

Ambassadors Sunday School Class

May 31, 2026

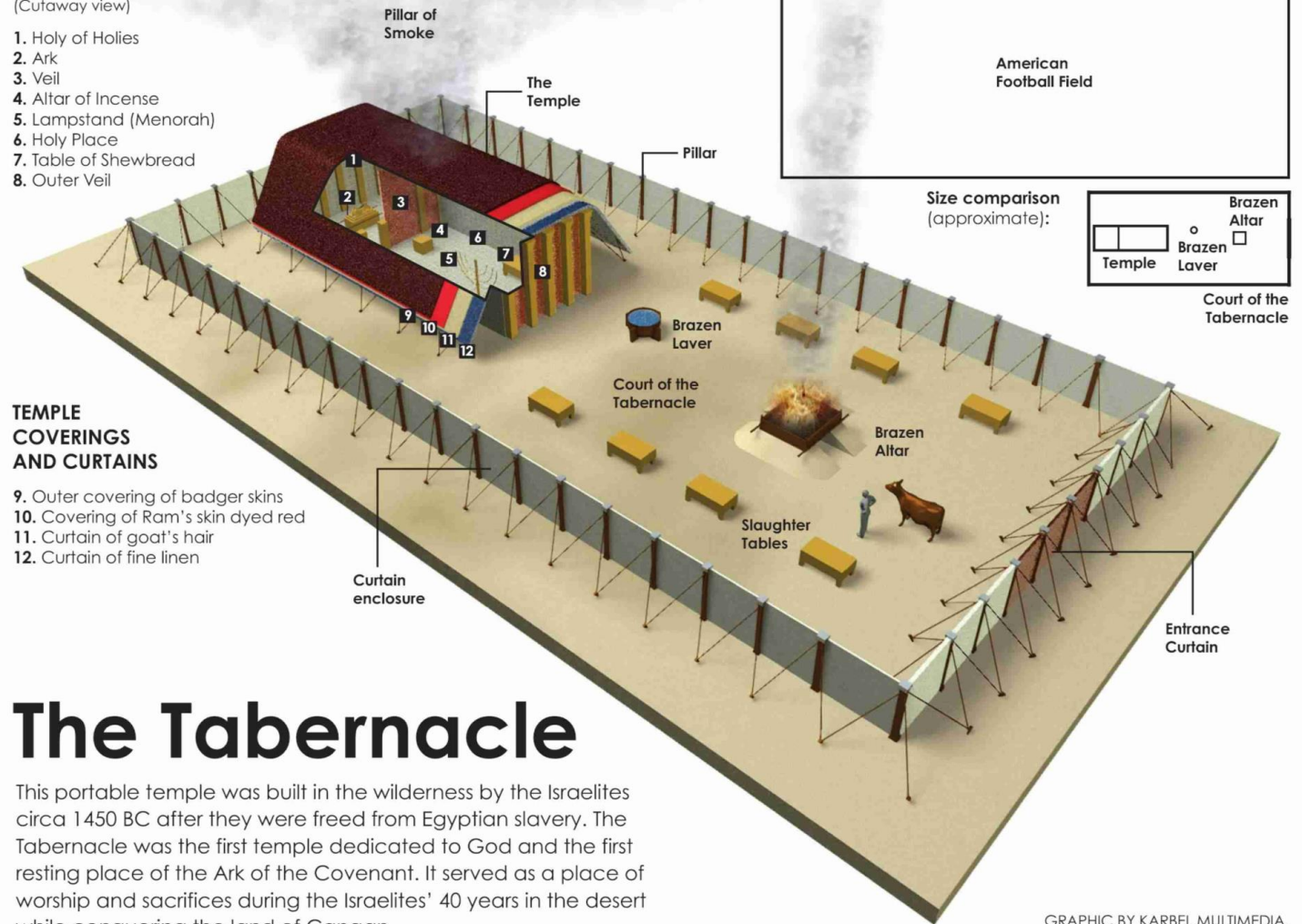
Exodus 35:1-19

Theme: It was God who told humans how he wished to be worshiped, not humans who told God what they had decided to do by way of worship.

