



In ancient times, various cultures, such as the Incas, Aztecs, Mayas, and Egyptians, had valuable art treasures full of significance. The Egyptian tomb of Tutankhamen was special in that it was found intact while all the other tombs had been plundered.

What was even more extraordinary was the sanctuary that Moses built in the wilderness. Each utensil, especially the ones found in the Ark of the Covenant, had deep meaning. The dimensions, material, location, and ceremonies performed in the sanctuary all had valuable secrets. Does this have anything to do with us?

HOW WERE THE PEOPLE OF GOD SAVED IN OLD TESTAMENT TIMES?

- 1. When man sinned he was separated from God and, without God's intervention, was condemned to eternal death. From that moment on, his natural tendency was to do evil. He was weak and corrupted. When God placed man in Eden, He warned him that if he sinned he would die. Did this happen immediately? Who died in his place? Genesis 3:21.**

Two lambs died in man's place. Adam and Eve received _____ as garments. They were his substitute, a symbol of the coming Savior.

- 2. When did God prepare an escape route to redeem man? 1 Peter 1:18-20.**

- 3. What was the only way sin could be atoned? Hebrews 9:22. _____**

That is why Abel's sacrifice was accepted and Cain's was not. God commanded the sinner bring an animal to die in his place. He would place his hands on the animal's head and confess his sins, which symbolized the transfer of his sins to an innocent victim.

GOD REVEALS HIMSELF TO MAN

- 4. God led the Israelites out of Egypt and guided them to the promised land in a miraculous way. He revealed His will and made His law known to them. What did God order Moses to do in a vision? Exodus 25:8, 40. _____**
- 5. What were the dimensions of the courtyard surrounding the sanctuary? Exodus 27:9-19.**

It had the following dimensions: length: 150 feet (100 cubits) over 20 bronze pillars; width: 75 feet (50 cubits) over 10 bronze pillars; height: 7.5 feet. One could not look over it.

- 6. What were the characteristics of the sanctuary?**

The sanctuary, according to Exodus 26, measured 40.5 feet long, 9 feet wide, and 15 feet high. It was built of acacia wood overlaid with gold. The wood and gold symbolized the union of Christ's human and divine natures. The wood symbolized Christ as a man. The gold symbolized Christ as God.

It was covered by four different layers.

- The exterior was of brown and black badgers' skins and its appearance was not outstanding. It represented Christ's human nature.*
- Beneath this layer was another of red rams' skins which symbolized Christ's suffering.*
- The third layer was of white goats' hair, representing Christ's purity.*

- *Inside, beneath the other three layers, was a covering of white linen embroidered in blue, purple and scarlet; royal colors representing Christ as King.*

The tabernacle was divided into two parts: the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place.

SEVEN ELEMENTS FOR OUR TIME

7. The gate of the courtyard was 27 feet wide with a beautiful white linen curtain embroidered in blue, purple and scarlet hanging from 4 pillars (Exodus 27:16). Who does it represent? John 10:9. _____

- a) The only way to the Father. Ephesians 2:18; 1 Timothy 2:5.
- b) Why was the gate so wide? It represents God's love and His desire to save everyone. 1 Timothy 2:3, 4.
- c) **Four pillars.** Christ revealed Himself in the four gospels. His appeal is addressed to the four corners of the world.

