrection. The old has past away and is buried in His death, and one is allowed to enter the Kingdom of God in the fulness of the glory of resurrection.

The first 9 books in detail:

- 1,2,3,4
The four gospels Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. - The Gate.
The gospels give us a complete report on the walk of our Lord and Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He walked on earth manifesting his qualities as King of Kings (Matthew), as Servant of man (Mark), as Son of man in glory through suffering (Luke) and as Son of God (John). All of these wonderful characteristics though, would not have had any lasting value if it were not because of the resurrection.
It is the resurrection of our Lord that gives value to these qualities. Christ is given to man in his resurrection power. And by that resurrection power of Christ we become kings, servants, perfect men, even sons of God!
- 5
The book of Acts. - The Holy Ointment.
In the book of acts we see how this life of resurrection was poured out upon the disciples, after our Lord ascended to heaven.
Then they received the promise of the Holy Spirit - Acts 2:33.
We see the apostles walk by the power of the Spirit of resurrection as victors over carnality, and in their lives we behold the qualities as of kings - servants - men - and sons of God.
In the chapters 1-12 of the book of Acts, we behold the church in her primary state of resurrection and power.
In the following chapters (13-28) we see this power of resurrection spread out over Europe and Asia, by the ministry of the greatest of the apostles, the apostle Paul, who testifies in and of the power of His resurrection.
This epistle closes with the experiences of storms and imprisonment that Paul went through. This is a prophetic shadow of the experiences that also the Bride of Christ will go through, carried though, by His power of resurrection, to find her way to the throne of God.

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● 6

The epistle to the Romans. - Burnt offering Altar.

In this epistle we again find the central theme of the resurrection, now related to justification. Paul speaks of the evil condition of mankind, gentiles as well as Jews. And he states that nobody can be justified by the works of the law (Jews) or by own merit (gentiles).

God sent his Son as a vicarious sacrifice, for us. He suffered although He was blameless and He rose in justification. His resurrection is our justification. He provides us with a new righteousness in His resurrection. This new life of resurrection is sealed in waterbaptism, and given unto us by the Spirit of Christ.

The Israelites do not accept this new righteousness through faith. That is why they are now rejected, but they will be made jealous by the gentiles.

In the closing chapters we see how this wonderful life of resurrection is reigning over the lives of men in all layers of society.

● 7

The first epistle to the Corinthians. - The Laver.

In the first 10 chapters we will see resurrection-life flow in a society that is in the grip of:

- worldly wisdom
- sexuality
- idolatry.

The apostle Paul illuminates the resurrection power of Christ as their counterparts in his expositions on:

- divine wisdom
- pure sexual relationships
- the proper attitude of the Christian towards the idols of the world.

In the last 6 chapters Paul shows the church the true power of resurrection, also he also teaches the proper order in the church, concerning the communion, the gifts, and the administrations. He closes in referring to that great resurrection that is to come!

● 8

The second epistle to the Corinthians. - The Laver.

This epistle truly leads the church in resurrection after Paul finished the painful corrections of the first epistle.

Paul refers to the odour of life (resurrection) for the children of God, and even states that the gospel for them that perish is a odour of death. He also speaks unto us that the Spirit of resurrection must have access to write on the table of our hearts. As long as we are on this earth we may carry that treasure in our vessel.

The entire epistle shows forth resurrection, by opposing e.g. lawlessness by righteousness, and sadness by joy, and poverty by generosity.

In the closing verses we see where resurrection power will lead to: unto Heavenly Glory!

● 9

The epistle to the Galatians. - The Door.

The apostle here identifies the causes that have lead the Galatians away from the true life of resurrection, even to return to a life after the law.

This epistle clearly is as a door. It shows where you are : inside or outside. You are outside if you merely follow after the law. You are on the inside of that blessed door of salvation, if you remain in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

The second group of 9 books of the New Testament refer to the theme of the holy place: BRIDAL FELLOWSHIP.

In these 9 epistles Paul leads us in the sanctuary of Christian experience. We are guided into the sweetest fellowship with our heavenly Bridegroom.

The 9 corresponding epistles are:

- Ephesians
- Philippians
- Colossians
- First Thessalonians
- Second Thessalonians
- First Timothy
- Second Timothy
- Titus
- Philemon

• 1

The epistle to the Ephesians. - Table of Shewbread.
This epistle brings Jew and Gentile in one church, in sweet fellowship with Christ. It leads us to the unity of the church, governed by the gifts of the Spirit and administrations, into unity of doctrine; in order to make us steadfast against all wind of doctrine.
Furthermore it leads us to the miracle of true fellowship, in the marriage of Christ and his Bride. Eph.5.
And even more it also leads us into a sweet fellowship in family life. Eph.6.
And we are provided with a complete spiritual armour. Eph.6.