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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I. Review

A. God places the people into slavery in Egypt and then delivers them by His mighty hand to Mt. Sinai (Chapters 1-18)
[approx. 426 yrs]

B. Ten Words and Ordinances given (Chapters 19-24)

C. Instructions for the Tabernacle and Worship (25-31)

D. Ten Words broken (32)

E. Covenant renewed (33-34) (see 34:10, 27)

F. The Tabernacle of God Constructed (35:1–40:38)

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II. Exodus 35–39

This section marks the beginning of the lengthy description of how the Israelites fulfil YHWH's instructions for the building of the portable sanctuary.

A. Chapters 25–31 God told the Israelites how to build the tabernacle (Command Section)

B. Chapters 35–39 They actually built it (Fulfillment Section)

C. Main comparisons

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Representative comparison, not exhaustive		
Command	Mention	Fulfillment
Ex. 25-31	Ex 35:1-19	Ex. 35-40*
25:1-7	call for offerings of various materials	35:4-9; 35:21-29
25:10-22	the ark	37:1-9
25:23-30	the table	37:10-16
25:31-39	the lampstand	37:17-24
26:1-37	the tabernacle proper	36:8-38
27:1-8	bronze altar for burnt offerings	38:1-7
27:20-21	oil for the lampstand	command renewed in Lev 24:1-3
28:1-5	priests' dress summary	command renewed in 35:19; fulfilled in 39:1, 41; cf. 40:13-14; Lev 8:7-8
28:6-14	ephod	39:2-7
28:15-30	breastpiece	39:8-21; Lev 8:8
28:31-43	remaining priests' garments	39:22-31
29:1-37	consecrating priests	Lev 8:1-36
29:38-43	daily offerings	command renewed in Num 28:1-8
29:44	consecration of tabernacle	command renewed in 40:9
	consecration of altar	command renewed in 40:10 fulfilled in Lev 8:11
29:44	consecration of priests	command renewed in 40:13
30:1-5	incense altar	37:25-28
30:6	incense altar placement	command renewed in 40:6 fulfilled in 40:26
30:7-9	rules for incense burning	40:27
30:10	atonement for incense altar	command renewed in Lev 4:7
30:17-21	bronze washing basin	38:8; 40:30
30:22-33	anointing oil for objects, priests	35:28; 37:29; 40:9; Lev 8:10-12, 30
30:34-38	incense	35:28; 37:29; 39:38; 40:27
31:1-11	Bezalel and Oholiab/work overview	35:30-35; 36:1-7
31:12-17	Sabbath	command renewed in 35:1-3; Lev 23:3; cf. Num 15:32-36; Deut 5:12-15

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II. Exodus 35–39

E. When God repeats himself, he does it for a reason

1. Repetition was common in ancient literature
2. Repetition also reinforces the memory
3. Repetition displays Israel's obedience
4. Repetition shows how faithful God is

F. Application: We can apply these truths to our own spiritual experience. (Ps 119:103ff; 2 Tim 3:16; see Neh 9:3)

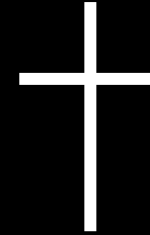
III. The Importance of the Sabbath (35:1–3) [Fulfillment of 31:12–18]

A. Vs. 1 [Context] The essential prerequisites for the construction of the tabernacle are now in place

B. Why does God mention the Sabbath again in this context?

1. the Sabbath was the sign of the covenant
2. worship honored the Covenant Giver
3. keeping a weekly day of rest nourishes our love for the one true God
4. emphasizes the fourth commandment
5. the summation combines the teaching
6. adds additional amplification
7. the Old points to the New

