
The Priestly Order of Aaron

Hebrews 5:1-4

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews Outline

Doctrine

The Superiority of Jesus Christ's Position - Hebrews 1:1 - 4:13

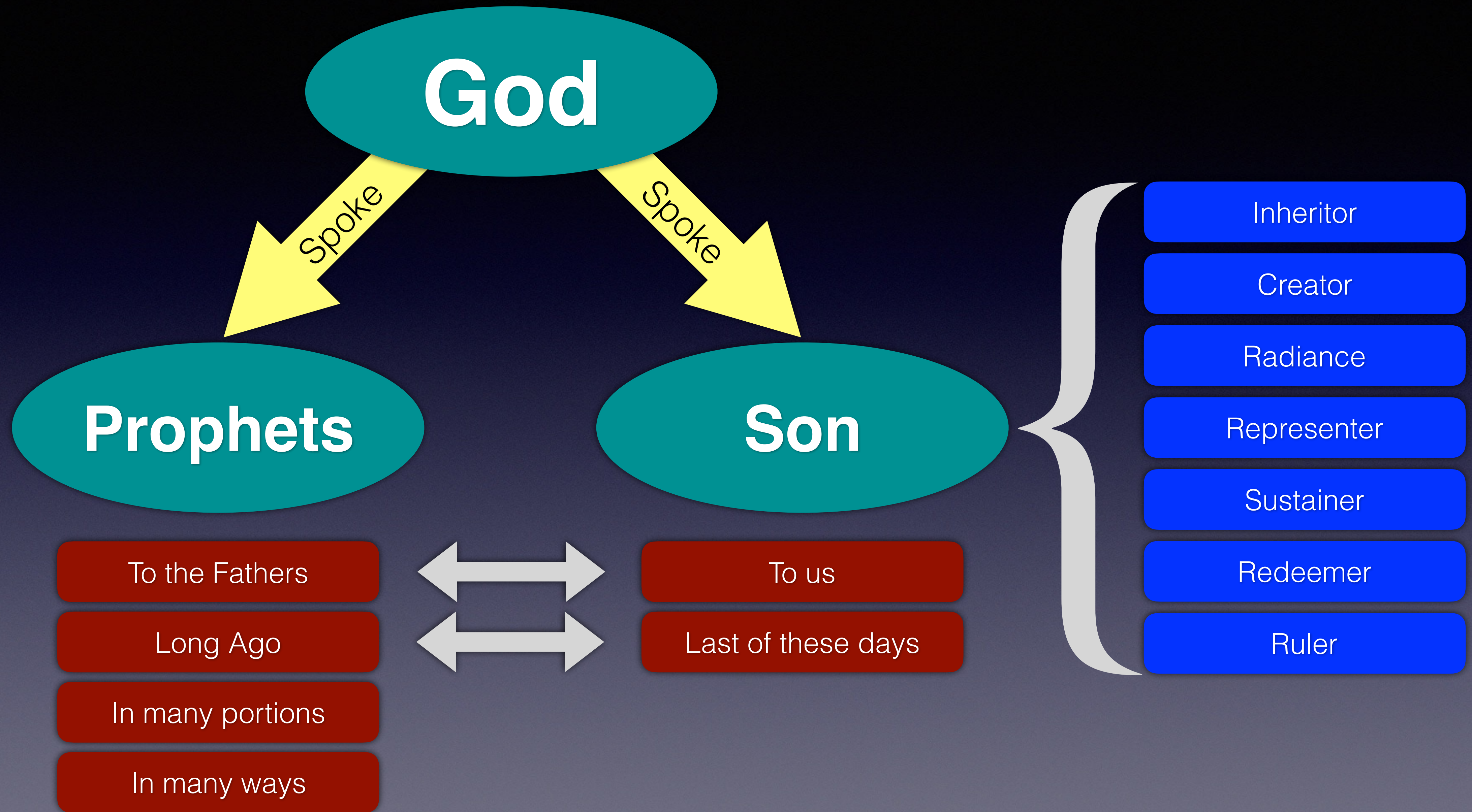
The Superiority of Jesus Christ's Priesthood - Hebrews 4:14 - 7:28

