

CHRIST

IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Passage: Leviticus 16:1-34

Lesson: The Way Into God's Presence

Bereans 1 March, 2026

Theme:

“A holy God grants sinners access to His holy presence through atonement, accomplished ultimately in Christ .”

Leviticus

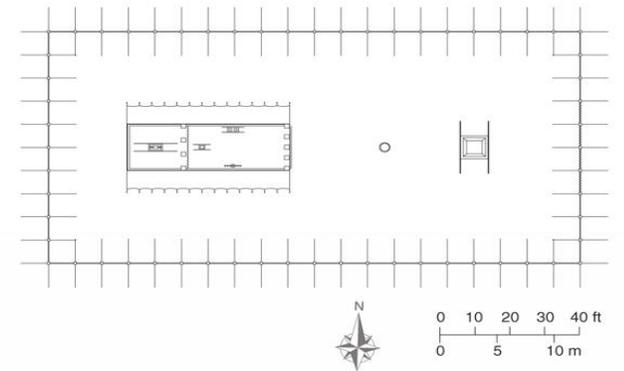
Theme of Leviticus : Holiness

Outline of Leviticus:

1. The Way to God (Sacrifice) – Chapter 1-17
2. The Walk with God (Sanctification) – Chapter 18-27

The Way Into God's Presence

- I. God Controls Access to His Presence (1-5)
 - A. God WARNS Against Casual Approach (1-2)



The Most Holy Place of the tabernacle tent was a 15-foot (4.6-m) cube, containing only the ark of the covenant (Ex. 25:10–22; 37:1–9). It was here that Yahweh would descend to meet with his people in a cloud theophany (divine appearance).

The Holy Place of the tabernacle tent was 30 feet (9.1 m) long, 15 feet (4.6 m) wide, and 15 feet (4.6 m) high. It housed the table (Ex. 25:23–30), the golden lampstand (Ex. 25:31–40; 37:17–24), and the altar of incense (Ex. 30:1–5; 37:25–29).

The veil separating the Holy Place from the tabernacle courtyard was similar to the veil separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place, except that cherubim were not embroidered on it (Ex. 26:36–37). It hung on five golden pillars.

The framed structure was covered by four layers of cloth and skin (Ex. 26:1–14).

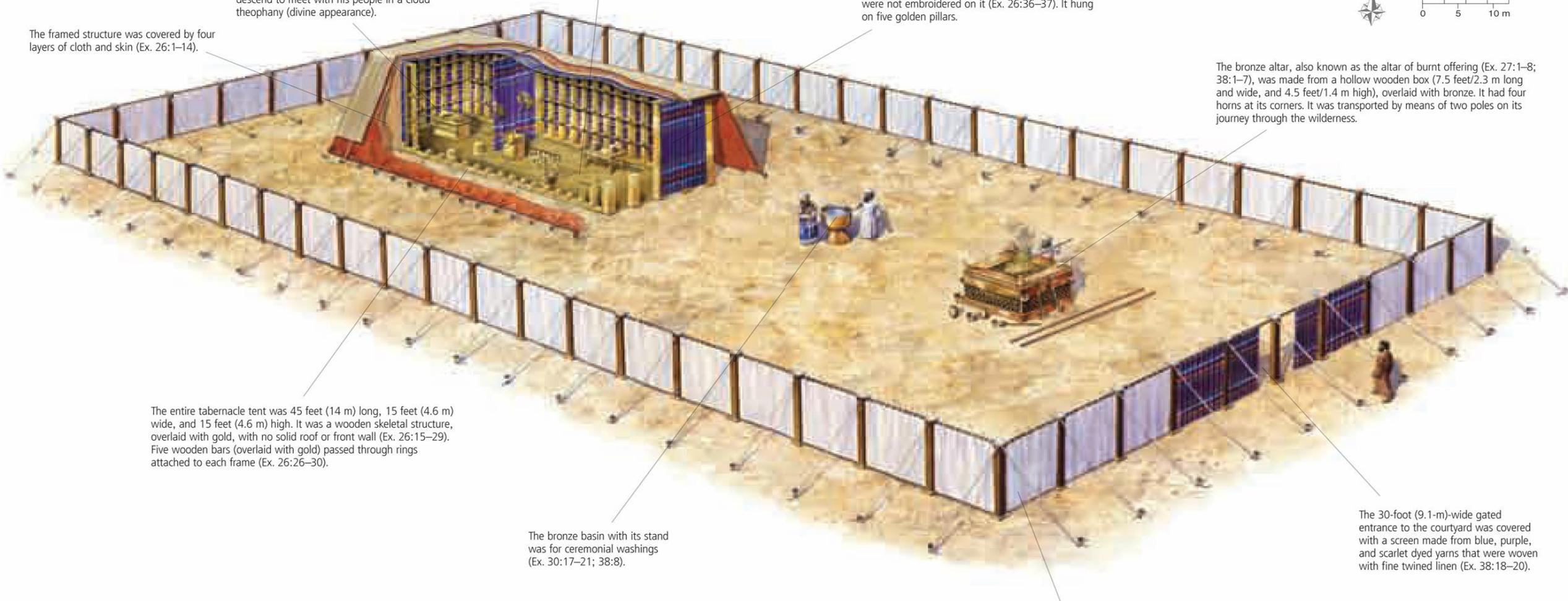
The bronze altar, also known as the altar of burnt offering (Ex. 27:1–8; 38:1–7), was made from a hollow wooden box (7.5 feet/2.3 m long and wide, and 4.5 feet/1.4 m high), overlaid with bronze. It had four horns at its corners. It was transported by means of two poles on its journey through the wilderness.