Old Points to the New



Old Covenant

New Covenant

Worship of God

Jesus is God

Keeping Laws

Living in Obedience

Not by the Works of
the Law

Righteousness by
Grace Thru Faith

Sabbath

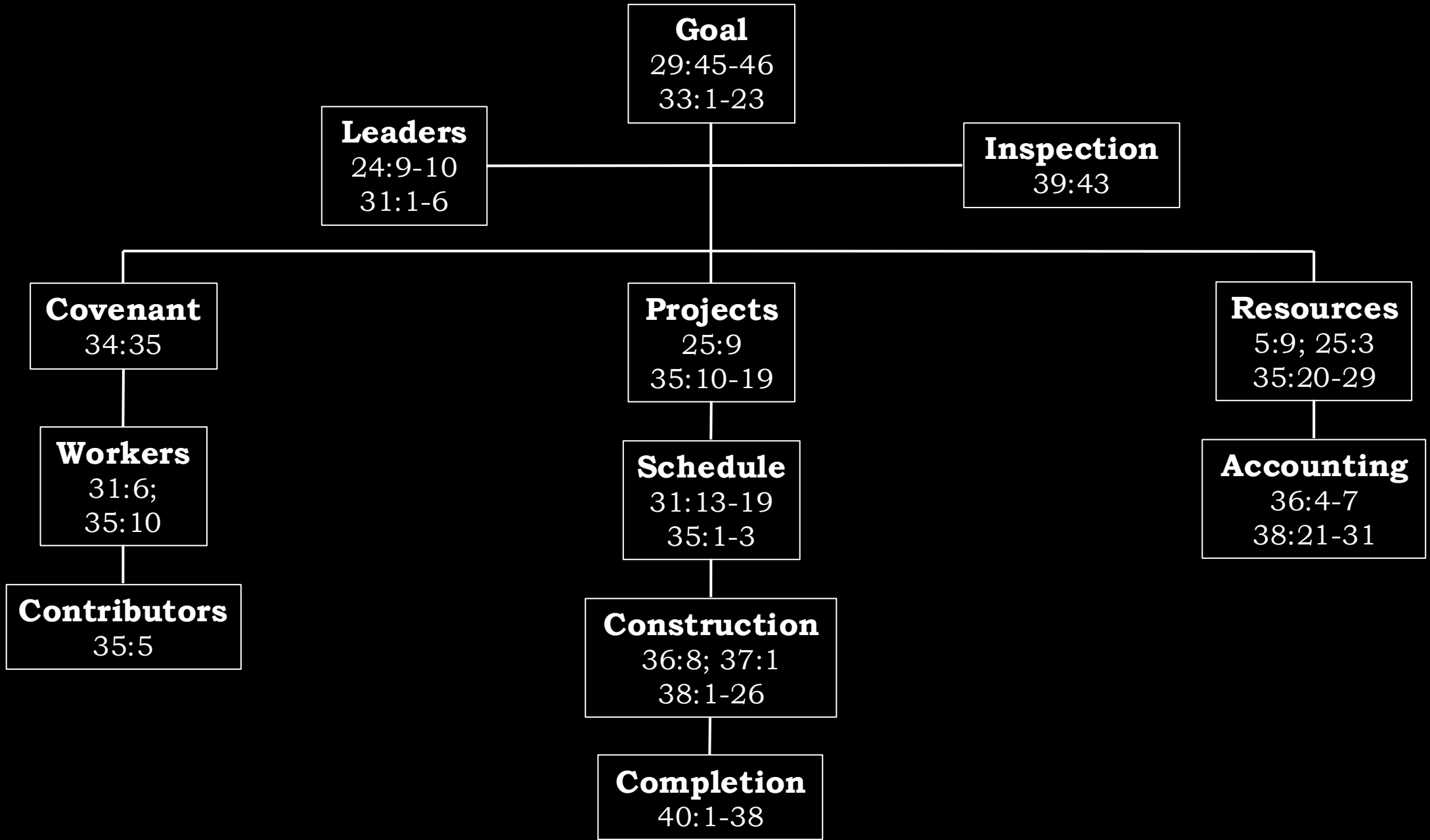
Lord's Day

Messiah is coming

Jesus has Come,
He will Come Again

IV. Offerings of Tabernacle Materials (35:4–29) [Fulfillment of 25:1–7]

- A. All the congregation (1, 4)
- B. God supplied the materials (see Ex 12:36)
- C. They gave with a willing heart (5)
- D. All the materials were needed somewhere in the tabernacle
(see 25 1-9)
- E. God made the plans, but the people did the work



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- E. God made the plans, but the people did the work
- F. Application: In the church we have a similar opportunity to give something to God (Phil 2:13)

