

OLD TESTAMENT TYPES, SHADOWS AND THEIR NEW TESTAMENT FULFILLMENT

Lesson 5 – TYPES IN EXODUS – Part 3

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I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Last week we covered the types/shadows regarding the tabernacle as a building and as a spiritual place of worship.
1. The tabernacle was God's design so that He could live among His people.
 2. The ceremonial cleansing that the priests had to go through was to symbolize purification or holiness.
 3. God is holy and He requires His people to be holy as well
 4. While this ceremonial cleansing could not make the Israelites truly holy, it is a type of the cleansing we receive through baptism which does make us truly holy in God's sight.
- B. Another thing God demands of His people is that they are "sanctified".
1. Sanctify means: to separate from profane things and dedicate to God
 2. God sanctified many things to be dedicated to God:
 - a. The Sabbath Day – **Genesis 2:3**
 - b. The people of Israel – **Exodus 19:14**
 - c. The Tabernacle – **Exodus 29:43**
 - d. The first-born among the Israelites – **Numbers 8:17**
 3. We as members of the church that Christ died for are sanctified.
 4. Jesus sanctified the Apostles for the special work of establishing the church.
John 17:17 – "*Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.*"
 5. Jesus has sanctified the church as His glorious bride:
 - a. **Ephesians 5:25-26** – "*Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.*"
 - b. This is important because WE are the church, which means we are to be sanctified, meaning that we must be separated from worldly ambitions and are dedicated to Jesus Christ and spiritual ambitions.
I John 2:15 – "*Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*"
- C. We also covered the significance of the courtyard that surrounded the tabernacle and the items used for worship located in the courtyard: the altar of burnt offerings and the laver, used for washing the hands and feet of the priests.

1. Their sacrifices had to be offered over and over because they could only provide a temporary solution to sin.
2. These sacrifices were a type/shadow of the final sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross.
3. Remember, the types and shadows were imperfect likenesses of something better to come.
4. While their sacrifices had a temporary effect, the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ as an atonement for sin was once for all time, both backward toward the Israelites and forward for the Christian.

II. THE BUILDING MATERIALS OF THE TABERNACLE

- A. The dimensions of the tabernacle were:
 1. Thirty cubits (45 feet) long
 2. Ten cubits (15 feet) wide
 3. Its height was the same as its width.
- B. The Tabernacle was made of two rooms.
 1. The first was a larger room into which only priests (Levites) might enter for their service was called the Holy Place.
 - a. Twenty cubits (30 feet) long by ten cubits (15 feet) wide
 - b. It was framed with boards of shittim (acacia) wood, ½ cubit (27 inches) wide by 10 cubits (15 feet) high
 - c. The boards were overlaid with gold.
 2. It is not unreasonable to believe that the individual parts (boards) that constructed the tabernacle are types/shadows of the individuals (church members) that make up the New Testament church.
 - a. **Hebrews 3:6** – “*but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.*”
 - b. **Colossians 1:18** – “*And He (Jesus) is the head of the body, the church...*”
 - c. **Ephesians 1:22-23** – “*22 And He (God) put all things under His (Christ’s) feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body...*”
 - d. **Ephesians 2:19-22** – “*19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.*”
 - e. **I Corinthians 12:12-14** – “*12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—*

and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. ¹⁴ For in fact the body is not one member but many.

- f. **I Corinthians 12:18** – *“But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.”*
- g. **I Corinthians 12:27** – *“Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.”*
- h. **I Peter 2:5** – *“...you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”*
- i. Therefore, the individual boards in the tabernacle are a type/shadow of the individual Christians, and the tabernacle itself is a type/shadow of God’s house today, *“whose house we are.”* (**Hebrews 3:6**)

III. Furnishings in the first room, the Holy Place.

- A. The golden candlestick (lampstand) was located on the left side of the Holy Place.
 1. **Exodus 25:31** – *“You shall also make a lampstand of pure gold; the lampstand shall be of hammered work. Its shaft, its branches, its bowls, its ornamental knobs, and flowers shall be of one piece.”*
 - a. It was made from a talent of gold.
 - b. The weight of a talent is 120 pounds.
 - c. In 2018, the value of 120 pounds of gold is 2.3 million dollars.
 2. The branches were not stuck on, or soldered on, or glued on.
 - a. Rather they were one and the same piece with the central shaft or stem.
 - b. The purpose of the lampstand was to give light to the table of showbread and to the priests as they performed their duties inside the Holy Place.
 - c. It was to be kept burning 24 hours a day. **Exodus 27:20**
 3. As the altar and the laver were types of Christ, so was the candlestick (lampstand).
 - a. The central shaft or stem represents Christ, and the branches represent believers.
 - 1) **John 8:12** – *“Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.’”*
 - 2) The sinner is said to be in darkness, but Christians are called *“children of light.”*
 - a) **Ephesians 5:8** – *“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.”*
 - b) **1 Peter 2:9** – *“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”*

