

Deeper

Topic - Tabernacles and Temples 1

Introduction

Key principle - We have a God of Revelation and Relationship.

God reveals himself to his creation. Theologians talk of both natural or general revelation and special revelation

Natural revelation - What can be deduced about God by just opening our eyes to nature. Psalm 19 :1 Romans 1 :19-20

Special revelation - What the Spirit reveals through the Bible. Also in special circumstances, other ways eg dreams.

God also wants to abide with his people in relationship. Exodus 25 :8, Rev 21 :3 John 15 :5

God wanted a relationship with the Jews (Chosen people). He wanted to show he was in their midst, which was important to the people of Israel and also to us (Wider chosen people).

In these ways;

1. God's presence with us, gives us peace. Exodus 33 :14,
2. God can communicate with us. Exodus 33 :9-11
3. God blessed the people. Leviticus 9 :23-24



Questions

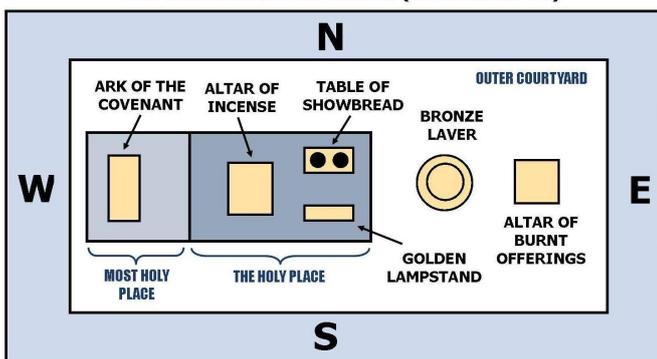
What have we learned about the nature and character of God?

How much can we learn about God from General/Natural revelation

What's the Tabernacle, and why is it significant?

Called -Tabernacle, Sanctuary, or Tent of Meeting

THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES (EXODUS 35-40)



Points to Jesus - Heb 8 :5 Mentioned 20x in the NT

The Tabernacle Hebrew: , מִשְׁכָּן *mishkan*, "residence/dwelling place". Tabernacle is ground plan of salvation.

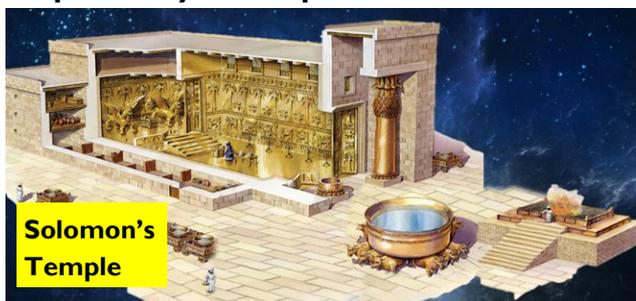
The people dwelt in tents, so God identified with the people by his presence also being seen in a tent.

Jesus 'tabernacled' amongst us John 1 :14, and Jesus is the embodiment of the Tabernacle, and he is where God and man meet. Jesus is the only way to God. The Tabernacle was meant to point to Jesus

The Tabernacle was a place to find God in the desert and was humble on the outward appearance. Isaiah 53 :2

Replaced by a Temple

David had a burden to build permanent Temple, Solomon then completed it (950BC),



God then filled it 1 Chronicles 22 :1, 5-6, 2 Chron 3 :1, 7 :1-3

This original temple was destroyed by Babylonians, then rebuilt on return. Modestly - Haggai 1 :2, 2 :3

Redeveloped by Herod the Great 20 BC

Jesus called himself the Temple John 2 :19-20

End of Holy of Holies. Matthew 27 :51

The presence of God was in Jesus Colossians 1 :19

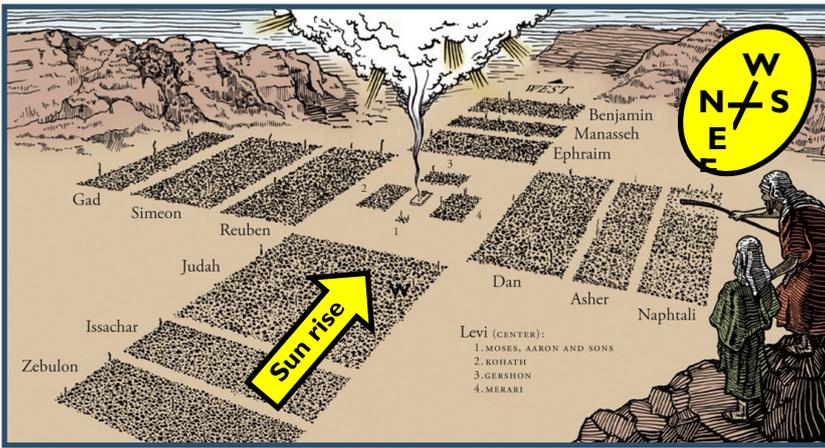
End of geographical presence John 4 :20-26, Acts 17 :24-25, Matthew 18 :20

Now, we are both a temple individually, and part of a collective temple (The Church)

Holy Spirit descended on individuals praying together. Acts 2 :3, c.f. Exodus 40 :34, 2 Chronicles 7 :1-3

We individually are temples 1 Corinthians 3 :16-17, 2 Corinthians 6 :14-18 Also as a church Ephesians 2 :19-22, 1 Peter 2 :5

Tabernacle set up There's a pattern of sevens in the instructions of the Tabernacle, compare with creation?



There are similarities between the Garden of Eden & the Tabernacle.

At the fall, man was expelled eastward Genesis 3 :24. So to re-enter God's presence you had to go westward.

The Tabernacle was to be on a west east axis, as the sun rose in the morning, the sun shone on the gate.

The Tabernacle was at the centre of the camp, with each tribe in it's set place around it, in a cross shape.

Although the gate was wide, only the pure could enter. Prohibitions exist for certain medical conditions. Only Jews (God's people) could enter.

Above the Tabernacle there was a cloud by day and fire by night. Providing protective shade and guidance.

Only priests could enter the Tent of Meeting, to be a priest, you had to be born into it, Aaron's family.

We to have been born into the priesthood today. 1 Peter 2 :5, Revelation 5 :9-10.

The people had to move when God moved on. Exodus 40 :36 That is a challenge to us!

Questions What can we learn from this about our walk as a Christian?

How the Tabernacle was set up

The reflection of it in John's Gospel

	Exodus chapter 40	compared with	John's Gospel
1	Ark inside v3		John ch 1
2	Install veil to separate the Holy of Holies		Jesus with us, but not seen/recognised v10
3	Set up Table of Shewbread v4		I am the Bread of Life 6v48
4	Set up lampstand v4		I am the light 8 v12
5	Set up incense Altar v5		?
6	Set up curtain v5		I am the door/Gate 10 v9
7	Altar of burnt offering v6		I am the good shepherd 10 v11 Lays down his life
8	Set up Laver and fill with water v7		I am the resurrection and life 11 v25 Baptism, pictures death & resurrection
9	Set up Courtyard and entrance v8		I am the Way, truth and life 14 v6
10	Anointed the tabernacle & utensils with oil v9-11		Promise of the Holy Spirit 14 v16
11	Aaron and sons—washed, clothed, and anointed v12		I am the vine you are the branches 15v5

Next time in Deeper - The items within the Tabernacle (Spoiler alert, they all tell about Jesus and us)