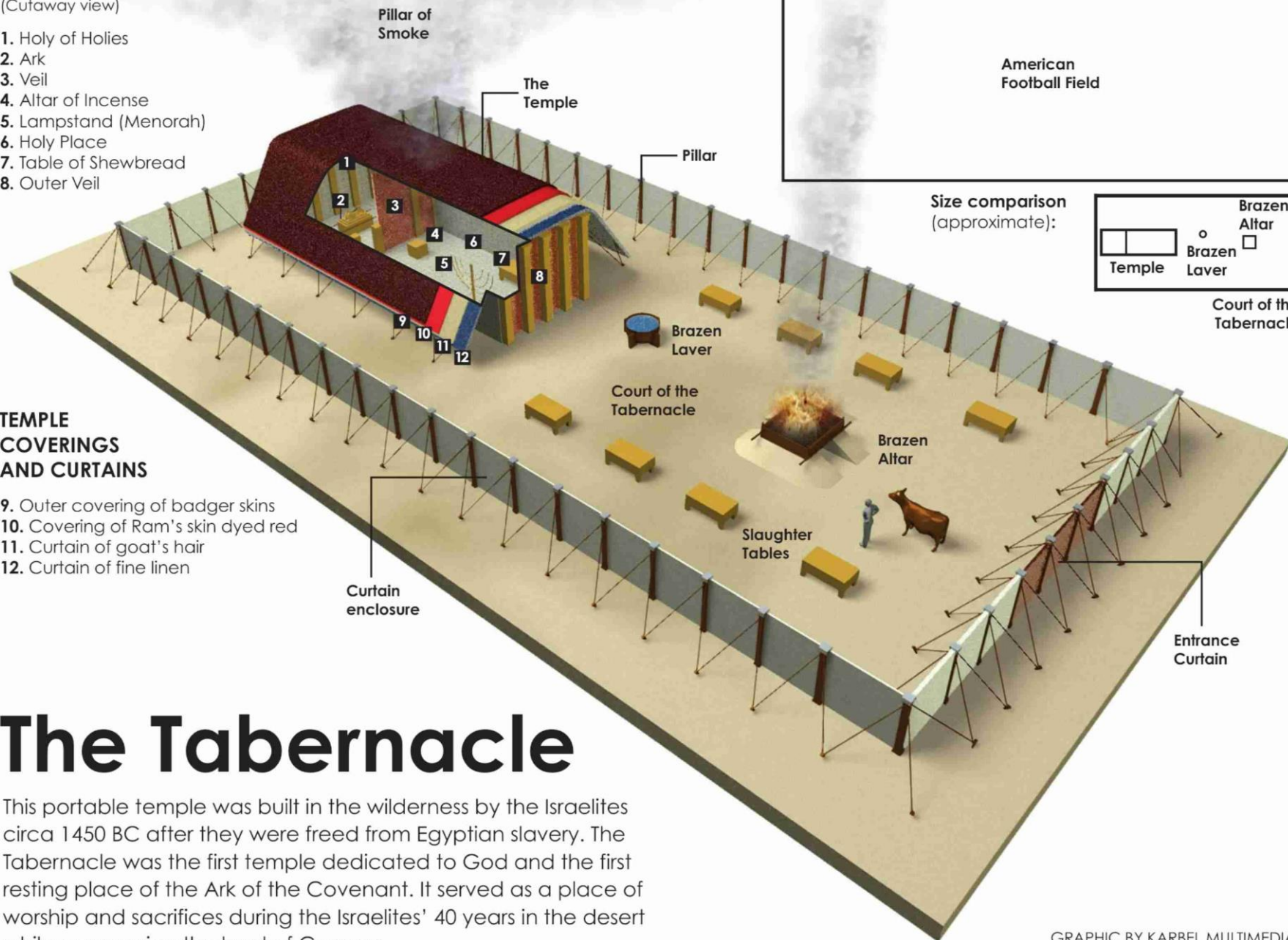
V. God's Call for Skilled Workers (35:10–19) [Summarizes 26-28; 30...]

- A. Giving what you do
- B. Building the tabernacle required the energetic use of people's gifts and talents
- C. This inventory reminds us of how the tabernacle was made.

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V. God's Call for Skilled Workers (35:10–19) [Summarizes 26-28; 30...]

- A. Giving what you do
- B. Building the tabernacle required the energetic use of people's gifts and talents
- C. This inventory reminds us of how the tabernacle was made.
- D. Making all these things requires a large number of people with a wide range of skills
- E. But it was not a job for everyone
- F. Application: This means that we should do what God has called us to do (Rom. 12:6–8)
God uses the whole team to worship Him, His way (1 Peter 4:10)

VI. NEXT WEEK The Lord willing

A. June 7

B. Exodus 35: 20-35

C. Israel's Contribution