



The Beginning and the End

– An Overview of the Tabernacle - Part 1

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Tour Guide for the *Tabernacle in the Wilderness* at Timna Park in Israel

Have you ever gone to the end of the book to see what happens, why?

If a story is long and seemingly unending and without hope; it's depressing. I pop over to the end to see what happens; maybe to see if there is hope and if it is worth ploughing through the story.

Our God knows us well and He tells us the end from the beginning to give us hope,

“Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else”; “I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure”: Isaiah 46: 9-10; “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:1)

In this day and age, as we live through situations and hear of things that we never thought we would live to see happen, the words of Yeshua and the Bible prophets come to mind from Mathew 24, John 16:13, and all throughout the Bible. I often tell people, *“I’ve read the end of The Book and I know who wins”.*

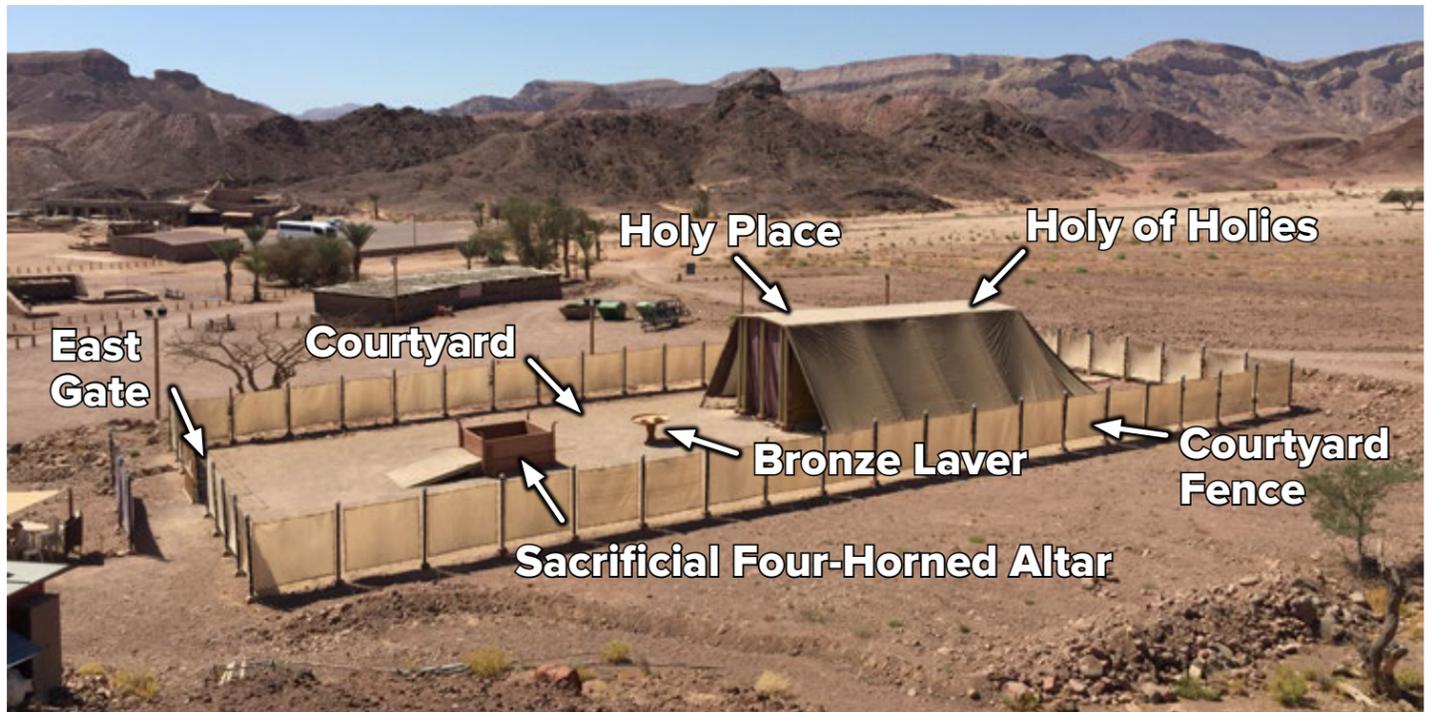
He loves us beyond our understanding and has always revealed His plan for those willing to search it out and see.

“It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.” (Proverbs 25:2)

The Tabernacle is the Gospel in pictures; everything lays out and points to the Messiah and what He would come and totally succeed in doing.

“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.” (Isaiah 55:11)

In Hebrew the word for prosper or accomplish is, *Hitzleach*, which is a stronger meaning: *Totally Succeed*. So, The Word of God came and totally succeeded in what He was sent to do and



has returned to The Father, while the written/Rhema Word is still working in the hearts of mankind today.

In this ‘Birds eye view’ of the Tabernacle I would like to start at the back of the book and see that God knew the end from the beginning before He started.

“And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” (Rev.13:8)

God knew what would happen before He created us, but He loved us so much that He chose to go through the heartache and pain to deal with our sin, personally, Himself, rather than not have us as His family at all. A booklet by Dr Michael Heisler; *‘What Does God Want’*, clearly sets out that God wants a family, and He works to secure the family He created.

Let me lay out the basic pattern here, and in later articles I will go section by section in greater detail.

The Tabernacle is in Three Sections:

- Courtyard
- Holy Place
- Holy of Holies

There are three curtains; one at the entrance to each section. There is only one entrance to each section; no side or back doors. The High Priest must pass through each of these curtains and complete his prescribed duties, to enter God’s presence, one day only each year; Yom Kippur—The Day of Atonement. The rest of the year the priests do their duties each day and only enter as far as the Holy place.

Redemption takes place in the courtyard.

This is where the sin of each person is covered by the blood of the sacrifice that they brought, and the priest administered on their behalf. The blood is poured out around the altar and the body is burnt outside of the camp. (there are sacrifices for other purposes also: more on this later). Before and after the sacrifice, the priest washes his hands and feet beside the wash-basin. Sin is covered and cleansed.

Sanctification takes place in the Holy Place.

- This is where the priests add:**
- Oil to the lampstand (the only light source in there) morning and evening, to keep it burning
 - Coals and incense to the incense altar morning and evening, to make a sweet smell
 - 12 breads to the table once a week and eat the older breads in God’s presence

Glorification takes place in the Holy of Holies.

This is where the High priest enters once a year into the very presence of God, who dwells between the Cherubim.

Messiah, as our High Priest has once and for all time paid the price of our Redemption and totally removed (not covered) our sin and cleansed us from all unrighteousness. He has Sanctified us so we can fellowship in God’s company and He ever lives to intercede for us.

He has Glorified us in Himself so we may, in Him, enter into intimate relationship with our creator.

The curtains; The Way; The Truth; and The Life.

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (John 14:6 – I will explain more in later article).

Another aspect of three is us. We are body, soul and spirit.

Body; we bring our bodies into submission to God.

“Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.” (Rom 6:13)

Soul; we fellowship with God by feeding on His word; the Holy Spirit brings us light with His wisdom, understanding, council, might (strength), intimacy and reverence (fear) of the Lord; we bring our prayer, praise and worship like incense into the house of the Lord.

Spirit; we enter in by the blood of the Lamb and His torn veil (body) to have intimate fellowship with the Almighty God.

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The Three Sections of the Tabernacle

