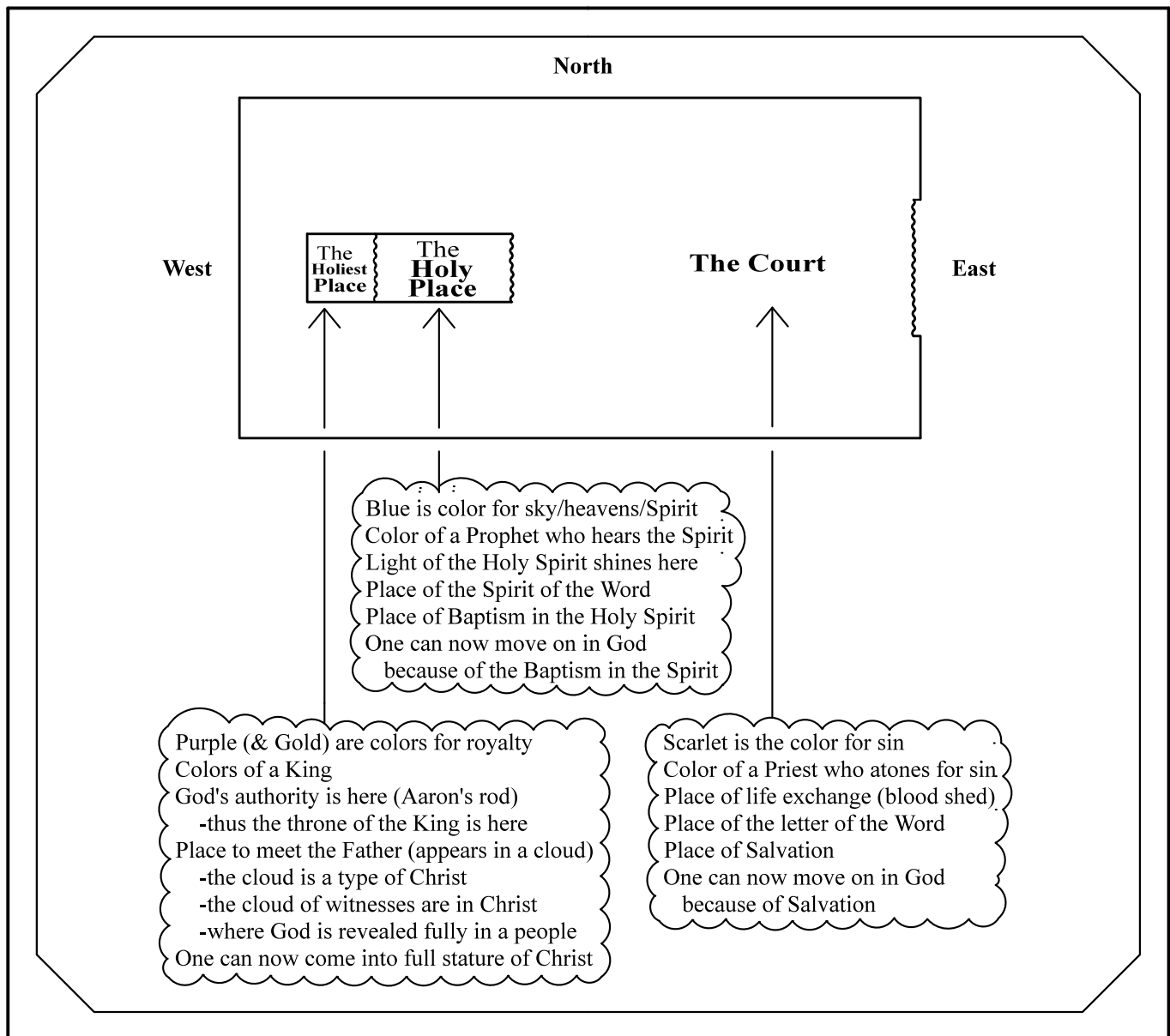


The Tabernacle



Inside are 16 pages of diagrams with their supporting scriptures.

Eric J. Ellis

Editorial Review by **Mary Elizabeth Ellis**

Bible Concepts

Lesson 5

The Tabernacle

Introduction:

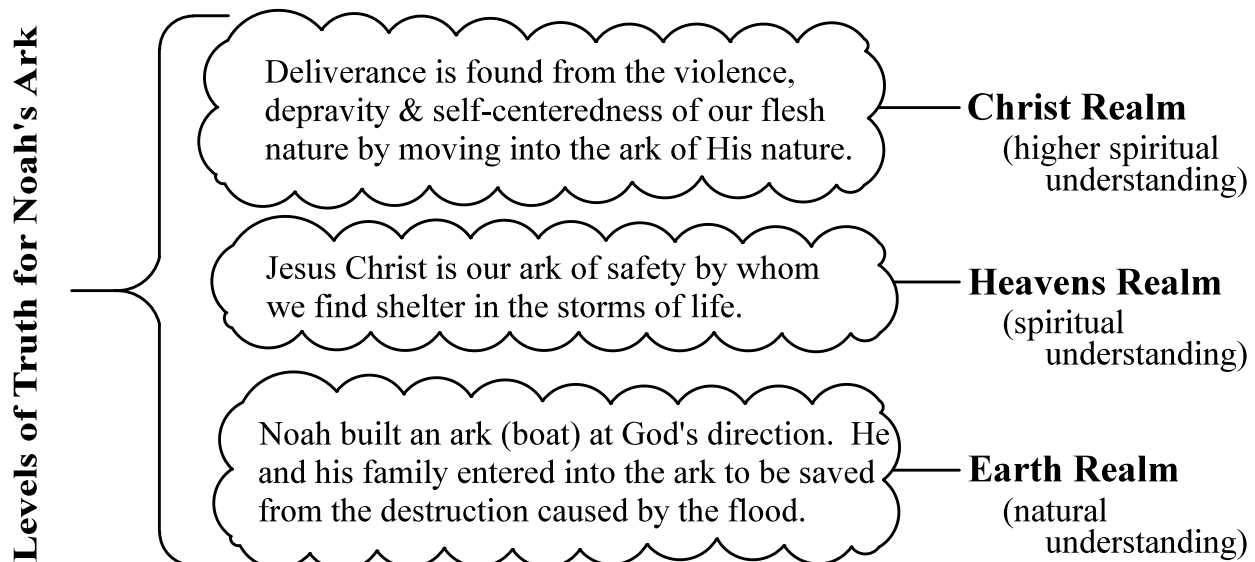
These Bible studies are meant to be a simple straightforward presentation of Bible truths as a tool to help you to understand the Word, knowing that it is only by the Holy Spirit who leads us into truth that you will be able to see the extent of what is here. Religious traditions make the word of God ineffective so I do not promote any particular denominational doctrine, (Mark 7:13). I am so blessed that He has enabled me to see the part that I do. I believe the Father would have me to share these delights with others who seek to closely know Him as well. You may notice that these lessons have a common undercurrent of encouraging you on into a deeper relationship with God.

All Bible verses are from the King James Version (KJV) unless indicated otherwise. [Bracketed words within verses are my comments inserted to add clarity].

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Brief Review of Previous Lessons:

If you are still with me then you have already learned that there are often layers or realms of truth. A truth in one area does not negate a truth in another area. For example Noah built a boat called an ark. That is true. But on a spiritual level the ark represented Christ. Our refuge is in Christ. That is also true. On yet a higher level we understand that we experience deliverance from our first Adam nature when by faith we enter into the ark which is Christ. This is a level of union with God whereby we become one with Him, thus acquiring His nature. This is called “being found in Christ”. This is called “Sonship”. It is the image of the Son who is in the true image of the Father. All three are true.



Just because you don't see a truth doesn't mean that it's not there. For example, the religious leaders rejected Jesus as the Christ because Jesus came from Galilee, (Nazareth). Being confident of their knowledge of the scriptures they knew that the Messiah would come from Bethlehem. They were using their very limited natural wisdom in the earthly realm because in pride they thought they knew it all. Having one truth they were satisfied to look no further. The prophets however also said that the Christ would be called a Nazarene, (**Matthew 2:23**). Because this prophecy had not been written in the scriptures at that time the religious leaders either were not aware of it or more likely rejected it. Pride thinks, "If it were important then I'd already know about it."

Nathanael however was different. When he was told by Philip to come and see the Messiah from Nazareth, he went. He searched out the matter and found it to be true, (**John 1:46-49**). Nathanael was hungry for truth. He knew there was more truth to be had. Jesus was from both Bethlehem & Nazareth.