- B. The Table of Showbread is a type/shadow of the spiritual food Christians require to nourish their souls.
1. The table was placed on the north side of the Holy Place, opposite the lampstand.
 - a. It was also made of acacia wood, like the boards of the tabernacle.
 - b. It was overlaid with pure gold.
 - c. The table was two cubits (3 feet) long, one cubit (18 inches) wide and one and one-half cubits (two feet) high
 - d. The top was encompassed by a crown and border of gold.
 - e. It had two rings on each of two sides of the table, through which two poles could be inserted so the Levites could carry it when they moved.
 2. Twelve loaves of bread were placed on this table every Sabbath.
 - a. The bread represented the twelve tribes of God's chosen people, and in turn each person in those tribes who were God's children.
 - b. The bread that was removed each week was eaten by the priests while the incense was being burned on the Altar of Incense.
 3. This showbread is a type/shadow of Jesus Christ as the "bread of life".
 - a. **John 6:48** -- Jesus said, "*I am the bread of life.*"
 - b. **John 6:51** – "*I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.*"
 - c. Only the priests could eat the showbread, as mediators between God and the people of Israel.
 - d. In the New Covenant, all Christians are priests, giving us the right to eat this "bread of life" for ourselves.
 - 1) **Revelation 1:5b-6** – "*To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen*"
 - 2) Only the priests from the tribe of Levi could eat the showbread and likewise, only Christians can eat the "bread of life" that Jesus offers to His disciples.
 - 3) Lost souls are not permitted this privilege until/unless they also become a part of the "priesthood" of Christians.
- C. The Golden Altar of Incense
1. The altar of incense was situated just in front of the veil (curtain) separating the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies and separating the people (even the Levite priests) from the presence of God
 2. The Ark of the Covenant, the mercy seat and God's presence were on the other side of the veil.
 3. This altar was not as large as the Altar of Burnt Offerings, but it was more precious.
 - a. As were other parts of the Tabernacle, it was made of acacia wood overlaid with solid gold.

- b. It was one cubit (18 inches) square and two cubits (3 feet) high.
 - c. Like the other altar, it had horns fashioned on the four corners of it.
 - d. Around the top edges was a crown.
 - e. On two sides, gold rings were attached through which poles could be inserted to allow the Levites to carry it when they moved.
4. Its chief function was to burn a specially made fragrant incense which was pleasing to God. **Exodus 30:35 & 38**
- a. Every morning and evening when the priest trimmed the lamps and relit the lampstand, he also burned incense as an act of worship to God. **Exodus 30:7-8**
 - 1) The only fire to be used for burning incense were to be coals taken from the Altar of Burnt Offerings.
 - 2) **Leviticus 6:13** – “*A fire shall always be burning on the altar; it shall never go out.*”
 - 3) **Leviticus 16:12** – “*Then he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from the altar before the LORD, with his hands full of sweet incense beaten fine, and bring it inside the veil.*”
 - 4) **Leviticus 10** details the importance of using only fire from the Altar of Burnt Offerings for burning the incense.
 - a) Aaron’s sons, Nadab and Abihu used “profane” fire (fire not taken from the altar of burnt offerings) in their censers, which were also used to burn incense.
 - b) These two men were struck dead by God for their disobedience.
 - b. Once each year on the Day of Atonement, the High Priest would place blood on the horns of the Altar of Incense as an atoning sacrifice before entering the Holy of Holies. **Ex. 30:10**
 - 1) The Altar of Incense was positioned between the entrance to the tabernacle and the Holy of Holies (the abode of God).
 - 2) It’s position indicating that a sacrifice of blood was necessary before going into the presence of God.
 - 3) It was the only means by which the sinful person could approach God.
 - c. The Hebrew writer tells us that this is also the only way Christians may come into the presence of God.

Hebrews 10:19 – “¹⁹ *Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,* ²⁰

 - 1) It is clear from this that the blood of Jesus Christ gives entrance through the veil, into the presence of God for Christians.
 - 2) It is also clear that those who do not accept the gospel message will never be able to go beyond the veil into the presence of God.
 - d. This altar of incense is also a type/shadow of the prayers of Christians rising up to God.
 - 1) David said: **Psalm 141:2** – “*Let my prayer be set before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.*”

- 2) John saw this vision: **Revelation 5:8** – “*Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.*”
- 3) Fragrant incense is a beautiful symbol of the prayers of the saints.
- 4) How pleasant it must be for God to hear the loving devotion and praises of His people communicating with their God.
- 5) We are reminded in **Hebrews 13:15** – “*Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.*”
- 6) Just as the incense was burned twice each day perpetually, so are we instructed to “*Pray without ceasing.*” **I Thes. 5:17**

D. The veil of the Tabernacle is a type of Christ’s humanity.

1. “*You shall make a veil woven of blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen. It shall be woven with an artistic design of cherubim.*”
2. The colors of the veil represent characteristics of Christ:
 - a. The blue is a symbol of Christ’s deity
 - b. The purple, His royalty
 - c. The scarlet, His death
 - d. The white linen, His sinlessness
 - e. The cherubim suggest His heavenly origin
3. The purpose of the veil was to separate the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place.
 - a. The approach into God’s presence was limited in those days.
 - b. Christ, by His incarnation and death, has opened a way for us to enter the presence of God.
 - c. **Hebrews 10:19-20** – “¹⁹ *Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,* ²⁰ *by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh.*”
 - d. Here we are told the veil is a symbol of Christ’s flesh or His humanity.
 - e. But His humanity without His death could not have opened the way into God’s presence.
 - f. The rending of the veil in the Temple when Christ died symbolizes the opening of the way into the Holy of Holies for us.
 - g. **Matthew 27:50-51** – “⁵⁰ *And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up His spirit.* ⁵¹ *Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split.”*
 - h. The veil separating God from His people was destroyed forever by the final sacrifice of His beloved Son as an atonement for us.