The entire tabernacle tent was 45 feet (14 m) long, 15 feet (4.6 m) wide, and 15 feet (4.6 m) high. It was a wooden skeletal structure, overlaid with gold, with no solid roof or front wall (Ex. 26:15–29). Five wooden bars (overlaid with gold) passed through rings attached to each frame (Ex. 26:26–30).

The bronze basin with its stand was for ceremonial washings (Ex. 30:17–21; 38:8).

The 30-foot (9.1-m)-wide gated entrance to the courtyard was covered with a screen made from blue, purple, and scarlet dyed yarns that were woven with fine twined linen (Ex. 38:18–20).

The surrounding hangings (fine twined linen curtains connected to pillars and stabilized by guy ropes and pegs) stood about 7.5 feet (2.3 m) high. The 60 wooden pillars were overlaid with bronze, stood in copper sockets, and had capitals overlaid with silver (Ex. 27:9–19; 38:9–17).



The Most Holy Place was a 15-foot (4.6-m) cube, containing only the ark of the covenant (Ex. 25:10–22; 37:1–9). It was here that Yahweh would descend to meet with his people in a cloud theophany (divine appearance). The high priest could enter only once a year, on the Day of Atonement (see note on Heb. 9:7).

The framed structure was covered by four layers of cloth and skin (Ex. 26:1–14).

The table for the bread of the Presence (Ex. 25:23–30)