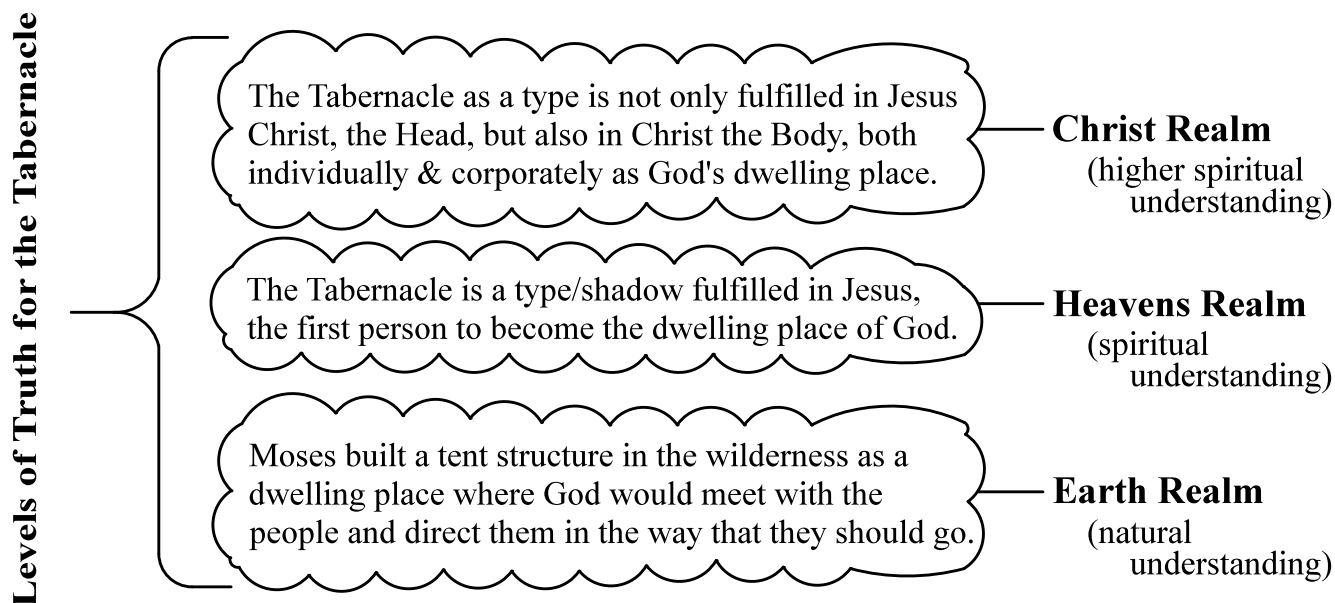
We start with natural understanding of God's Word where God begins to open our eyes to truth. This lays a foundation of knowledge of the Word upon which faith can be built. This walk in faith in turn helps us to grow into spiritual understanding. The continued walk in faith builds yet another foundation by which we enter into a higher realm where our nature begins to change. The realm of the Word and then the realm of the Spirit help us to enter into the realm of Christ. Here we uncover a whole new layer of truth. These truths are the ones that Jesus wanted to explain but didn't because he knew that they had not yet received the Holy Spirit who leads us into all truth, (**John 16:12,13**).

Beginning of Lesson Five

Part 1: The Reason for a Tabernacle

The Tabernacle originally was a tent structure made to be a (dwelling) place for God...a place where the people could meet with Him. It was built by the Israelites in the wilderness. This was done in the first year of their separation from Egypt, (the "Exodus"). God gave detailed instructions to Moses on how it was to be built. Why? Because it was to be a pattern of the true Tabernacle (dwelling place) of God in the Divine Realm, (**Acts 7:44-50, Hebrews 8:5**).

Just as there are truths in different realms, there are often more than one within a realm.



What seems to be a truth in the natural realm actually may be just partial. The truth is best fully revealed in a higher realm where there is more light. These are the hidden truths in the Word that have been sealed up until the time of the end. These truths are now becoming evident by Word & Spirit to those walking in the light, (**Proverbs 4:18**). They are the “kings” who delight in searching out a matter, (**Proverbs 25:2**)...those who are hungry for more truth.

“4. But you, Daniel, keep this prophecy a SECRET; seal up the book UNTIL THE TIME OF THE END, when many will rush here and there [travel increases], & [when] knowledge will increase.”
Daniel 12:4 NLT

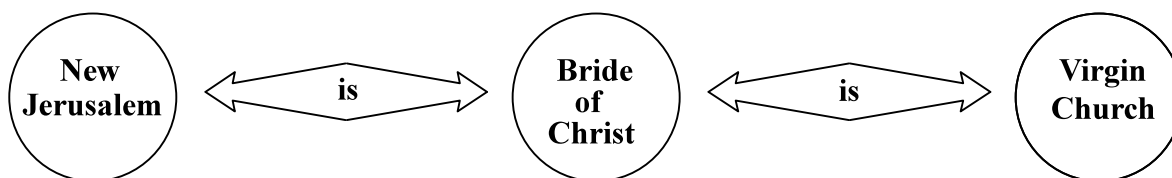
It is all coming to pass now. We will look more at this first Tabernacle, the one built by Moses in the desert, but first I'll take you to the last Tabernacle mentioned in the Bible. It is the fulfillment of what the wilderness Tabernacle pointed to. We need to see the big picture first.

*“1. And I saw a new heaven & a new earth: for the first heaven & the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea [realm]. 2. And I John saw the holy city, NEW JERUSALEM, [a company of people] coming down [revealed in the lower, natural earth realm] from God out of heaven, [the higher unseen spirit realm] prepared as a BRIDE [the virgin/pure church] adorned for her husband [Jesus Christ, which **Ephesians 5:22-32** confirms.]. 3. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying,... THE TABERNACLE OF GOD [where God lives] is with[within] men [a certain company of people], and he will dwell with[within] them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with [within] them, and be their God.”*
Revelation 21

A literal city with buildings and roads does not come down out of the sky. God is not interested in living in a tent, temple or city. His original plan is still to make many men who will be just like Him so that He will be able to dwell in them. They will know what He wants and will want to do it, (**Hebrews 8:10 NLT**). God had the Tabernacle in the wilderness built as a pattern of this company of people, (who He will dwell in). As I will point out, the Tabernacle shows how to become one of them. It is a type of Jesus Christ who is the Way to the Father, (**John 14:6**), See the same scripture below from Young's Literal Translation.

“2. and I, John, saw the holy city—NEW JERUSALEM—coming down from God out of the heaven, made ready as a BRIDE adorned for her husband; 3. and I heard a great voice out of the heaven, saying, ‘Lo, THE TABERNACLE OF GOD IS WITH MEN, AND HE WILL TABERNACLE [dwell] WITH THEM, AND THEY SHALL BE HIS PEOPLES, [plural...not just Jesus the Head], AND GOD HIMSELF SHALL BE WITH THEM [the Body of Christ]—their God,”
Revelation 21

From these verses we see that the New Jerusalem is the Bride of Christ, the Virgin Church.



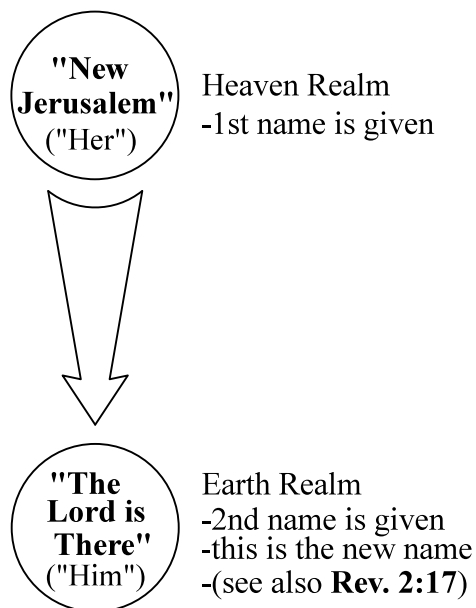
Now take a closer look at this city (people) called “New Jerusalem”.

“HE WHO OVERCOMES, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name [nature] of My God and the name of the city of My God, the NEW JERUSALEM, which comes down out of heaven from My God. AND I WILL WRITE ON HIM MY NEW NAME.”
Revelation 3:12

Did you notice what seems like a contradiction here between this verse and the previous one, (**Revelation 21:2**)? Is the New Jerusalem now a “Him” and not a woman Bride? Also note that a NEW NAME is given to this “him”. And what is this NEW name? It is something other than “New Jerusalem”, which was the first name given. A new name speaks of a new identity. From this woman in heaven comes a new identity when seen upon the earth.