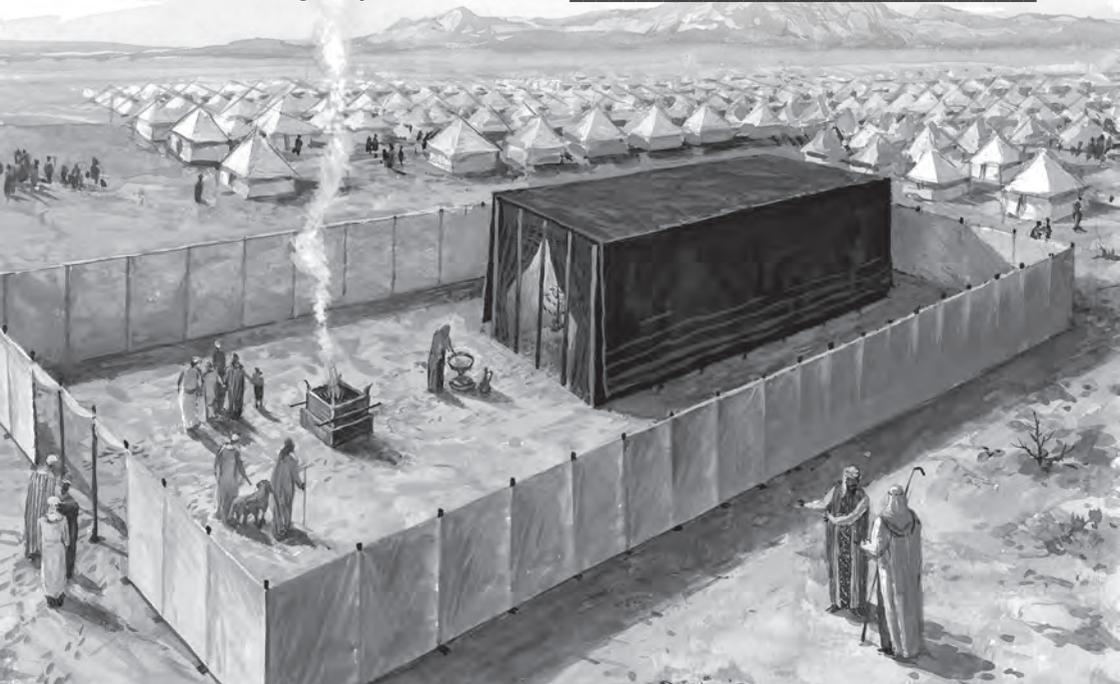
8. The altar of sacrifice was a symbol of Calvary (Exodus 27:1-8). What did John the Baptist call the Savior? John 1:29. _____

- a) The sacrifice. The victim had to be a perfect and spotless animal. It represented Christ's sinless character. 1 Peter 1:19; Hebrews 4:15. When the sinner placed his hands on the animal's head, he transferred his sins to the innocent victim, which died in his place. There is only one way to avoid eternal death and that is to find a substitute to die in our place, a sacrifice. Christ was that innocent sacrifice who died on Calvary.
- b) The horns were a sign of strength. They represent the power of Christ's sacrifice.

9. The bronze laver. Exodus 30:17-21 mentions purification by water. What should we do to wash away our sins? Acts 22:16. _____

Who is the water of life? John 4:14. _____

10. The seven-branched candlestick was forged out of a piece of gold (Exodus 25:31-39). Whom does the light represent? John 8:12. _____





- God enlightens us through His word. Psalms 119:105.
- The oil represents the Holy Spirit. Zechariah 4:1-6.
- When Christ lives in us through the Holy Spirit, we will be the light of the world. Matthew 5:14-16.
- The seven branches represent the church through which Christ enlightens the world. Revelation 1:20.

11. Who does the table with showbread symbolize (Exodus 25:24-30)? John 6:15.

-
- What does Jesus want us to do so He can sup with us? Revelation 3:20. We should open the _____ of our heart.
 - He wants to nourish us with His Word and help us grow spiritually. Matthew 4:4.

12. What did the altar of incense symbolize (Exodus 30:1-10)? Psalms 141:2; Revelation 8:3.

-
- Only through Jesus can our prayers reach the Father and be as a pleasant fragrance. 1 John 2:1.
 - Incense was offered each morning and evening, representing morning and evening worship.

13. What was behind the veil in the Most Holy Place? Hebrews 9:2-5; Exodus 25:10-22.

-
- The Ark of the covenant symbolizes God's throne. Revelation 11:19.
 - The tables of the Ten Commandments, written by God's finger, were inside this Ark (Deuteronomy 10:1-5). They are the foundation of God's throne and a reflection of His character (Psalms 89:14; 119:172).
 - The cover, made of pure gold, was called the mercy seat.
 - It had two cherubim with their wings spread out to symbolize the angels that surround God's throne.

CONCLUSION

14. The utensils in the sanctuary illustrate God's plan for the salvation of man. How can we grow closer to Jesus? Hebrews 4:16. _____

- a) The seven elements mentioned above appeared in the shape of a cross.
- b) They remind us of:
 - 1) *The gate: Christ calls us.*
 - 2) *The altar: Christ died in our place.*
 - 3) *The laver: Christ wishes to cleanse us from all sin.*
 - 4) *The candlestick: Christ wishes to enlighten our lives through the Holy Spirit.*
 - 5) *The table of showbread: Christ wishes to nourish us with His presence and communicate with us through His Word.*
 - 6) *The altar of incense: Christ presents our prayers to the Father.*
 - 7) *The Ark of the covenant: represents God's throne. It shows us that His mercy and law are the foundations of His government. Jesus is the center of the Scriptures, revealed in the Old Testament symbols, and in His life on earth in the New Testament.*

.....
My decision: I believe that Jesus Christ is the center of the Scriptures and that each symbol of the sanctuary is a future projection of the gospel. Yes No
.....