

THE HOLY PLACE: SANCTIFICATION

BIBLE TEXT : Exodus 30:1-10; 40:22-28; 29 :10-21; Leviticus 4:1-12; 6:30; Hebrews 13:11, 12

LESSON 73 Junior Course

MEMORY VERSE: "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17).

BIBLE TEXT in King James Version

Exodus 30:1-10

¹ And thou shalt make an altar to burn incense upon: of shittim wood shalt thou make it.

² A cubit *shall be* the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof; foursquare shall it be: and two cubits *shall be* the height thereof: the horns thereof *shall be* of the same.

³ And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, the top thereof, and the sides thereof round about, and the horns thereof; and thou shalt make unto it a crown of gold round about.

⁴ And two golden rings shalt thou make to it under the crown of it, by the two corners thereof, upon the two sides of it shalt thou make *it*; and they shall be for places for the staves to bear it withal.

⁵ And thou shalt make the staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold.

⁶ And thou shalt put it before the vail that *is* by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy seat that *is* over the testimony, where I will meet with thee.

⁷ And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense every morning: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it.

⁸ And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations.

⁹ Ye shall offer no strange incense thereon, nor burnt sacrifice, nor meat offering; neither shall ye pour drink offering thereon.

¹⁰ And Aaron shall make an

BIBLE REFERENCES:

NOTES:

The Sanctuary

We have learned that two thirds of the Tabernacle was occupied by the Holy Place. Here only the priests could enter. Let us consider its holiness.

The walls were covered with pure gold (gold is a type of purity), and purity is a condition of holiness. The inside covering for the Tabernacle was of fine linen, with cherubims cunningly woven into the fabric. As one entered this holy place he saw on his right the table of shewbread, overlaid with pure gold and containing the twelve loaves of unleavened bread which typified the Bread of Life, and the spiritual food of which the sanctified partake. The number of loaves represented food for each tribe of Israel. The loaves were replaced each week so there would always be a fresh supply on hand. Do you remember that Jesus said, "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst" (John 6:35)? Can you see how Jesus drew pictures of Himself and the plan of salvation in the erection of the Tabernacle and all its furnishings and forms of worship?

The Light

There was no light in the Tabernacle except that furnished by the golden candlestick containing seven lamps, made of pure gold. This was placed to the left *as* one entered the Holy Place. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12). There we see a likeness to Jesus in the candlestick.

Jesus told His disciples, too, that they were the light of the world. The fully consecrated Christians form the Church that lights the world. "Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined" (Psalm 50:2). Zion is the Church of the First-born, the perfect, sanctified Church, which is shining in the midst of sinful darkness. It is the sanctified who are enjoying the illumination of the golden candlestick in the Holy Place.

The Golden Altar

Opposite the entrance into the Holy Place was the altar of incense, also called the golden altar. It was overlaid with gold on top and all sides: on each corner was a horn upon which the priests placed some of the blood from the sin offerings brought for sanctification. Poles, covered with gold, passed through gold rings on each side to carry the altar when the Children of Israel were on the march. The golden altar was placed next to the heavy vail separating the Holy Place from the Holiest of All. Incense was kept burning always, as an emblem of continual prayer and praise to God.

Tabernacle Sanctified

When the work of building was completed the Lord gave Moses instructions for preparing a holy anointing oil with which to sanctify the Tabernacle, the Ark, the golden table and its

atonement upon the horns of it once in a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonements: once in the year shall he make atonement upon it throughout your generations: it *is* most holy unto the LORD.

Exodus 40:22-28

²² And he put the table in the tent of the congregation, upon the side of the tabernacle northward, without the veil.

²³ And he set the bread in order upon it before the LORD; as the LORD had commanded Moses.

²⁴ And he put the candlestick in the tent of the congregation, over against the table, on the side of the tabernacle southward.

²⁵ And he lighted the lamps before the LORD; as the LORD commanded Moses.

²⁶ And he put the golden altar in the tent of the congregation before the veil:

²⁷ And he burnt sweet incense thereon; as the LORD commanded Moses.

²⁸ And he set up the hanging *at* the door of the tabernacle.

Exodus 29:10-21

¹⁰ And thou shalt cause a bullock to be brought before the tabernacle of the congregation: and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the bullock.

¹¹ And thou shalt kill the bullock before the LORD, *by* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

¹² And thou shalt take of the blood of the bullock, and put *it* upon the horns of the altar with thy finger, and pour all the blood beside the bottom of the altar.