Bear with me. This will all pull together when we look at a couple more scriptures. In **Ezekiel 47 & 48** he is describing Jerusalem when a river of (living) water is flowing out from its temple, (God’s Tabernacle). That can only happen when God is there. He is the source of living water. When this happens the city is given a NEW NAME.

“...and THE NAME OF THE CITY from that day shall be: THE LORD IS THERE.”
Ezekiel 48:35



Look at this next scripture. It reveals more about this bride. We are moving toward a clearer understanding of just what/who this Tabernacle of God is.

“1. Now a great sign appeared in heaven: A WOMAN CLOTHED WITH THE SUN, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. 2. Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth... 4... And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. 5. SHE BORE A MALE CHILD [SON] WHO WAS TO RULE ALL NATIONS with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne [has the authority of God as soon as he is revealed]. 6. Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God...”

Revelation 12

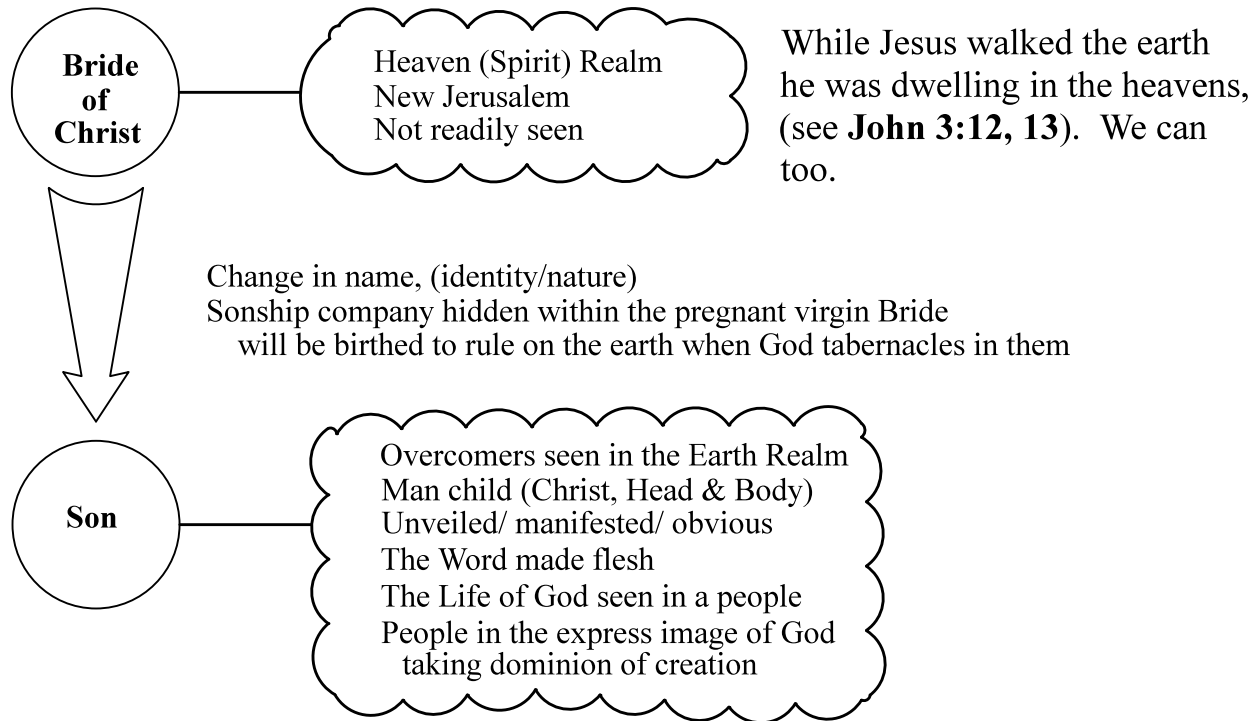
We know that this woman is not Mary and the son is not baby Jesus because this is shown to John as things to come, (**Revelation 1:1**). *This woman is in heaven and is a sign.* What do these signs or symbols represent? The Sun represents Jesus, the “Sun of righteousness” from **Malachi 4:2**. *This woman is under His covering.* This woman is therefore the Bride of Christ, the Virgin Church. She is virgin because she is faithful to her husband. She does not “fornicate” with her old Adam nature. Within this church there are some people that are “overcomers”. They are mentioned in each of the seven churches of the first few chapters of **Revelation**.

“And HE WHO OVERCOMES, and keeps My works until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE POWER OVER THE NATIONS...”
Revelation 2:26

The Bride is a “her”, but the male child, (Son), within her is/are the “him”...the Overcomers that will rule the nations. What else does the Word tell us about this Overcomer? This Son that comes out of the church is a Son of the Father.

“*HE WHO OVERCOMES shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he SHALL BE MY SON.*”
Revelation 21:7

This male child is Christ the Head, (the first Son), AND Christ the Body, (many more sons).



In summary we see that this *NEW JERUSALEM IS THE BRIDE OF CHRIST*. On the way from heaven to earth is a symbol of something in the heavenly realm becoming manifest or visible in the earthly realm. On the way to earth the identity changes from a pure (virgin) Bride (city..many people) to a Son (many of these same people) with the Father’s name (nature). This corporate group of men is the male child (son of the Bride) mentioned in **Revelation 12**. There it is seen that the manchild becomes prominent as ruler, (immediately given authority), as the woman in heaven flees to the wilderness where God will do a deeper work in her. For now though she fades from the scene. This authority comes from the *full measure* of the Holy Spirit. It is the same authority that Jesus Christ the Head had when he started his 3 1/2 years of ministry.

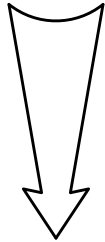
Here you need both the Word & Spirit to see from this that the Bride has union with Christ before the actual marriage, (**Revelation 19**). Mary’s union with the Holy Spirit before her actual marriage (with Joseph) was a shadow of this. From this becoming one with Him she brings forth a son in His image...just like Christ...just like the Father. These are the “overcomers”. What happens is that the part of the corporate Bride that goes on with a deeper walk in Christ has their nature (name) changed to become a Son (in His image). This is God’s work. It is not a work of the flesh.

This Sonship company is the true Tabernacle that God will dwell in, of which the wilderness Tabernacle is just a type/ shadow. A shadow points to it’s source which is the source of light. The main point of the shadow is to show you where the light comes from. And how did He get to Tabernacle in them? He put His seed into a virgin. Then she birthed sons in His image.

What the virgin Bride is NOT:

**Bride
of
Christ**

- not Mary since in **Revelation 1:1** this symbol is "things to come"
- not the Catholic Church
- not Baptists, Pentecostals or any other denomination
- not any non-denomination, move or other organized religious system
- not any one person
- not "raptured saints"
- not limited to certain people who are celibate



Son

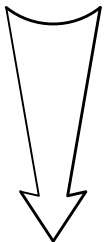
What the Son is NOT:

- baby Jesus since in **Revelation 1:1** this symbol is "things to come"
- not the Pope or any one spiritual leader
- not Baptists, Pentecostals or any other denomination
- not any non-denomination, move or other organized religious system
- not any one person
- not those who feel qualified due to head knowledge alone
- not limited to certain people who are celibate

What the virgin Bride is:

**Bride
of
Christ**

- the New Jerusalem who separated herself from works of the first Adam
- symbolic for many thousands of men & women
- the elect woman who seeks to make her calling sure
- those who live in the heavens while on earth as Jesus did, **John 3:12, 13**
- those intimate with the Bridegroom long enough to bear His seed
- Mary was a prophetic type of this woman
- the one who receives the seed of Christ but without the seed being seen



Son

What the Son is:

- symbolic for many thousands of men & women, the seed of Christ
- the manchild of **Revelation 12** birthed out of the New Jerusalem
- the 144,000s on Mount Zion in **Revelation 14** & **Hebrews 12:22**
- the firstfruit brothers of Jesus, (born of the same Father, **Romans 8:29**)
- the sons of God in **Romans 8:19-23** who will set creation free
- the overcomers of **Revelation 2, 3**...not the entire "true church"
- God will TABERNACLE with these in FULL measure of the Holy Spirit
- God will TABERNACLE with these in the resurrection of **Luke 20:34**