• 2

The epistle to the Philippians - The Golden Candlestick.
A marvellous light is shown forth in fruitbearing. Based on suffering, light shines in the darkness.
We see three examples: Paul - Timothy - Ephafrodites.
The apostle shows the holy fellowship as the opposing force against the false fellowship that evil workers (he says: beware of dogs) have, in the flesh - whose God is their belly.
Paul concludes in referring to true joy and peace, as the fruit of true fellowship.

• 3.

The epistle to the Colossians - The Golden Altar of Incense.
Here we meet a new principal again that will draw us into the full fellowship in the sanctuary, namely the principal of supplication and intercession.
Paul intercedes in order to gain wisdom, spiritual understanding, power etc., as the fruit of that sweet fellowship with Christ.
This intercession is related to the glory of the Person and the ministry of Christ, and lead us into the mystery of His indwelling.
The apostle gives warning concerning philosophy, legalism, the service of angels, all sorts of commandments and teachings from man, and shows his preference for all the riches that are hidden in Christ.

• 4,5

The first and second epistle to the Thessalonians- The Garments of the High Priest and the priests.
Fellowship, a intimate communion with Christ is demanded, in our daily walk with Christ; it must be as a holy garment on us.
The apostle refers to: the cross-walk in the colours of the ephod, to the walk in resurrection in the type of the blue robe, to sanctification in the white coat, the children of God in the type of the breastplate who are positioned on the heart of Christ, drawn into glory.
In the second epistle Paul refers to the coming of Christ as a flame of fire (the Urim) and he gibes warning concerning the appearing of the

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anti-christ, who will be overruled (here we see the operation of the **Thummim**).

● **6,7,8**

First and second Timothy and Titus - Consecration of the priests.

We here see the epistles dealing with our consecration. We see the warning that we need to be in the proper fellowship.

First of all the church must be watchfull over the proper doctrine, a solid prayerlife, and must hold the offices in church of the pastor and deacons holy; in order to be able to watch over the house of God (= the church -1 Tim.3:15) in the proper manner.

Secondly we are taught how the true pastor ought to be.

And thirdly we are instructed how divers groups in the church must dedicate their lives unto **Christ**.

● **9**

The epistle to Philemon - Boards and bars.

Having fellowship with Christ we also bear responsibility towards our brothers and sisters. We see how Paul feels responsible for the life of Philemon and Onesimus. We see how he leads them both to the highest standard of fellowship with Christ.

The 9 last books of the New Testament, referring to the theme of the most holy place: **GLORIFICATION OF THE BRIDE**.

These 9 books lead us into the Holiest of All of the church era.

These books were not written for one church, maybe except the epistle to the Hebrew, but to the church as a whole.

All these books contain accounts of acme in the Most Holy Place, and together form the closing scene of the Bible.

We are here prepared for heaven; for the Bride above all is a body of heaven, because her Groom already is in heaven.

● **1**

The epistle to the Hebrews - The Veil.

It is written to them that already were well learned in Jewish religion, yes they even professed it before. In this epistle the apostle refers to the superiority of the New Covenant above the old Covenant, and demonstrates this truth by means of:

1. his exposition on the change on the High Priestly Office in melchizedek, Who came straight from heaven;
2. his exposition on the access to heaven, already foreshadowed by the Most Holy Place;
3. his exposition on the blood of Christ, that speaks of better things than the blood of animal sacrifice.

So the epistle the Hebrews refers directly to heaven.

● **2**

The epistle of James - The tabernacle covering/ faith.

This is an epistle full of joy of faith, covering as it were the Bride with a garment of faith, were we behold the joy in which the Bride walks, even though she is tested.

Every part of the body of the Bride will be clothed with this garment of faith, and the Bride will then show forth this garment in her works of faith

The apostle urges the Bride to be patient in the last days, for the Judge is coming; we need to wait for the blessings of the latter rain.

● **3,4**

The first and second epistle of Peter - The covering of goats hair/ hope/ sanctification.

This is the epistle of holiness. The Bride here is clothed with garments of holiness and works of holiness. This will cause the Bride to be radiant and bright even before she will enter into heaven.

The first epistle refers to the white garments of holiness, that needs to be found in all Christians. The second epistle shows forth the great promises of the Lord, and at the same time gives warning concerning all hindrances on the way of sanctification. This epistle shows forth the Bride in her beauty as a temple, in which we are fitted in as living stones. It closing in full assurance of the second coming of Christ.

•> 5,6,7

The epistles of John - The covering of ram's skins dyed red/ Love. These epistles work on the eventual garment, that will be as the glory of the sun, moon and stars, cp. Revelation 12:1 concerning the Bride of Christ.