The Superiority of Jesus Christ's Priestly Ministry - Hebrews 8:1 - 10:18

Practice

The Superiority of the Believer's Privileges - Hebrews 10:19 - 12:29

The Superiority of Christian Behavior - Hebrews 13



We HAVE a High Priest - Hebrews 4:14

1. He is a Great High Priest
2. He is in heaven, the Holiest of Holies
3. He is Jesus in His humanity
4. He is the Son of God in His deity
5. **THEREFORE** - Let us hold fast our confession or Christian faith

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We DO NOT HAVE a High Priest - Hebrews 4:15-16

1. Who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses
2. Who has not been tempted
3. Who has sin
4. **THEREFORE** - Let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace

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FOR every high priest taken from among men is appointed on behalf of men in things pertaining to God, in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins; **...even as Aaron was.**"(Hebrews 5:1, 4b)

Theme Statement

The first high priest, the order of Aaron, was appointed by the LORD God alone to represent sinful men before the Holy LORD God, to deal gently but firmly with sinful men, to offer sacrifices for the sins of people. The first high priest is a temporal pattern for the eternal priesthood of Jesus Christ.

The High Priest's Qualifications

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3. He was to be a representative on behalf of men toward God



Merrill F. Unger

The idea of a priesthood connects itself, in all its forms, pure or corrupted, with the consciousness, always more or less distinct, of sin. Men sense that they have broken a law. The power above them is holier than they are, and they dare not approach it. They crave for the intervention of one whom they can think of as likely to be more acceptable than themselves. He must offer up their prayers, thanksgivings and sacrifices. He becomes their representative in “things pertaining to God.” He may become also (though this does not always follow) the representative of God to man.”

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Romans 15:15-17 - But I have written very boldly to you on some points so as to remind you again, because of the grace that was given me from God, to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a **priest** the gospel of God, so that my offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in Christ Jesus I have found reason for boasting **in things pertaining to God**.

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5. He was to make sacrifices for the sins of the people to appease the wrath of God

The High Priest's Temperament

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“If the priest is cordially to plead with God for the sinner, he must bridle his natural disgust at the loathsomeness of sensuality, his impatience at the frequently recurring fall, his hopeless alienation from the hypocrite and the superficial, his indignation at any confession he hears from the penitent” (Dods - A. T. Robertson)

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Hebrews 10:26-27 - For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries.

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Numbers 15:28-31 - The priest shall make atonement before the Lord for the person who goes astray when he sins unintentionally, making atonement for him that he may be forgiven. "You shall have one law for him who does anything unintentionally, for him who is native among the sons of Israel and for the alien who sojourns among them. But the person who does anything defiantly, whether he is native or an alien, that one is blaspheming the Lord; and that person shall be cut off from among his people. Because he has despised the word of the Lord and has broken His commandment, that person shall be completely cut off; his guilt will be on him."

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1. He has the power to moderate his feelings toward those who sin carelessly and toward those who are led astray
2. He has the same human weaknesses and, in the case of the Levitical High Priest, the same sinful heart

The High Priest's Duties

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1. He offers sacrifices for the sins of the people

