

Date: July 14, 2024
Series: Exodus: Seeing God in the Journey
Title: **The Pursuit of God: Tabernacle / Temple of God**
Text: Exodus 26; 35-40; Heb. 8:5-8; 9

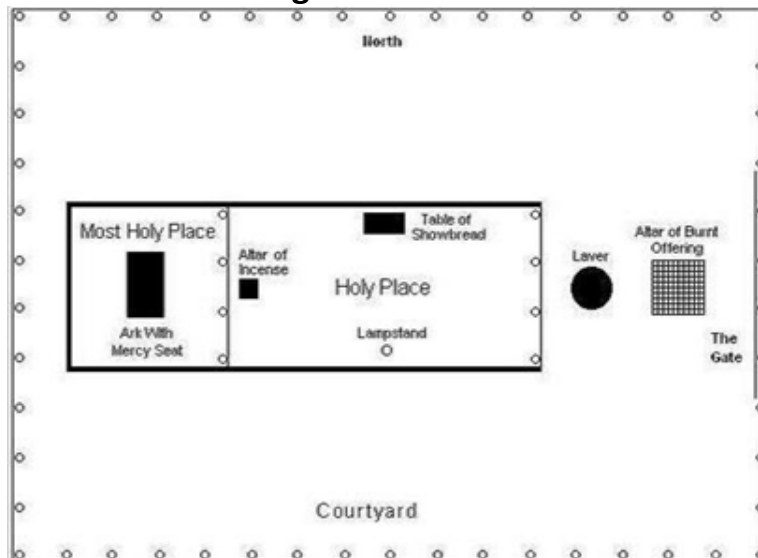
Pursuit – Chasing after, pushing toward, striving for

- Goals
 - Goals in sports - the act of trying to achieve a skills, victories, or achievements, over the course of one’s career
 - Goals in Vocation - the act of trying to achieve a plan, activity, or situation, usually over a long period of time:
 - Goals in Relationships - the act of following someone or something to try to catch him, her, or it:
- Breakthroughs
 - Sports – a speed, a skill, an MVP, a scholarship, a draft, a division win, a playoff win, Championship, possibly All-star or hall of famer
 - Vocation – diligence, promotions, added skills

The Pursuit of God is not so different

- The desire to chase after and strive for something is the pursuit of man.
- And there are set in place similar breakthroughs or barriers that we must go through to gain that goal of access to the Creator.

Image of Tabernacle



Concerning the Tabernacle

Heb. 8:5

They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, "See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain."

Get it Right! It means something

GENTILE COURT - NOT THE PEOPLE OF GOD

- Around the temple
- Not of the people

Revelation 11:2

"...but do not measure the court outside the temple; leave that out, for it is given over to the nations..."

Walls and Gates

- Walls are for Protection, Separation, Identification, and Conservation
 - The walls over the Tabernacle were high, it was enclosed. It was for the people of God only.
- Gates are for access and for freedom.
 - Access into the presence of God;
 - Freedom to share as the people of God and bring glory to God as we move into the world as His people.
- In Nehemiah's time we see that the walls were fallen and the Gates were burned
 - The walls of decency, the walls of doctrine, the walls of defense have fallen
 - We make ourselves vulnerable apart from His protection.
 - We look and act like the world so that we are not separate and are not identifiable.
 - We waffle on the truth of His Word and thus fall for false teaching.
 - The gates are burning
 - Opening up to the ways of the world: burn down the gates that we might move away from and destroy the clear image of God's access to Himself.
 - What defense do we have when our lives do not exemplify the temple of God and the Holiness that he calls for?

OUTER COURT – ONLY THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Ex. 27:9 – *"You shall make the court of the tabernacle..."*

Access – The Gate

Ex. 27:16 – *For the gate of the court there shall be a screen twenty cubits long...*

Inside

Brazen Altar – the altar of sacrifice (Ex. 27:1-8)

Ex. 40:6-8

⁶ *You shall set the altar of burnt offering before the door of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting, ⁷ and place the basin between the tent of meeting and the altar, and put water in it. ⁸ And you shall set up the court all around, and hang up the screen for the gate of the court.*

Brass Laver (Basin) – cleansing – Ex. 30:17-21

- *They shall wash their hands and their feet, so that they may not die.*
- Jesus the gate, the sacrifice, the cleansing

Jesus the Gate

Matthew 7:13-14

¹³*"Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. ¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.*