IV. The Holy of Holies is a type of Heaven.

A. The Holy of Holies was a perfect cube, and therefore a type of the New Jerusalem.

1. This room was ten cubits or fifteen feet each way. The Temple of Solomon was twice these dimensions.

Hebrews 9:24 teaches us this: *"²⁴ For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."*

2. And John sees the New Jerusalem (Heaven) as a cube.

Revelation 21:16 – *"The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal."*

3. Also, like Heaven, The Holy of Holies was a room where the use of pure gold predominated.

Revelation 21:18. *"And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass."*

4. The Holy of Holies had as its only source of light the Shekinah (glory of God's presence), and is therefore a type of the Heaven.

Revelation 21:23 – *"The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light."*

5. God's presence and Christ's presence do away with all need for any other system of lighting.

B. The Ark of the Covenant was the placed in the Tabernacle

1. The mercy seat was a lid crafted of pure gold to fit on top of the Ark of the Covenant. **Exodus 25:21**

a. Two cherubim were hammered out of pure gold, one on each end of the mercy seat. The cherubim and the mercy seat were all one piece.

b. The wings of the cherubim were outstretched above the mercy seat, facing each other.

2. Only the High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies – and then only once a year, on the Day of Atonement. **Leviticus 16:2**

3. The mercy seat was specifically where God's presence was located.

a. **Numbers 7:89** – *"Now when Moses went into the tabernacle of meeting to speak with Him (God), he heard the voice of One speaking to him from above the mercy seat that was on the ark of the Testimony, from between the two cherubim; thus He spoke to him."*

b. **I Samuel 4:4** – *"So the people sent to Shiloh, that they might bring from there the ark of the covenant of the LORD of hosts, who dwells between the cherubim. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God."*

c. The mercy seat was the place where God met with man and communicated His commandments.

Exodus 25:22 – *“And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel.”*

4. The mercy seat was the most sacred place in the Tabernacle. It was a type of the throne of God in Heaven because blood was sprinkled upon it as atonement for sin.
5. **Leviticus 16:15** – *“Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering, that is for the people, and bring his blood within the veil, and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before the mercy seat.”*
6. Once a year, on the Day of Atonement the high priest sprinkled blood on the mercy seat.
7. The meaning of the term mercy seat is “propitiatory,” or “a place of propitiation,” or “a place of atonement” or “covering over of sins.”
 - a. Therefore, it was a place where sin was atoned for or covered over.
 - b. In Old Testament times sin was covered over temporarily, but on the cross Christ was a propitiation for sin once for all time.
 - c. **Romans 3:24-25** – *“being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed.”*
 - d. Atonement through Christ’s blood was made known by Christ in Heaven.

Hebrews 9:24 – *“...being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed.”*
 - e. (**Hebrews 9:24**). Thus the mercy seat is a type of God’s throne of grace. *“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”*
8. The Ark of the Covenant was the box constructed to store the tablets of stone, symbolic of God’s law, which sinful man violated
 - a. The covering (mercy seat) exactly covered the entire Ark.
 - b. The mercy seat is a type of Jesus Christ who was able to cover every sin through His blood sacrifice on the cross.

V. The High Priest is a Type of Christ as Our Priest

A. There is considerable evidence in the New Testament that Jesus Christ is the antitype of the High Priests of Israel.

1. **Hebrews 3:1** – *“Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,”*

2. **Hebrews 8:1** – *“Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, ² a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.”*
3. The names of the tribes of Israel were engraved around the stones set on the shoulder straps and breastplate of the ephod Aaron wore so that he carried the names of his people with him as he entered into the presence of God.
4. Just as Aaron was an advocate or mediator for the people of Israel, so is Jesus the advocate of His people before God.
 - a. **I John 2** – *“My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.”*
 - b. **Hebrews 7:23-27** – *“Also there were many priests, because they were prevented by death from continuing. ²⁴ But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.”*
5. The Levitical Priests were also a type of Christians today.
 - a. These priests were called “Levitical” because they were descendants of the tribe of Levi, whom God selected as His holy tribe.
 - b. These every-day priests performed many of the services required at the tabernacle, including offering sacrifices.
 - c. However, they were never permitted to enter the Holy of Holies; on the High Priest could do that by offering a blood sacrifice.
 - d. While Jesus Christ is our High Priest, we are priests as well.
 - e. **I Peter 2:5** – *“...you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”*
 - f. God will not accept spiritual sacrifices from those who are NOT priests today, just as He would not accept sacrifices offered by anyone outside the Levitical priesthood.