

**THE TABERNACLE**

Old Testament Lesson #43

When Moses was on Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments, he was also given the pattern for the tabernacle, a portable place of worship that the Israelites were to erect whenever they camped in the wilderness (after fleeing from Egypt). God gave Moses specific instructions for constructing and furnishing the tabernacle.

The tabernacle was surrounded by a rectangular, curtained court. A linen curtain with fancy embroidery was in the middle of the eastern side and was used for a door.

**Inside the court were:**

the brazen altar - a large, square altar made of wood and covered with brass on which the sacrifices/offerings were made.

the laver - a huge, bronze basin where the priests washed their hands and feet before offerings were made.

the tabernacle building - a tentlike structure, divided into two compartments by an embroidered curtain known as the veil. The larger compartment was called the Holy Place and the smaller, the Most Holy Place.

**Inside the Holy Place were:**

the lampstand - made of gold, it had seven branches and burnt oil.

the table of the bread of the presence - a wooden table overlaid with gold on which were placed 12 unleavened loaves of bread.

the golden altar - made of wood and overlaid with gold; the priests burned incense on this altar morning and evening (see Psalm 141:2).

**Inside the Most Holy Place was:**

the ark of the covenant - a simple chest of wood, covered with gold inside and out. Its lid was called the mercy seat. There were two cherubim (figures with outstretched wings) on top of the mercy seat. Inside the ark were placed three items: the tables of stone that had the Law written on them, a golden pot containing manna (food God provided for the people in the wilderness) and later, Aaron's rod that budded (Hebrews 9:4-5).

The Most Holy Place was where the LORD would commune with Israel.

**The Tabernacle**

I. On Mount Sinai, God gave Moses instructions for building the tabernacle.

- A. A curtained court surrounded the tabernacle.
- B. Inside the court were an altar, a basin and a tent containing two compartments, which were called the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place.

II. The Holy Place included three items.

- A. A gold lampstand that burned oil.
- B. A wood table with 12 unleavened loaves of bread.
- C. A wood and gold altar where priests burned incense.

III. The Most Holy Place contained only the ark of the covenant.

**ANSWER KEY:**

the tabernacle  
place

brazen, altar	laver
bread	lampstand
veil	golden, altar
building	most, place

ark, covenant

**G**od gave Moses specific instructions on how to build the place of worship. What was the place of worship called?

Below is an outline of the place of worship. Find the name of each of the specially marked places.

**CODE:** A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
Z Y X W V U T S R Q P O N M L K J I H G F E D C B A



G S V G Z Y V I M Z X O V

“The Holy                     ”  
                    K O Z X V

“The                     ”  
Y I Z A V M  
    
Z O G Z I

Wooden altar covered with brass, for sacrifices and offerings.

“The                     ”  
O Z E V I

Bronze bowl for cleansing hands and feet.

“Table of the                     ”  
Y I V Z W

of the Presence”  
Wooden table covered in gold; 12 loaves of bread on it.

“                    ”  
O Z N K H G Z M W  
Made of gold, had 7 branches, burned oil supplied by the people.

“The                     ”  
T L O W V M

“                    ”  
Z O G Z I  
Wooden altar covered with gold; priests burned incense on it.

“                    ”  
E V R O

Divided the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place.

“The tabernacle                     ”  
Y F R O W R M T

A tentlike structure.

“The                      Holy                     ”  
N L H G

K O Z X V

“The                      of the                     ”  
Z I P                    X L E V M Z M G

A wooden chest covered with gold inside and out. The lid was called the mercy seat. Two cherubim were on top. Inside were the stone tablets of the Law, a golden pot of manna and Aaron's rod.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**G**od told Moses how to build their place of worship, and Moses told the people. They gathered the things needed.

Circle 10 things different in the bottom picture.



Name \_\_\_\_\_