

# “Ye Are the Temple of the Holy Ghost”

By Parrish Lee

Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012

*Exodus 25:1-9 ...let them make a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them...*

As we take up our message today, we have Moses and the Children of Israel—not too long removed from coming out of Egypt by way of the Red Sea, and God has called Moses up to Mount Sinai (Now, FYI, saints, this is before they got impatient and made the golden calf). Now, there were many things God said to Moses on the Mount, but we want to focus on this little part right here: in Verse 2, God said, speak to the people, that they bring me an offering; from everyone with a willing heart, for the building of His house. In Verse 8, And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. So, Almighty God told these people to prepare a place for Him so that He could dwell with them. What an incredible statement: God, omnipotent, all knowing, all powerful, ever-present and never-changing, wants to dwell with some people. I don't know about you, but sometimes I just want to get way from people... As we continue on to Verse 9, we see that it wasn't going to be made just any old way; it had to be according to how God said it was going to be made, according to the pattern of the Tabernacle.

(There's a handout that goes with this—[HANDOUT](#))

The first thing that one came across upon entering the Tabernacle was the Altar of Burnt Offering. On this altar were the meat sacrifices burnt in remembrance for their sins. Something had to die in order for sins to be forgiven.



Altar of Burnt Offering

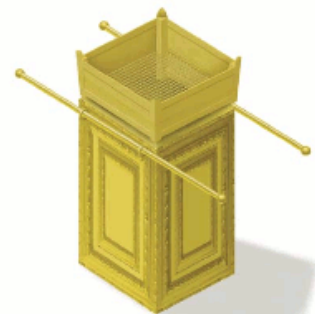
GREAT LAKES

The second thing was a bronze laver. This was for washing. It was very important to wash before coming any farther in to the Tabernacle. It was placed before the tabernacle of the congregation. This represents us cleaning ourselves when coming to God.



Bronze Basin

Altar of Incense: This altar burned incense night and day and filled the holy place with a sweet smell. On the Day of Atonement, the horns were sprinkled with blood. This represents our prayers and praises.



Altar of Incense

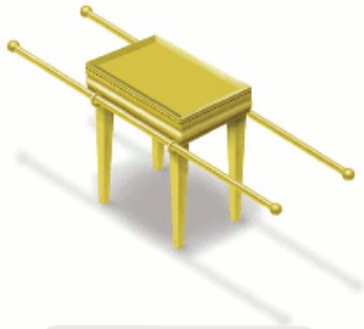


Table of Showbread

The Table of Showbread: This had twelve loaves of bread, one for each of the tribes of Israel. They had to be taken down and replaced with new loaves every Sabbath day. This represents our fellowship with God.

The Golden Candlestick: This, of course, represented the light of God (also known as the Spirit of God) lighting our way.

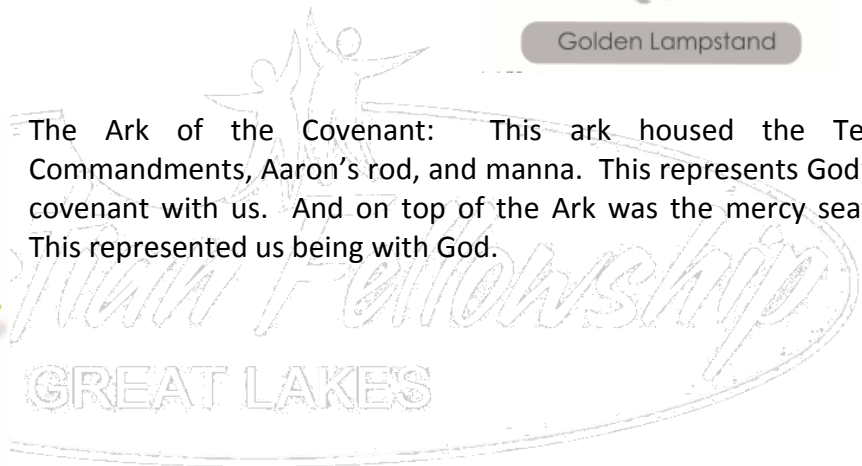


Golden Lampstand



Ark of the Covenant

The Ark of the Covenant: This ark housed the Ten Commandments, Aaron's rod, and manna. This represents God's covenant with us. And on top of the Ark was the mercy seat. This represented us being with God.



### Point 1: We are the temples

Someone could say, "That was way back then in the olden days, that's all played out." Well, I'll just say this—that might be the world's point of view, and some people in the world's view but what they should do is ask God what is *His* point of view.

*1 Corinthians 6:19-20 ...know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost...*

### Point 2: There is a pattern

It is important to realize that God doesn't accept just any old offering—it has to be in accordance with God's ways. I remember once when my work was giving out these free senior citizen packets, and I thought, "Who do I know that's old? It would be a shame not to give this free thing to somebody. Oh, I know, my mom." So I buttered it up and tried to make it seem like I was thinking of her—and she saw right through it. She waited for me to be there when

other people were around and opened up and said, "Look at what my son got me." She made sure to expose my folly by bringing it out for all to see. Oh yeah, then I was embarrassed, and I never gave her anything un-heartfelt and unworthy again. How many people like getting something that was re-gifted? It's so much better when you don't know. It's so much better when you know someone took the time and effort to get you something that they want you to have. Of course, how many of us have ever re-gifted something ourselves? I guess I'd better leave that one alone.

Titus 2:7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works...

I have a little sidebar about this pattern of good works. Recently, while I was talking with a co-worker that I've known for years, a lady who I've only casually known joined our conversation. As it gravitated to activities that I don't participate in, she turned and said, Parrish seems like the type to stay away from that stuff. I told her Parrish works very hard at being the type to stay away from that stuff. Parrish makes up his mind every day. Saints, I have found that sometimes just having a good habit of doing the right thing can keep you from doing the wrong thing.

### **Point 3: God cares about our Temples.**

*1 Corinthians 3:11-17 ...Know ye not that ye are the temple of God...*

God cares what we put inside and on the outside of our temples. Whatever it is shall be tried by fire. Which brings me to my last point:

### **Point 4a: There are things that don't belong in my house.**

*Colossians 3:8 ...anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.*

Now, could you imagine this stuff in God's house? the Tabernacle? The Bible had warned the priests how they come before Him lest He smite them. Guess who the priests are now?

*Galatians 5:22-24 ...love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance...*

Could you imagine the Temple or the tabernacle without those things? These are things that belong in our house; along with praises, offerings, fellowship and (most of all) the presence and the light and the mercy of God.

*2 Corinthians 5:1 ...if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.*

This is not the last Temple that our spirit will inhabit.

*1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face...*