

# Studies in Hebrews



## Lesson XII

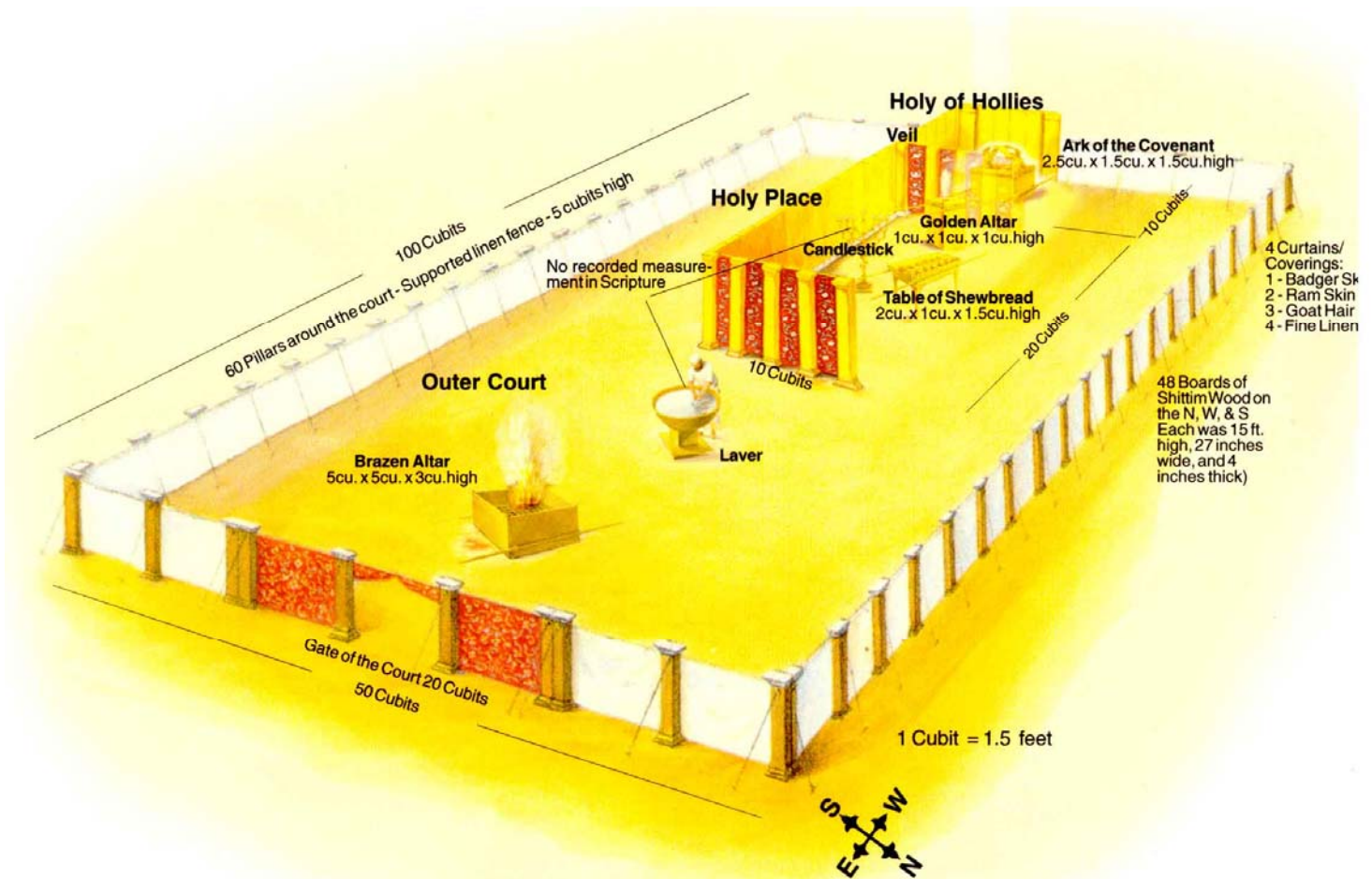
### **Text:** Chapter 9, verses 1-15

<sup>1</sup> Now the first covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary. <sup>2</sup> A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand, the table and the consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place. <sup>3</sup> Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place,<sup>4</sup> which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant. <sup>5</sup> Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover.<sup>[a]</sup> But we cannot discuss these things in detail now.

<sup>6</sup> When everything had been arranged like this, the priests entered regularly into the outer room to carry on their ministry. <sup>7</sup> But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. <sup>8</sup> The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still standing. <sup>9</sup> This is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper. <sup>10</sup> They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings—external regulations applying until the time of the new order.

<sup>11</sup> When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here,<sup>[b]</sup> he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. <sup>12</sup> He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup> The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. <sup>14</sup> How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death,<sup>[c]</sup> so that we may serve the living God!

<sup>15</sup> For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.



## Questions for Group Discussion

1. The first covenant had regulations for w\_\_\_\_\_ and an earthly t\_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 1)
2. Describe the features of the tabernacle (vv. 2-5)
3. In what part of the tabernacle did the priests serve? (vs. 6) Where did the high priest minister? What did he do there? How often? (vs. 7a)
4. B\_\_\_\_\_ was central to the worship of the tabernacle. Why was it offered to God? (vs. 7b)
5. What were these gifts and sacrifices NOT able to do? (vs. 9)
6. How long was the first covenant effectual? (vv. 8, 10)
7. Jesus came to this earth as H\_\_\_\_\_ P\_\_\_\_\_ and obtained e\_\_\_\_\_ r\_\_\_\_\_ for whom? (vv. 11-14)
8. What benefits do the redeemed received under the New Covenant? (vv. 14-15)