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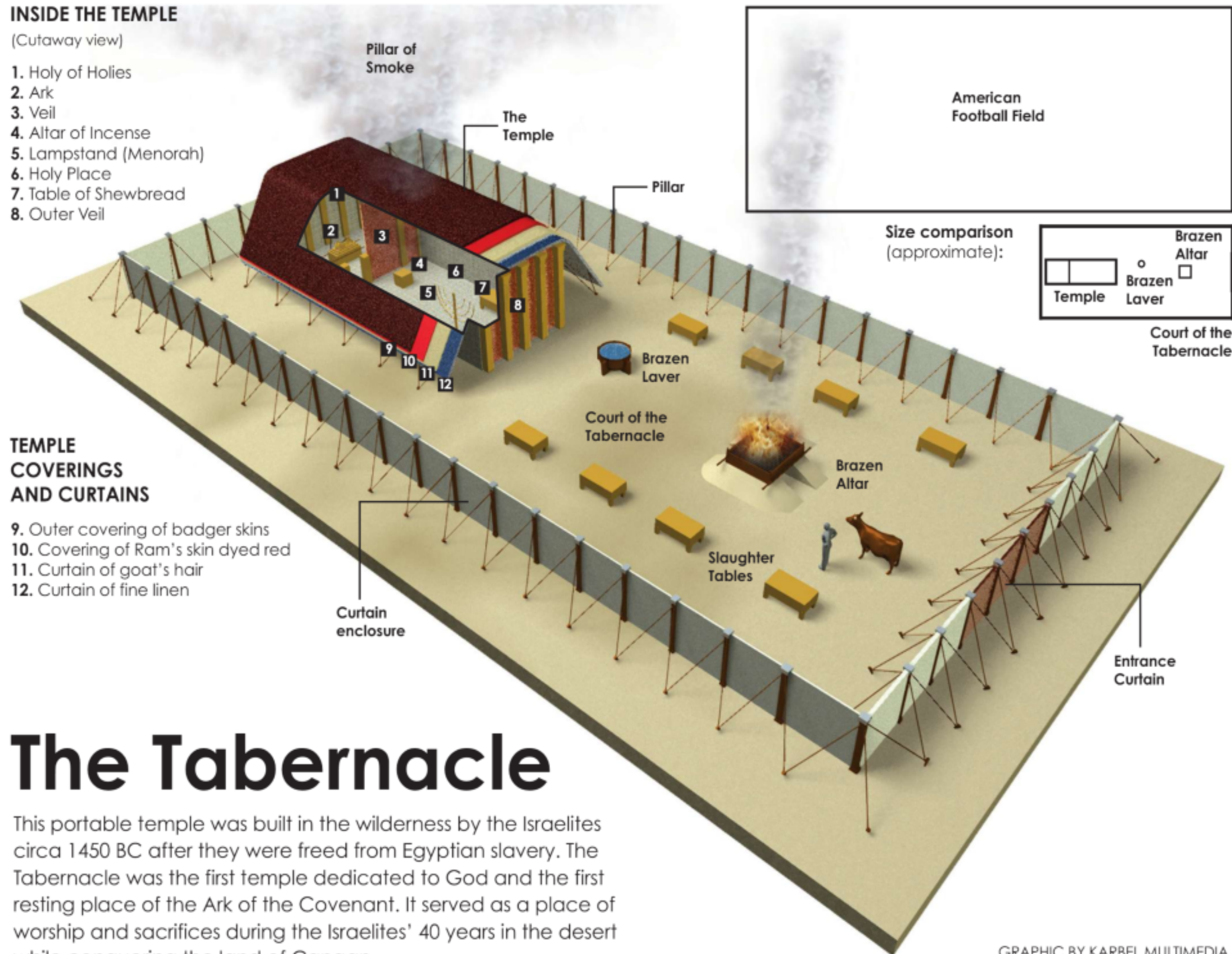
Hebrews 5:3

1. He offers sacrifices for the sins of the people
2. He offers sacrifices for the sins of himself

INSIDE THE TEMPLE

(Cutaway view)

1. Holy of Holies
2. Ark
3. Veil
4. Altar of Incense
5. Lampstand (Menorah)
6. Holy Place
7. Table of Shewbread
8. Outer Veil