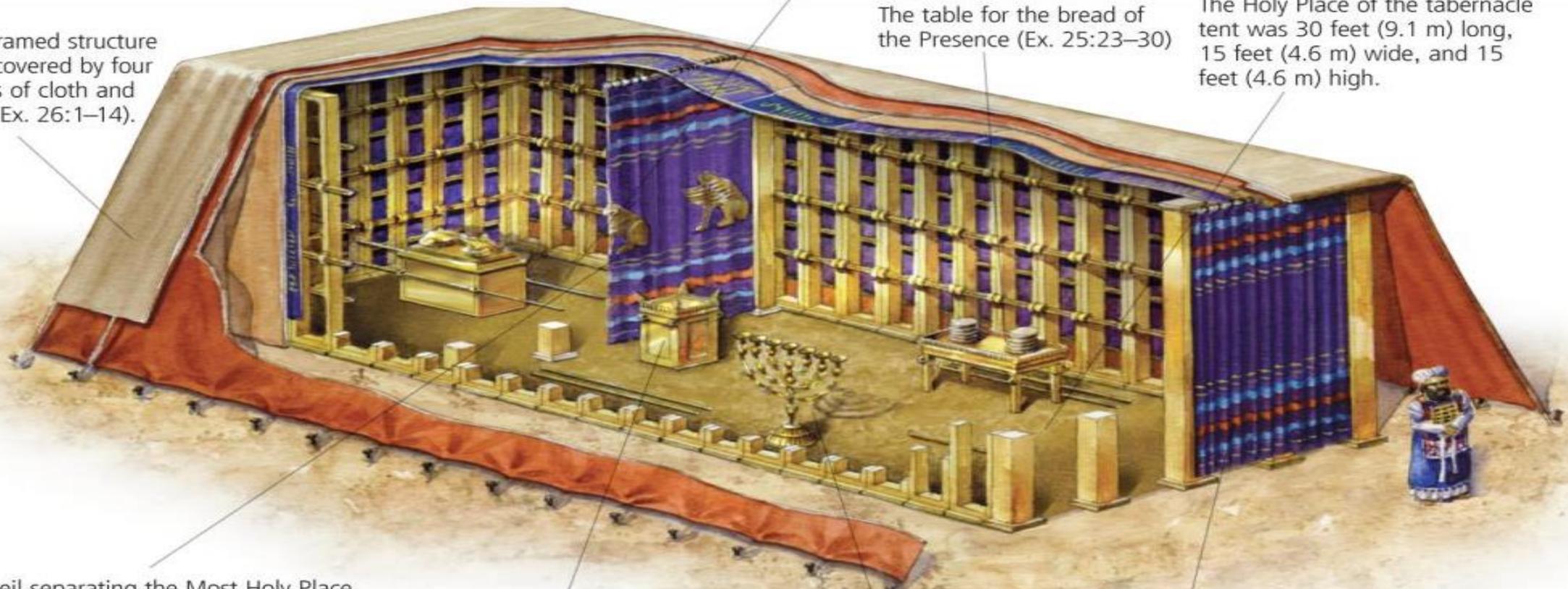
The Holy Place of the tabernacle tent was 30 feet (9.1 m) long, 15 feet (4.6 m) wide, and 15 feet (4.6 m) high.

The veil separating the Most Holy Place from the Holy Place was made from blue, purple, and scarlet dyed yarns woven with fine twined linen and embroidered with cherubim (Ex. 26:31–33). It hung on four golden pillars.

The altar of incense (Ex. 30:1–5; 37:25–29)

The golden lampstand (Ex. 25:31–40; 37:17–24)

The veil that formed the entrance to the tabernacle was similar to the veil separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place, except that cherubim were not embroidered on it. It was suspended on five golden pillars (Ex. 26:36–37).



The Way Into God's Presence

- I. God Controls Access to His Presence (1-5)
 - A. God WARNS Against Casual Approach (1-2)
 - B. God PRESCRIBES the Proper Preparation (3-5)



The Way Into God's Presence

- I. God Controls Access to His Presence (1-5)

- II. God Provides Atonement for His People (6-28)
 - A. Access Requires COMPLETE Atonement (6-10)

“Kippur (atonement) denotes the decisive act by which guilt is covered, removed, or purged so that the covenant relationship between the LORD and His people is preserved in holiness. Every occurrence is tethered to sacrificial blood, priestly mediation, and divine forgiveness.”

The Way Into God's Presence

- I. God Controls Access to His Presence (1-5)

- II. God Provides Atonement for His People (6-28)
 - A. Access Requires COMPLETE Atonement (6-10)
 - B. God PRESCRIBES the Ritual of Atonement (11-28)

“The constant presence of the people in the courtyard making sacrifices at the altar brought much uncleanness into the sanctuary. And so this day was God’s way of cleansing it so that the people could continue to come into his presence. By cleansing the sanctuary, from the holy of holies to the tent, to the altar, God was making provision for the people to have continues access to him.”

Ross, Allen in *‘Holiness to the Lord: A Guide to the Exposition of the Book of Leviticus’*

The Way Into God's Presence

I. God Controls Access to His Presence (1-5)

II. God Provides Atonement for His People (6-28)

III. God Requires Humble Response from His People (29-34)

Christ in the Day of Atonement

I. Christ Alone is the Better High Priest (Heb. 7:26-27; 9:12, 24)

II. Christ Alone makes FULL Atonement for Our Sins (Rom. 3:24-25; Heb.10:10; 13:12)

III. Christ Alone Bears and Removes Our Sins (Isa. 53:5; 2 Cor. 5:21; Rom. 8:1)