¹³ And thou shalt take all the fat

dishes, the candlestick and its vessels, the golden altar, the brazen altar, the laver — all must be made holy for use in the service to God. Aaron and his sons, the priests, were also to be anointed with oil in consecration. Oil is a type of the Holy Spirit which is present at salvation and sanctification, but we do not enjoy His abiding presence until we receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Sanctification by Blood

It took more than oil to sanctify the priests and the Tabernacle. "Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry" (Hebrews 9:21); and after the priests had been washed with water and had been anointed with oil, a ram was killed and some of its blood was placed upon their right ear, their right thumb, and their right big toe, signifying an entire covering of the blood to purify them. They could not enter the Holy Place in the Tabernacle until this purification had been accomplished.

Just think how holy the Tabernacle was. First we considered the perfection of the materials that went into the building and furniture — pure gold and fine linen. Then it was consecrated by the oil and the blood; and then the priests were made holy before they could enter. Cannot you see how important holiness is with God? He told the people: "Ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy" (Leviticus 11:44).

We cannot here speak particularly about the priests' robes, but we want to mention the mitre, or crown, which the high priest wore on his head. On it was a plate of pure gold upon which were engraved the words HOLINESS TO THE LORD. Whenever the people looked at Aaron they would be reminded of the holiness of God and feel their need of holiness, too, in order to be accepted of the Lord_

Sin Offering

We read in Leviticus 4 of a sin offering in which was sacrificed a bullock or kid for certain 'kinds of sin. This was not the same as the trespass offering when each man brought his own lamb to atone for his transgressions. After we are saved, have pardon for the sins we have committed, there *is* a need of a purification through which the inbred sin, the nature of sin which we inherited from Adam, is purged out.

After the bullock or kid was killed, the priest took some of the blood and entered the sanctuary, or Holy Place, and sprinkled it seven times "before the LORD, before the veil." Remember that the Ark and the mercy seat were just beyond the golden altar, on the other side of the veil; and God's presence dwelt between the cherubims above the mercy seat. So in sprinkling the blood over the golden altar there was only the veil between it and the Shekinah. Some of the blood was also placed upon the four horns of the golden altar.

Burned Outside the Camp

Only a small part of the sin offering was burned upon the brazen altar. The rest of it was taken outside the camp and completely burned. What lesson do we learn from that?

This sin offering is what Paul spoke of in **Hebrews 13:11-12** ¹¹ For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. ¹² Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. The body of the beast, whose blood had been taken into the Holy Place and sprinkled on the altar of incense, was burned without the camp as a picture of Jesus' suffering on Golgotha's hill outside the city of

that covereth the inwards, and the caul *that is* above the liver, and the two kidneys, and the fat that *is* upon them, and burn *them* upon the altar.

¹⁴ But the flesh of the bullock, and his skin, and his dung, shalt thou burn with fire without the camp: it *is* a sin offering.

¹⁵ Thou shalt also take one ram; and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the ram.

¹⁶ And thou shalt slay the ram, and thou shalt take his blood, and sprinkle *it* round about upon the altar.

¹⁷ And thou shalt cut the ram in pieces, and wash the inwards of him, and his legs, and put *them* unto his pieces, and unto his head.

¹⁸ And thou shalt burn the whole ram upon the altar: it *is* a burnt offering unto the LORD: it *is* a sweet savour, an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

¹⁹ And thou shalt take the other ram; and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the ram.

²⁰ Then shalt thou kill the ram, and take of his blood, and put *it* upon the tip of the right ear of Aaron, and upon the tip of the right ear of his sons, and upon the thumb of their right hand, and upon the great toe of their right foot, and sprinkle the blood upon the altar round about.

²¹ And thou shalt take of the blood that *is* upon the altar, and of the anointing oil, and sprinkle *it* upon Aaron, and upon his garments, and upon his sons, and upon the garments of his sons with him: and he shall be hallowed, and his garments, and his sons, and his sons' garments with him.

Leviticus 4:1-12

¹ And the LORD spake unto Moses,

Jerusalem, and shedding His Blood to sanctify His people. Paul definitely states: "That he might sanctify the people with his own blood."

The Blood Essential

We want to emphasize that it took blood to sanctify the people. Some would have us believe that we are sanctified by the oil, the Holy Spirit (and indeed the Spirit is present at different times in our Christian experience, for Christ breathed the Holy Ghost upon His disciples the first day He had risen from the dead [**John 20:22** ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost], but they did not receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost until the Day of Pentecost). Aaron and his sons were anointed with oil, but they still had to have the blood applied to their ears, thumbs, and toes before they were holy enough to enter the Holy Place.