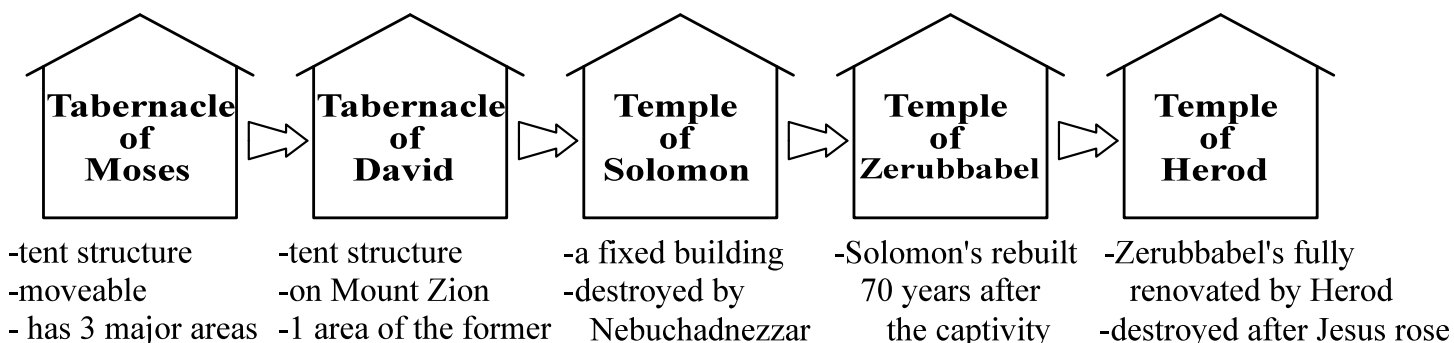
The last page introduces many questions to be addressed in future lessons. The main point however is that the Tabernacle structure was designed as a type to point us to Christ. It shows us how to come into Christ. It shows us how to become one born of God. One in whom dwells the living God fully. This would be the “Word-made-flesh”. This would be the Spirit of the Father seen on earth through a Son. God would be seen as in the resurrected Jesus...the Son in the express image of the Father. God would also then be seen in many more sons to follow. This is God’s plan. Every color, material, measurement, and arrangement of the Tabernacle structure point us to Jesus. Jesus is the Way. The Tabernacle is a shadow of the Way...the Way back to the Father...the Way to have the Father fully dwell in us. The Way back to the Tree of Life.

Later the tabernacle was replaced with a temple, which was destroyed then later rebuilt then later fully renovated before also being destroyed. The temples were similar to the tabernacle in basic layout. They were however larger and more elaborate. This reflected the expansion of God’s Word upon the earth. The temple was fixed on Mount Zion in Jerusalem because the city was a type of the New Jerusalem. The last earthly temple was destroyed about 40 years after Jesus began his ministry. They were no longer needed. Once Jesus was resurrected they were distractions from the source of light that they had pointed to. God got rid of them.

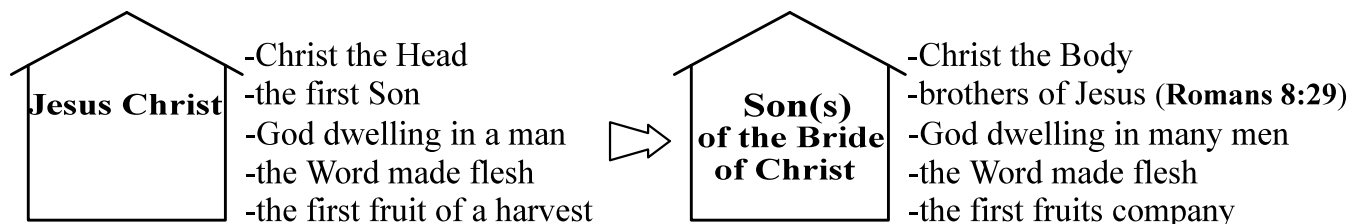
“16. And what union can there be between God’s temple and idols? For WE ARE THE TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD. As God said: “I WILL LIVE IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM [being seen by others...the Word made flesh...the heavenly seen in the earth]. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 17. Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the LORD. Don’t touch their filthy things, [works of man], and I will welcome you. 18. And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty.”

2Corinthians 6 NKJ

Natural Tabernacles



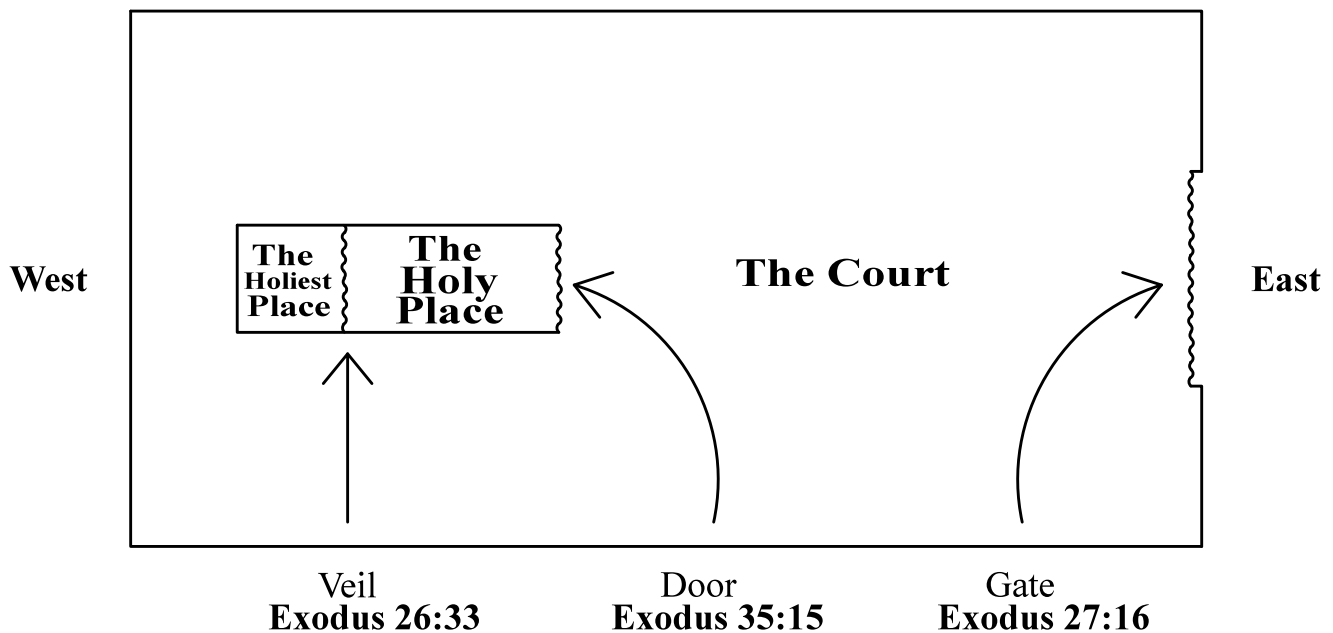
Spiritual Tabernacles (Ezekiel's Temple is spiritual too...to discuss another time)



Part 2: The Layout of the Tabernacle

Now you understand that the original Tabernacle structure is a prophetic type of God dwelling in a people. Keep that in mind as we move on to look at how it was built to God's specifications. There are dozens if not hundreds of concepts & patterns in the Tabernacle. In this lesson we must establish the basic layout. So for now we can only look at a few of these concepts. In future lessons however we will look at more Tabernacle concepts as they apply to those lessons.

The diagram here is the Tabernacle as seen from above looking down. It is to scale. Notice that there are three main sections. What is shown here comes mainly from **Exodus 27**. Further details are found in the rest of the book of **Exodus**.