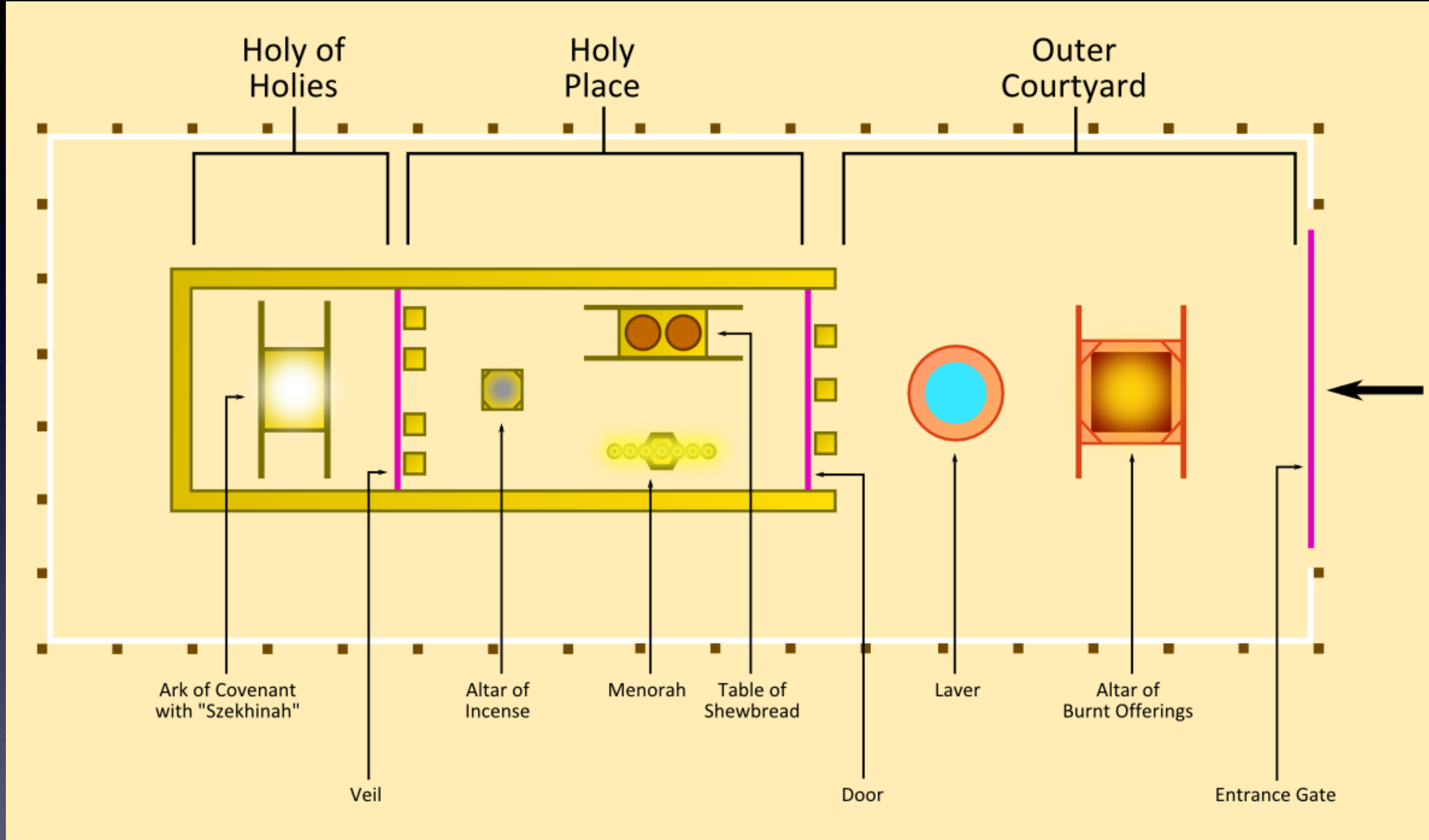
TEMPLE COVERINGS AND CURTAINS

9. Outer covering of badger skins
10. Covering of Ram's skin dyed red
11. Curtain of goat's hair
12. Curtain of fine linen

The Tabernacle

This portable temple was built in the wilderness by the Israelites circa 1450 BC after they were freed from Egyptian slavery. The Tabernacle was the first temple dedicated to God and the first resting place of the Ark of the Covenant. It served as a place of worship and sacrifices during the Israelites' 40 years in the desert while conquering the land of Canaan.