Other people would have us believe that the laver in the outer court where the priests washed was typical of sanctification, but there was no blood in the laver — and Jesus sanctifies us with His Blood! We understand the laver to represent water baptism.

Others say that the meat offerings (which include unleavened bread, fine flour, oil, and incense) were typical of sanctification; but again we note the lack of blood. We can see our consecrations in these offerings. We must give our best, without sin (leaven), and the incense of our prayers rising continually from our hearts will bear our consecrations to the Lord. The Spirit (oil) will bless our sacrifices, but we must wait for the Blood to be applied to our hearts the second time before we are sanctified. (The first application of the Blood was at salvation when we brought our offering of a lamb as our trespass offering.

None but the priests were allowed to enter the Holy Place. The high priest wore a breastplate set with stones engraved with the names of the twelve tribes So the people were represented to God before the golden altar of sanctification. The blood of the bullock upon the golden altar did not sanctify the people, but it was a type of the Blood of Jesus who was to come; and by looking to Him in faith, they all could have been sanctified even in those days, for some were sanctified.

Holiness Essential

Is holiness necessary for us? If God told the Children of Israel "Ye shall therefore be holy, for **I** am holy," how much greater is our obligation in this "better" dispensation after Jesus shed His Blood for our sanctification If God took such great pains to see that everything in the earthly Tabernacle was holy, and only holy people could enter, do you think anyone could get into the true Tabernacle of Heaven without holiness? "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14).

How can we become holy? We have been saved from our sins through repentance, and have asked Jesus to cover them with His precious Blood. He has forgiven every wrong thing we ever did, and has given us power to go and sin no more. But we are still in the outer court. How can we enter the Holy Place if it was only for the priests?

Kings and Priests

Peter said of the Christians: "But ye are a chosen

saying,

² Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a soul shall sin through ignorance against any of the commandments of the LORD concerning things which ought not to be done, and shall do against any of them:

³ If the priest that is anointed do sin according to the sin of the people; then let him bring for his sin, which he hath sinned, a young bullock without blemish unto the LORD for a sin offering.

⁴ And he shall bring the bullock unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD; and shall lay his hand upon the bullock's head, and kill the bullock before the LORD.

⁵ And the priest that is anointed shall take of the bullock's blood, and bring it to the tabernacle of the congregation:

⁶ And the priest shall dip his finger in the blood, and sprinkle of the blood seven times before the LORD, before the vail of the sanctuary.

⁷ And the priest shall put *some* of the blood upon the horns of the altar of sweet incense before the LORD, which *is* in the tabernacle of the congregation; and shall pour all the blood of the bullock at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering, which *is at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

⁸ And he shall take off from it all the fat of the bullock for the sin offering; the fat that covereth the inwards, and all the fat that *is* upon the inwards,

⁹ And the two kidneys, and the fat that *is* upon them, which *is* by the flanks, and the caul above the liver, with the kidneys, it shall he take away,

¹⁰ As it was taken off from the bullock of the sacrifice of peace

generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light" (**I** Peter 2:9). John also spoke of it: "Unto him that loved us, and washed *us* from our sins in his own blood, and bath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father' (Revelation 1:5, 6).

So if we are priests of God, we, too, can take the blood of the sin offering into the Holy Place for our sanctification, and enjoy its resplendent purified, and golden interior.

Oh, the beauties of holiness! We have entered into God's Holy Place and have companionship with Jesus, our High Priest. "For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren" (Hebrews 2:11). We eat **of** the heavenly shewbread and enjoy the glorious light of the golden candlestick.

QUESTIONS

- 1** Describe the Holy Place. Who could enter it?
- 2** What was offered on the golden altar?
- 3** What was the candlestick a type of?
- 4** What did the table of shewbread represent?
- 5** Why did Jesus suffer outside the gate?
- 6** Is holiness necessary for us today?

offerings: and the priest shall burn them upon the altar of the burnt offering.

¹¹ And the skin of the bullock, and all his flesh, with his head, and with his legs, and his inwards, and his dung,

¹² Even the whole bullock shall he carry forth without the camp unto a clean place, where the ashes are poured out, and burn him on the wood with fire: where the ashes are poured out shall he be burnt.

Leviticus 6:30

³⁰ And no sin offering, whereof *any* of the blood is brought into the tabernacle of the congregation to reconcile *withal* in the holy *place*, shall be eaten: it shall be burnt in the fire.

Hebrews 13:11-12

¹¹ For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp.

¹² Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.