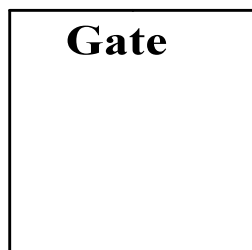
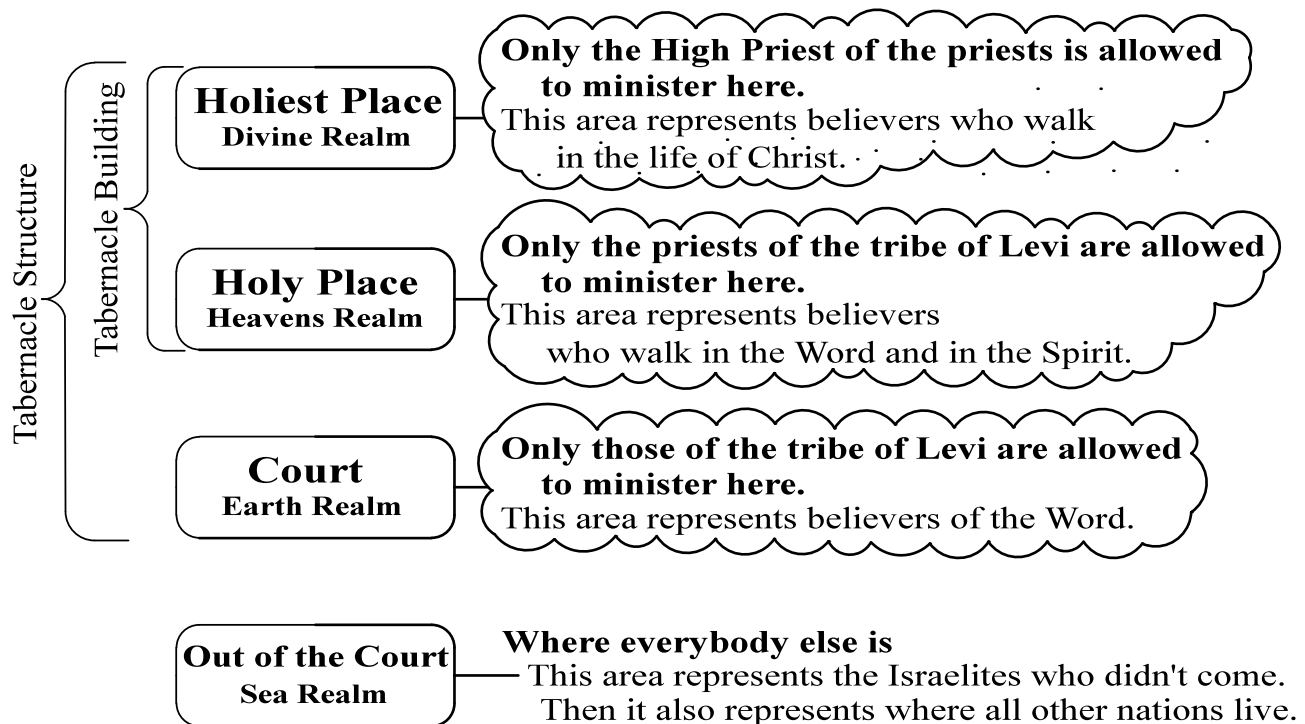


The outer rectangle is a fence of white linen with no roof. The actual Tabernacle “house” is made up of board walls, (covered in gold), and a tent roof. It is the inner rectangle which has two compartments. One is called the “Holy Place” and the smaller one is called the “Holiest Place”. The two rooms are separated by a veil.

There is only one entrance to each of the three sections. Each section must be entered from the East heading toward the West. That is how the sun travels from sunrise to sunset. This East to West orientation is symbolic of following the light to come into further light. One must keep moving to avoid darkness from overtaking them. This is also true in your personal walk with God, (**John 12:35**). Keep growing in the mind of Christ! The sun itself is used as a symbol of God in several places, (for example see **Psalms 84:11** & **Malachi 4:2**).

One cannot enter one section without first going through the previous section. The entrance to the Court is commonly called the “gate”. The entrance to the Holy Place is commonly called the “door”. The entrance to the Holiest Place is commonly called the “veil”. All three entrances are curtains. The gate is twice as wide as the other two entrances. The door to the Holy Place is the same size as the veil to the Holiest Place. This “door” and this “veil” are both the entire East side of those compartments. These two compartments together are often referred to as the “tabernacle of the tent of the congregation”, the “tent of meeting”, and the “tent of the testimony”. This is because it is the only part of the Tabernacle that has a tent-like roof.

View the pattern below and then we will resume our talk about the three entrances.



“3. Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 4. ENTER INTO HIS GATES with thanksgiving, and into his courts [all three areas] with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.” **Psalm 100**



“7. Then Jesus said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep... 9. I AM THE DOOR. If anyone ENTERS BY ME, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. 10...I have come that they may have life, [the life of Christ found beyond the Holy Place in the place where no flesh nature is allowed], and that they may have it more abundantly.”

John 10 NKJ



“19. Having, therefore, brethren, boldness for the ENTRANCE INTO THE HOLY PLACES, in the blood of Jesus, 20. which way he did initiate for us—new and living, through THE VAIL, THAT IS, HIS FLESH [His flesh like this curtain was torn that we may be free of our flesh nature and [then] able to enter into the Father’s nature] — 21. and a high priest over the HOUSE OF GOD, [the Tabernacle that is Christ the Head (Son) & Christ the Body (Sons)] 22. MAY WE DRAW NEAR with a true heart, in full assurance of faith...”

Hebrews 10 YLT

Jesus has made a way for us to enter into all three divisions of the Tabernacle. He tells us that we must enter through the first two areas into the third in order to have His life abundant in us...in order for us to be His dwelling place. Notice the beckoning to keep drawing near.

Now we look at the colors of these three curtains.

“31. And thou shalt make a VEIL OF BLUE, AND PURPLE, AND SCARLET, AND FINE TWINED LINEN of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made: 33...and THE VEIL [to the Holiest Place] SHALL DIVIDE UNTO YOU BETWEEN THE HOLY PLACE AND THE MOST HOLY...36. And thou shalt make an HANGING FOR THE DOOR [to the Holy Place] OF THE TENT, OF BLUE, AND PURPLE, AND SCARLET, AND FINE TWINED LINEN, wrought with needlework [of gold threads from Exodus 39:3].”
Exodus 26

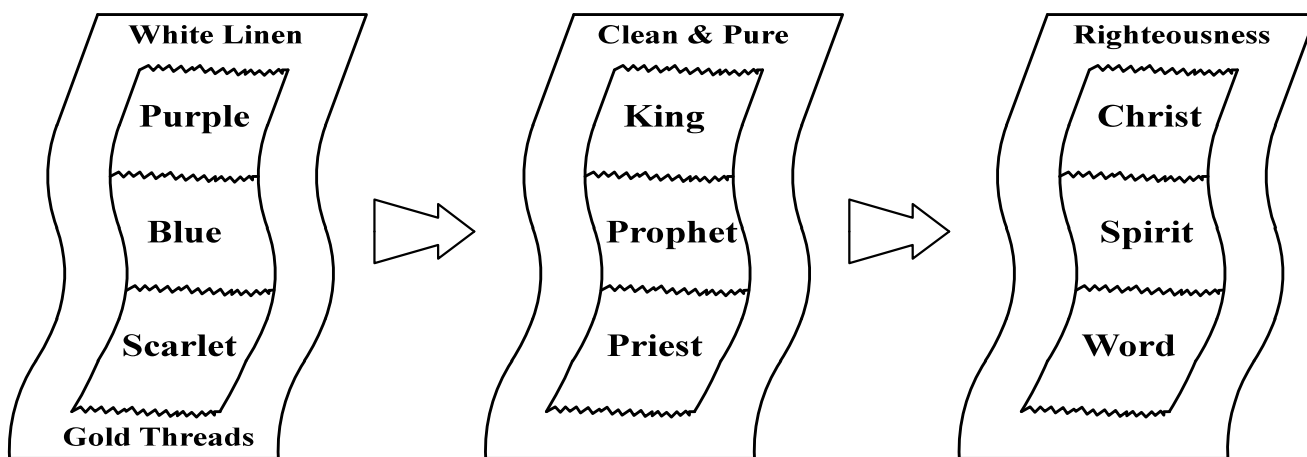
“16. And FOR THE GATE OF THE COURT shall be AN HANGING of twenty cubits, of BLUE, AND PURPLE, AND SCARLET, AND FINE TWINED LINEN...”
Exodus 27:16

Also the linen fence and the garments of the priest had these colors in them. They all were linen. This all has spiritual meaning. The linen (white) represents a fabric of righteousness as shown in the verse below. Christ reigns in righteousness, (Isaiah 11:4,5).

“7. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife [virgin Church Bride] hath made herself ready. 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 [those within this New Jerusalem Bride].”
Revelation 19

Embroidery was done using gold threads. These gold threads were interwoven in all of the colors. So how is the nature of God & His standard of righteousness seen in these colors?

Scarlet is the color for sin, (Isaiah 1:18), which the priests atone for according to the Word.
Blue is the color of the sky, heavens, which represents the Spirit, where the Prophet hears.
Purple is the color of royalty...of kings. Purple is made by combining red (scarlet) and blue.
Gold is the color for the incorruptible nature of God as gold does not rust, corrode, or tarnish.
White is the color for righteousness, which is pure and clean, (from Revelation 19:8 above).



The gold threads are woven throughout all the colors.

The nature of God can be seen in each calling.