Jesus the Sacrifice

John 10:11, 17, 18

¹¹ *I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*

¹⁷ *For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again.*

Jesus the Water

John 7:13-14

¹³ *Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."*

Eph. 5:25-27

²⁵ *Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.*

- You have been the people of God though Jesus the Gate

THE HOLY PLACE – ONLY THE PRIESTS OF GOD

Heb. 9:2, 6

² *For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence. It is called the Holy Place.*

⁶ *These preparations having thus been made, the priests go regularly into the first section, performing their ritual duties...*

Access – The Door

Ex. 40:7 – *You shall set the altar of burnt offering before the door.*

Inside

Lampstand – Perpetual Light – Exodus 25:31

Table of Showbread – Permanent Fullness – Exodus 25:23

Altar of Incense – Persistent Prayers of God's people – Exodus 30:1

- Jesus the Door, Light, the Bread

Altar of Incense – Persistent Meditation: Exodus 30:1

Jesus the Door

John 10:9

I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

Jesus the Light

John 8:12

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Jesus the Bread

John 6:35

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

- You have been made priests of God through Jesus the Door

Jesus the Intercessor

Heb. 7:24-25

²⁴ He holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵ Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

1 John 2:1

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

HOLY OF HOLIES – ONLY THE HIGH PRIEST

Heb. 9:3, 7

³ Behind the second curtain was a second section called the Most Holy Place

⁷ but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the unintentional sins of the people.

Access – The Veil

Ex. 26:31, 33

³¹ And you shall make a veil of blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen. It shall be made with cherubim skillfully worked into it. ... ³³ And you shall hang the veil from the clasps, and bring the ark of the testimony in there within the veil. And the veil shall separate for you the Holy Place from the Most Holy.

The Cherubim – Separation from God – Gen 3:24

- **Gen 3:24** - He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.
- Once again the cherubim hinder the path to access to Life – But for Christ

Ark of Covenant –Condition of man Ex. 25:10-16

Holds the tablets, Aarons rod, and manna

- **Holds the tablets –**
 - The law reveals our sin
 - the fulfilled covenant – the payment made
- **Holds the budding of staff of Aaron** – eternal life through only ONE line of succession
 - Korah's rebellion Num. 16:31-34
 - "Anyone can be the high priest!"
 - 1) Incense test
 - Moses instructed them to bring censors (with burning incense) so the Lord could show who is holy.

- Korah, Dathan, and Abiram refused to do this and were swallowed by the earth (Numbers 16:31-34).
- The others brought their censors before the Lord and were consumed with fire (Numbers 16:35).
- People got mad and rebelled – Num. 17
 - 2) Plague took out 14700
- Rods of each leader – only Aaron’s buds
 - 3) They were to take a rod for each leader of each tribe of Israel and put their names on them (Numbers 17:2).
 - 4) Aaron’s name was to be written on the rod for Levi (17:3).
 - 5) They were put in the holy place of the tabernacle (17:4).
 - 6) God said that the rod of the man He chooses would blossom (17:5).
 - 7) “...thus I will rid Myself of the complaints of the children of Israel, which they make against you.” (17:5).
- God established the Line from which true life would come.
 - My way
 - He is the way – He, the resurrected Savior
- **Holds the Manna** – The hunger and longing of man
 - Jesus is the eternal bread

Mercy Seat – Man’s condition covered Ex. 25:17-22

- Over these elements of Man’s condition – God provides mercy

Jesus the High Priest

Heb. 4:14

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

The Veil is Torn

Luke 23:44

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

- New Covenant, the Covering, the Grace
- You have access to God through Jesus

GOD IS PURSUING YOU

We have seen the road to The Mercy Seat from the Gentile Court to the Holy of Holies...

- From a stranger to complete acceptance...
- From the lost to the salvation.

It must be noticed that God delivers His instructions that starts with the Holy of Holies and leads outward to the Outer Court.

- God shows the road from His standpoint.
- He created Eden in all its perfection.
- The fall created separation.
- Eden was blocked and guarded by cherubim.

- There would be no access to the presence of God like it was in Eden from that moment forward.
- UNTIL the Cross- Until Jesus!

Rev. 3:20

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Come to Jesus; answer the door as he knocks upon it.

When you receive Christ – All access is there
The Shakina Glory of God – Present

You and I, in Christ, are the Temple of the Holy Spirit

Rev. 21:3

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God."