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Garments of the High Priest



Turban מצנפת

Crown ציץ

Onyx Stones אבני השהם

Linen Tunic כתונת תשבץ

Ephod אפוד

Urim veTumim אורים ותומים

Breastplate חושן משפט

Blue Robe מעיל תכלת

Golden Bells פעמוני זהב

Pomegranates רימונים

Linen Pants (not visible) מכנסיים

Crown (alternate design) ציץ

Exodus 28:2-4

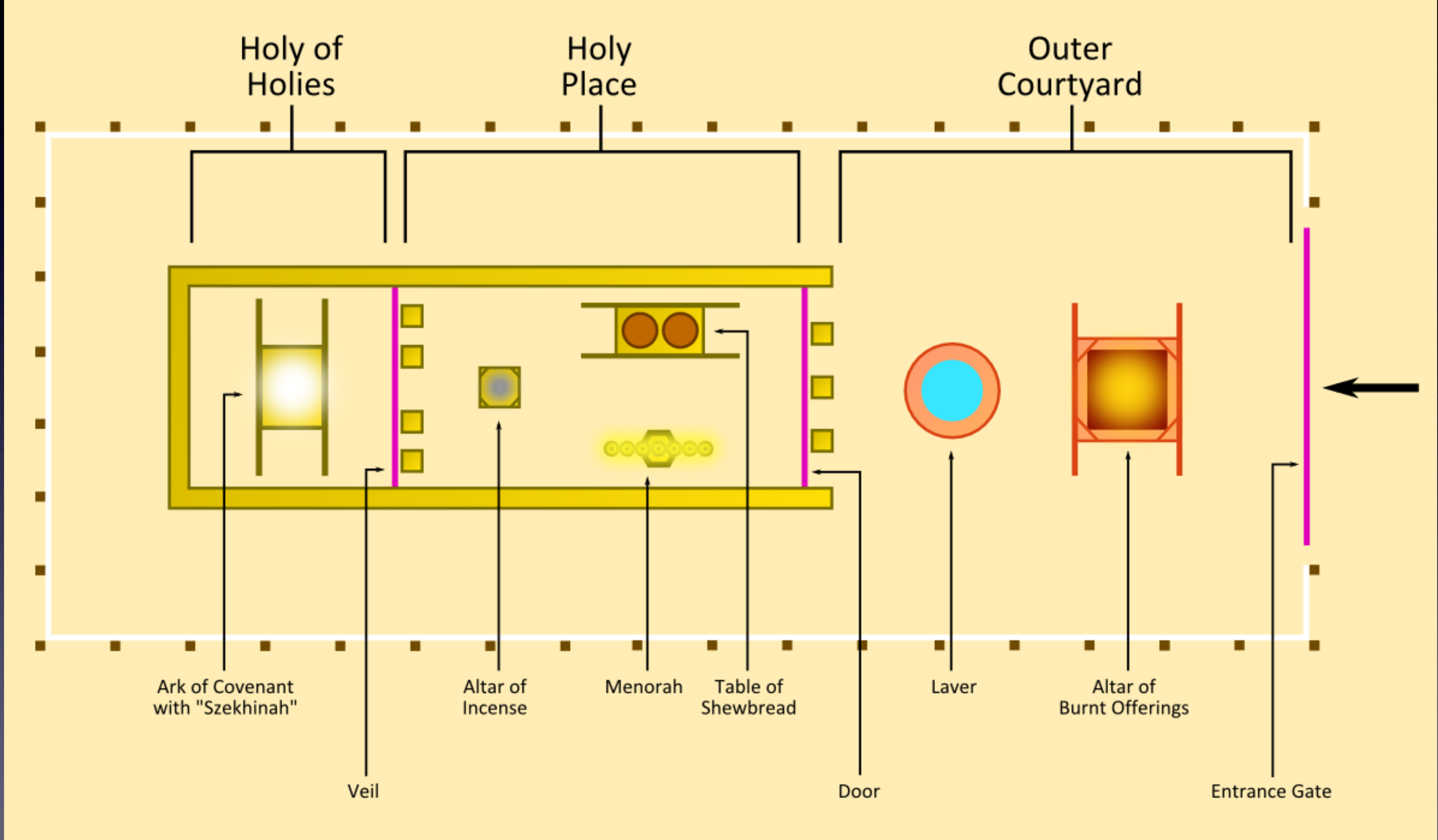
2 "You shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty.

3 You shall speak to all the skillful persons whom I have endowed with the spirit of wisdom, that they make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister as priest to Me.

4 These are the garments which they shall make: a breastpiece and an ephod and a robe and a tunic of checkered work, a turban and a sash, and they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and his sons, that he may minister as priest to Me."

Each Temple vessel restored by the Temple Institute is kosher for use in the soon to be rebuilt Third Temple, made according to the exact requirements and specifications of Biblical law. Please donate generously to help the sacred work of the Temple Institute! Every contribution helps to rebuild the Holy Temple in our Time!

Day of Atonement



The High Priest's Exclusivity

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2. The High Priesthood is by Divine appointment alone
3. Negative Examples

Implications

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1 Peter 2:4-5, 9

And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy **priesthood**, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ

But you are a CHOSEN RACE, a royal **PRIESTHOOD**, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR GOD'S OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

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1. We have the privilege of being appointed as priests with access to the very presence of God
2. We have the responsibility, like Paul, to be priests of God to the lost
3. We are to focus our ministry as priests on “the things pertaining to God”
4. We are to show compassion to the lost yet to be firm in proclaiming God’s strong warnings of certain eternal punishment for unbelievers in Jesus Christ