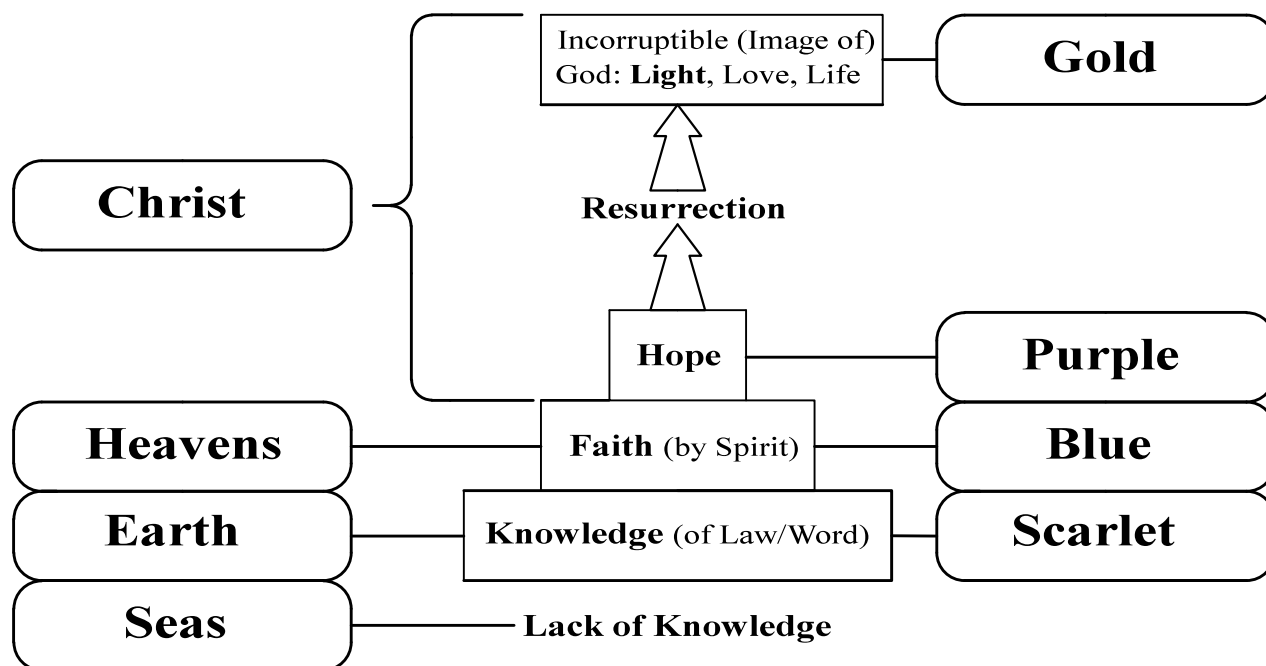
All are based on the fabric of righteousness.

When one is in Christ then he is in the image of the Father. The gold threads represent the incorruptible life of the Father, which is present in the Word and in the Spirit and in Christ. But it is only in Christ that the fullness of God can be seen.

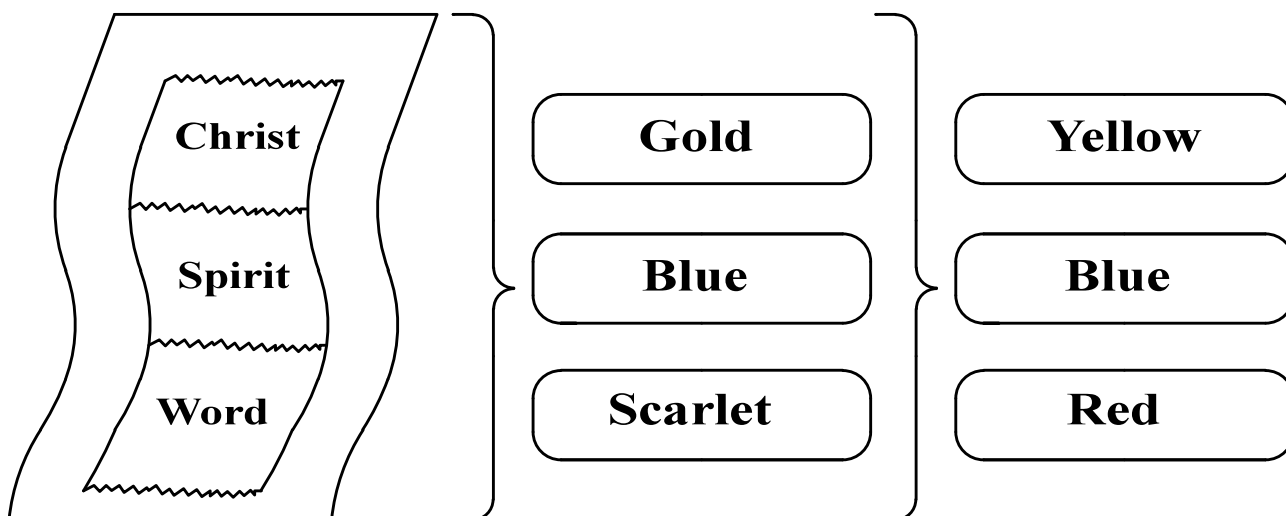
“8. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. 9. FOR IN HIM [CHRIST] DWELLETH ALL THE FULNESS OF THE GODHEAD BODILY. 10. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:”

Colossians 2

This means that the pattern below is also correct.



If you are still with me, then you will see the following ok. We have not really left out “purple” (King), because it is there in the combination of “scarlet” (Word), and “blue” (Spirit). I’ll explain more about this later on the next page.



The white linens of the Tabernacle have the scarlet, blue, and purple colors with gold threads woven into them. We saw from **Revelation 19:7,8** that the clean, white linen represents the righteousness of the saints. The fabric upon which God's life is seen is "righteousness".

Just what is righteousness? My loose, amplified version of Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary definition is, "Knowing the right thing to do, and wanting to do it, (implying by His grace the actual doing of it)". The "right thing" of course is what God wants.

"10. But this is the new agreement [NEW COVENANT] I will make with the people of Israel, says the Lord: I will write my laws in their minds so that THEY WILL KNOW WHAT I WANT THEM TO DO without my even telling them, and these laws will be in their hearts so that THEY WILL WANT TO OBEY THEM, and I will be their God and they shall be my people [sons who are in my express image...I will dwell (tabernacle) in them]."

Hebrews 8 TLB

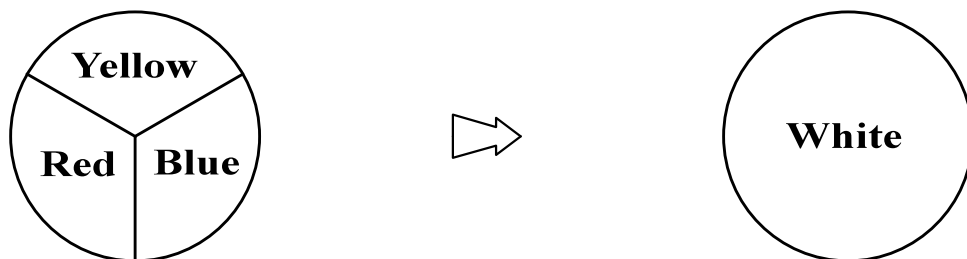
In summary, "righteousness" is the New Covenant. This new covenant is fulfilled in Christ, (Head and Body)...in a people who are sons that are just like the Father. Only God can do this.

Red, blue and yellow are the three primary colors. ALL other colors come from a combination of these. White is made up of all colors. All colors are hidden in white. Black is the absence of light, (color). I am showing you natural things to help point out spiritual things.

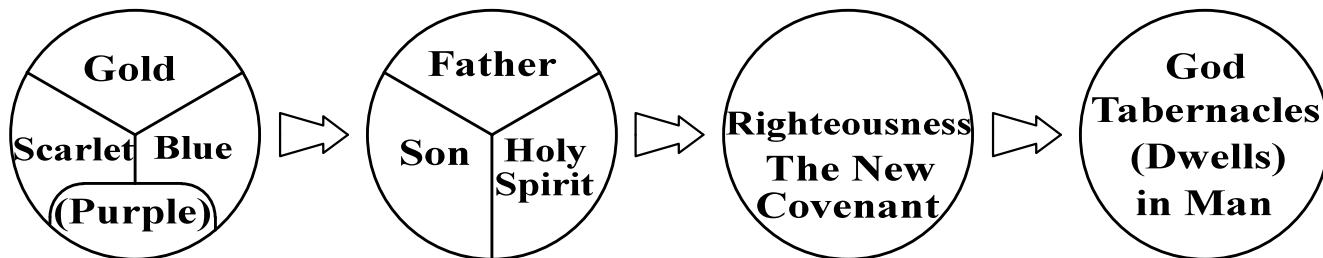
"20. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead;..."