It also speaks of the colour of love in the type of the covering of ram's skins dyed red, also related to the red colour (sardius) of the throne.

The first epistle speaks of the garment as of the sun; referring to red as the colour representing the love of God.

The second epistle is in the theme of the bride standing on the moon, referring to purity in doctrine.

The second epistle is written to an elect woman, that is based solidly in true love on pure doctrine.

The third epistle shows us the government of the church in the type of the 12 stars on the head of the woman of Revelation 12:1.

This epistle deals with the true and the false pastors and elders, so with leadership in the church.

Also here, **love** must be the foundation.

•< 8

The epistle of Jude - The covering of badger's skins/judgement.

This epistle refers to the theme of the badgerskin, that protects the Tabernacle from natural influence. The content of this epistle also protects the Bride from attacks from evil.

We see the love of God here demonstrates as a protective and keeping love; but also sharply pointing out every single corruption, that will be judged.

• 9

The revelation of John - The Ark of the Covenant/ **The** Shekina.

In this book we see the higher fellowship of Christ, the heavenly Bridegroom, and his blood — cleansed — church, the Bride.

A fellowship that leads us into the highest divine glory.

We perceive two things concerning the Bride.

1. How the Bride of Revelation 1 unto 12 is cleansed unto perfection; walking under an open heaven, guided by an open Bible, persecuted yet sealed for the last master work; overshadowed, protected, finally lead to her acme on earth, in the conceiving of the male child, where after she is taken into the wilderness.

2. How the Bride in spirit already is in heaven, while the judgements come over the earth, the anti-christ and the false prophet; where after she may enter into the wedding of the supper of the Lamb, where after she is set in the New Jerusalem.

So, the fellowship with her Bridegroom has brought her unto the highest glory.

What a wonderful acme of glory; and then we even know from the word of God, that Christ, after the Millennium, will give his Bride and Kingdom into the hands of the Father, that all may be one.

After this we read of the false church reaching its climax on earth; anti-christian government will reach its climax too in the unification of the false church. But the ruler ship of the anti-christ will be destroyed, in order to give ruler ship to the Kingdom of Christ.

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THE OLD TESTAMENT IN THE LIGHT OF THE TABERNACLE

Genesis		The Gate
Exodus		The Courtyard/ The Holy Ointment
Leviticus		The Burnt Offering Altar
Numbers		The Laver
Deuteronomy	}	* The Door of the Tabernacle
Joshua		
Judges		
Ruth		
I Samuel	}	The Golden Candlestick
II Samuel		The Table of Shewbread
I Kings		The Golden Altar of Incense
II Kings	}	• The Veil
I Chronicles		
II Chronicles		
Ezra	}	* The Consecration of the Priests
Nehemiah		
Esther		The Boards
Job		The Bars
Psalms		The Tabernacle Curtain
Proverbs		The Curtain of Goats hair
Ecclesiastes		The Covering of Badger skins
The Song of Solomon		The Covering of Rams skins dyed red
Isaiah		The Ark of the Covenant
Jeremiah		The sprinkling of blood in front of the Ark
Lamentations		The sprinkling of Blood on the Ark
Ezekiel		Shekina Glory
Daniel		Shekina (imitation)
Hosea	}	• The Most Holy Place
Joel		
Amos		
Obadiah		
Jonah		
Micah		
Nahum		
Habakkuk		
Zephaniah		
Haggai		
Zechariah		
Malachai		

THE NEW TESTAMENT IN THE LIGHT OF THE TABERNACLE

Matthew Marc Luke John	} >	The Gate		
Acts Romans 1 & 2 Corinthians Galatians	} >	The Holy Ointment The Burnt Offering Altar The Laver The Door of the Tabernacle		9 books of the Court Resurrection
Ephesians Philippians Colossians 1 & 2 Thessalonians	} >	The Table of Shewbread The Golden Candlestick The Golden Altar of Incense The Garments of the High Priest and the Priests		9 books of the Holy Place Communion
1 & 2 Timothy Titus Philemon	} >	The Consecration of the Priests The Boards and Bars		
Hebrews James Peter John Jude Revelation	} >	The Veil The Tabernacle Curtain The Curtain of Goats hair The Covering of Rams skins dyed red The Covering of Badger skins The Ark of the Covenant - Shekina		9 books of the Most Holy Place Glorification

THE BRIDE OF CHRIST

Clothed with the SUN, the MOON under her feet, having a crown of 12 STARS (Revelation 12: 1)
 (In her true CONSECRATION to her BRIDEGROOM)
 THE BIBLE/THE SCRIPTURES, THE ACTS OF LOVE, THE MINISTRIES, THE GIFTS, BAPTISM,
 WITNESSES IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH
 all compiled in accordance with the order of TABERNACLE