Romans 1

Natural Illustration:



Spiritual Illustration:



Colors of the Tabernacle. These colors are seen in God's nature.

God's nature is seen fully in Christ. The three witnesses of God seen at a certain level of spiritual understanding.

Christ knows what is right in God's eyes because Christ has the nature of God in his mind & in his heart. Christ is empowered to do what is right. Christ wants to do what is right and does. This is where God lives.

This understanding of “righteousness” will make many other verses come alive. You will find the following phrases throughout scripture:

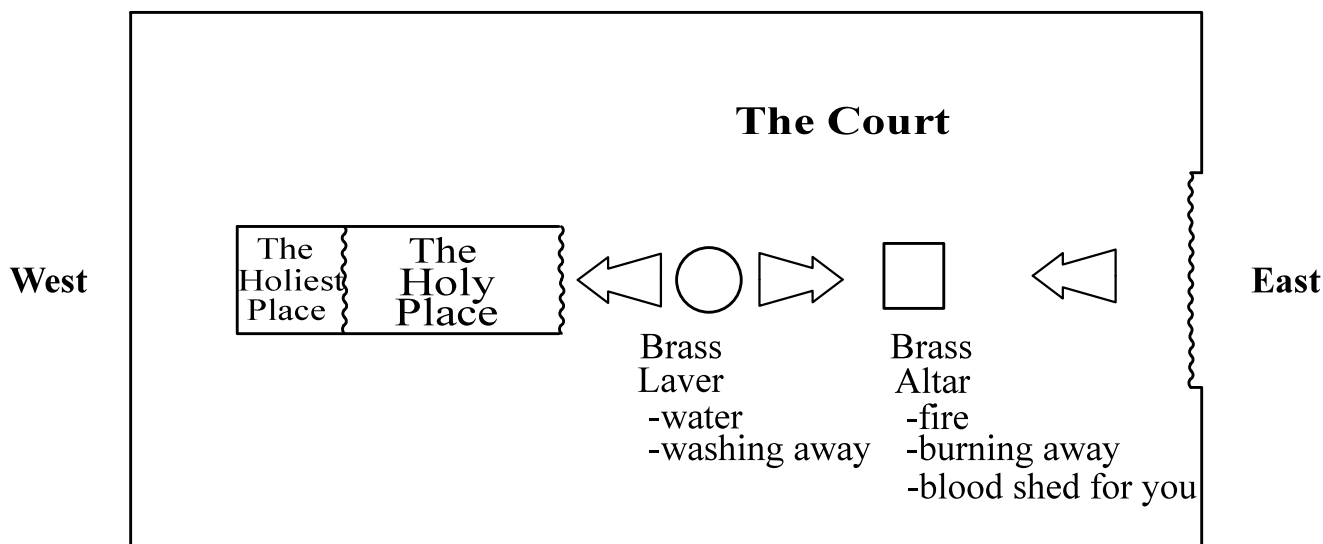
...established in righteousness...
 ...city of righteousness...
 ...rule/reign in righteousness..
 ...will learn righteousness...
 ...way of righteousness...
 ...sceptre of righteousness...
 ...works of righteousness...
 ...fruit of righteousness...

And many more, such as one of my favorites:

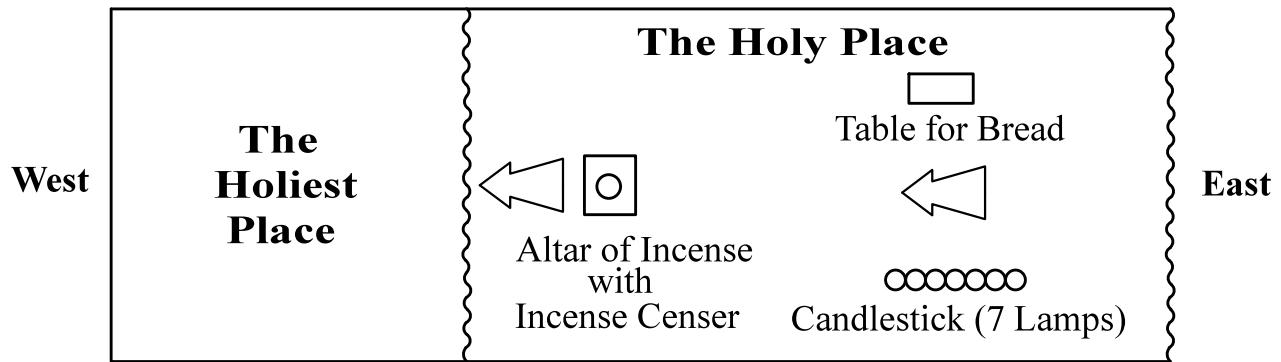
*“If ye know that he is righteous,
 ye know that every one that doeth
 righteousness is born of him.” 1John 2:29*

We have seen that the colors, thread, and type of cloth used in the Tabernacle all speak of God’s life in a people. This is pointed out in the clothing of the High Priest who points the way. It is seen in the entry curtains that point the way to each of the three compartments. They all point to keep moving from East to West to have more of God’s life. Go from one compartment to the next! This is possible now because of Christ. God tabernacles in man when man is in Christ.

Now let’s look at what’s inside the Tabernacle. We will start at the gate to the Court. There are two major “appointments” in the Court that we must pass on our journey.



The second leg of our journey is the Holy Place. Here there are three “appointments”. They are the Candlestick of seven Lamps, the Table with 12 loaves of Bread, and the Altar of Incense with an Incense Censer.



The “candelstick” is a pure gold lampstand that holds seven lamps. Gold speaks of God... the Divine realm, (Gold is mentioned as “good” in **Genesis 2:12**, and only God is “good”, **Matthew 10:18**). The seven lamps are the seven lights of the seven-fold spirit of God, (**Isaiah 11:2** and **Revelation 3:1 & 4:5**). This represents the Holy Spirit, who gives insight to a seeking heart.

In the natural the bread represents the 12 tribes of Israel in two piles of six. On top of each pile is a plate of pure, (white), frankincense which is burned to remember the tribes beneath, (**Leviticus 24:5-7**). What does this mean?

Where else were the tribes in two groups of six? It was when they first went into the promised land. Six tribes were to stand on Mount Gerizim and six tribes were to stand on Mount Ebal, (**Deuteronomy 11:29**). The blessing was to be pronounced on Mount Gerizim. The “reviling” (from YLT) was to be pronounced on Mount Ebal. I hope to go more into that in a future lesson. For now, in the spiritual, the tribes represent the distinction between following God’s Word, (Mt Gerazim tribes), and not, (Mt Ebal tribes). They get this discernment to know God and His ways by illumination of the Holy Spirit. They are enabled to make the right choices by the power of the Holy Spirit. This bread is bathed in light from the seven lamps of the candlestick.

The bread is resting on a surface of gold. This represents believers who have a foundation in God. They have a foundation of knowledge of the Word. It was at the Laver they were expected to gain a knowledge of the Word. There they washed their hands, (their works), and their feet, (their ways). But here in the Holy Place they are expected to move by faith to begin to choose their behavior. In the natural this space is confining compared to the Court, but here in the Holy Place is the light of the Lord day *and night*. When you are here the people in the Court easily misunderstand you because they cannot see what you see.

This Word of the Holy Place is spiritual bread...spiritual “manna” from Heaven. This bread is eaten by the priests. This Word is not surface Word like at the Laver. This Word is taken within to become a part of you. The Word in the Court is under the natural sun and therefore is seen with the natural mind. The Word in the Court (water of the Laver) is the letter of the Word.

But the manna (bread) in the Holy Place is not under the natural sun. It is seen only with the light of the Holy Spirit. It is the Word seen as deeper truths at a higher spiritual level. It is hidden manna to those in the Court who have not entered into this room. The Word in the Holy Place, (bread on the Table), is a spiritual Word. This hidden manna equips us to offer ourselves in more depth and move on to the Altar of Incense.

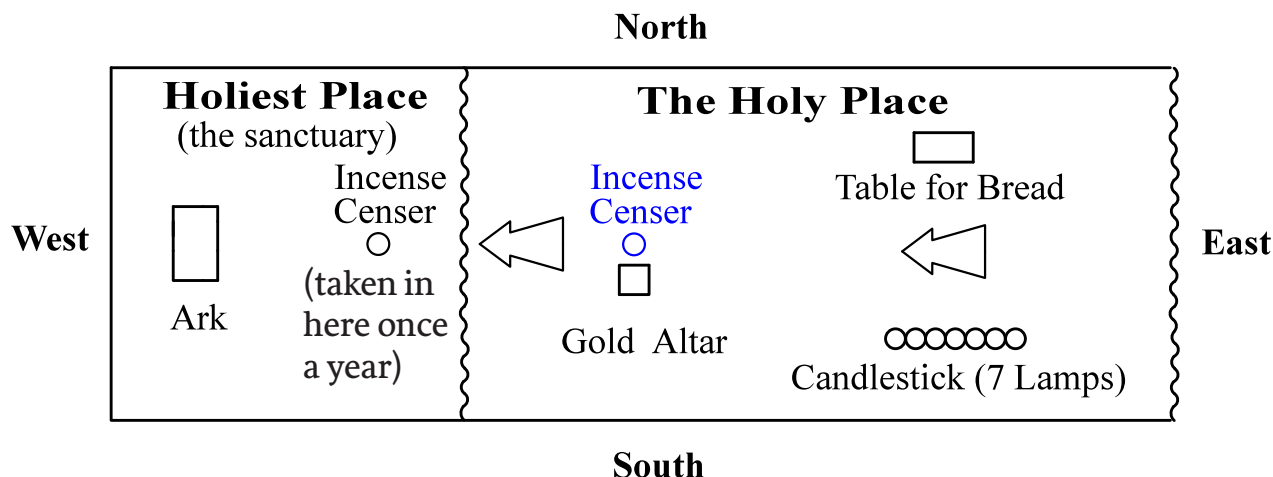
The Holy Place represents the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

The third “appointment” in the Holy Place is the Gold Altar, often called the Altar of Incense. Incense is subjected to fire on the altar. The fire came from the brass altar of the Court. There is a gold incense censer at the gold altar for the coals of incense. This Incense Censer is carried by the High Priest into the Holiest Place. Youngs Literal Translation in the verses below accurately identifies the incense censer , (not the gold altar), as what goes into the Holiest Place. Both Lamsa’s translation from the Aramaic and the Jubilee Bible also confirm this.

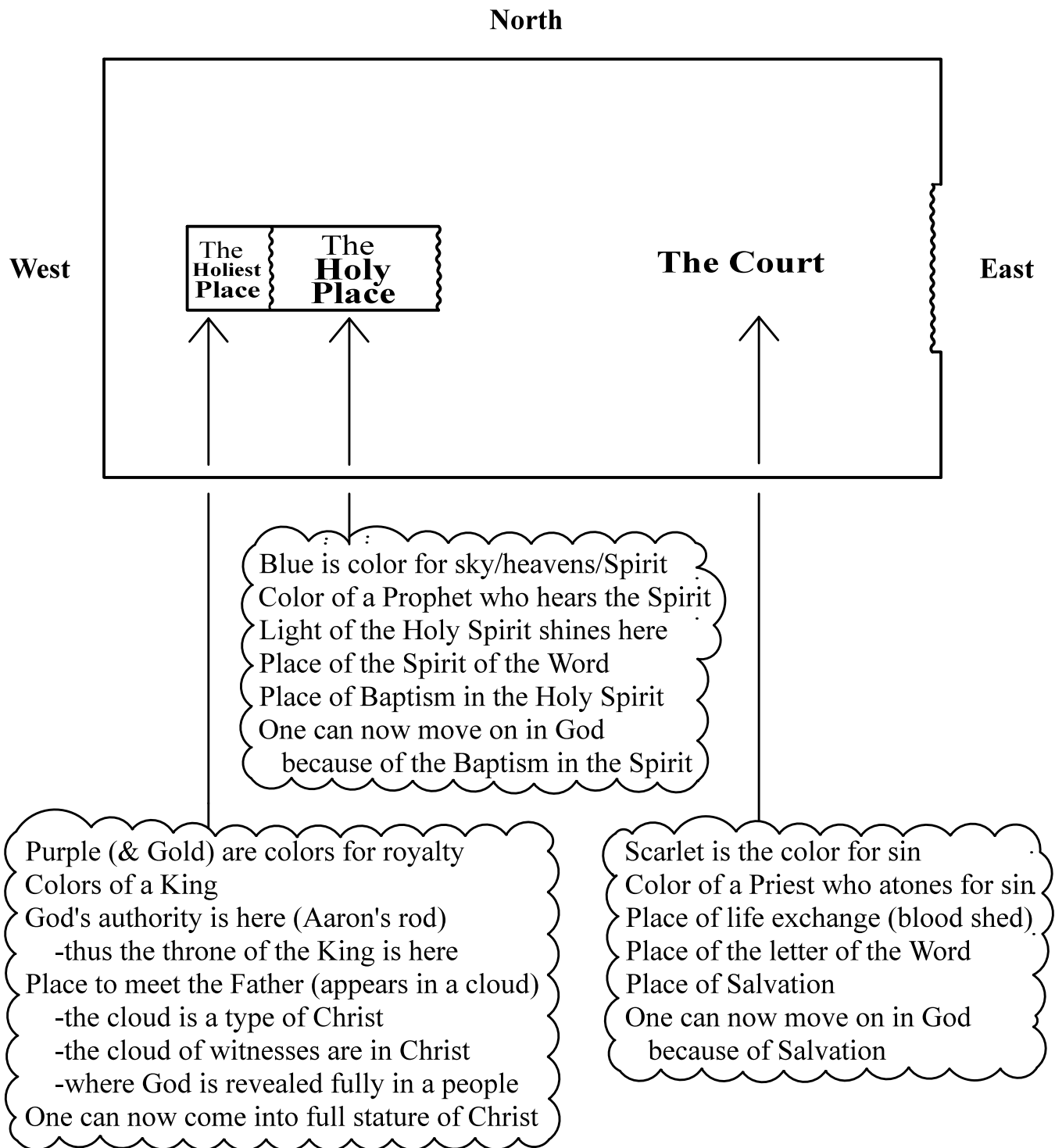
“1. It had, indeed, then (even the first tabernacle) ordinances of service, also a worldly sanctuary, 2. for a tabernacle was prepared, the first, in which was both the lamp-stand, and the table, and the bread of the presence—which is called ‘[the] Holy [Place];’ 3. and after the second vail a tabernacle that is called ‘HOLY OF HOLIES,’ 4. HAVING A GOLDEN CENSER, and the ARK OF THE COVENANT overlaid all round about with gold, in which is the GOLDEN POT HAVING THE MANNA, and the ROD OF AARON that budded, and the TABLES OF THE COVENANT, 5. and over it cherubim of the glory, overshadowing the mercy-seat,...” **Hebrews 9**

The Holiest Place has within it the Ark of the Testimony, (also called “Ark of the Covenant”). It is a wooden box overlaid with gold outside and inside. It has a solid gold lid with two solid gold Cherubim on it. One is at one end and one is at the other end. (This reminds me of the position of the two angels in the tomb of Jesus, (**John 20:11**).) They are facing each other. This lid is called the Mercy Seat. God appears in a cloud above the mercy seat, (**Leviticus 16:2**). Before the resurrection only the High Priest could enter this room. He could only enter once a year. That day was the Day of Atonement in the Feast of Tabernacles on the 10th day of the seventh month. On this day he took the Incense Censer with him when he went in. This day also heralded the beginning of the Jubilee Year when the debtors went free, (**Leviticus 25:9**). Here we are totally free at last of the first Adam nature, because of Jesus, our High Priest.

There are three things inside this ark shaped like a box, (**Hebrews 9:4**). In the box are the tablets of the commandments, God’s Word. This box speaks of us, (we are represented by the perishable wood), but we are covered in incorruptible gold when we are in Christ. The nature of God (represented by gold) is on the inside as well as the outside. The Word of God is on the inside. He is dwelling in man. Also in the Ark is a jar of manna in a gold pot. The manna does not perish or fade. This speaks of the Word of the Spirit that never gets old and stale. And in the Ark is Aaron’s rod that budded. This speaks of God’s authority. It all speaks of being in Christ.



I close with a summary of general patterns below. We have only scratched the surface of the types and shadows with their many levels of truth in the Tabernacle. More of these will be unfolded in upcoming lessons.



Jesus is High Priest of all Priests, (our forerunner, **Hebrews 6:20**) and King of Kings, (**Revelation 19:16**). We are called to be kings and priests in Him, (**Revelation 1:6**), ...part of the Christ. When God says in **Exodus 25:8** to “*Make Me a sanctuary*”, the deeper meaning here is “*Become a dwelling place for Me.*” Jesus has made the Way for us. He is the first man in whom the Godhead dwells fully, **Colossians 2:9**).

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