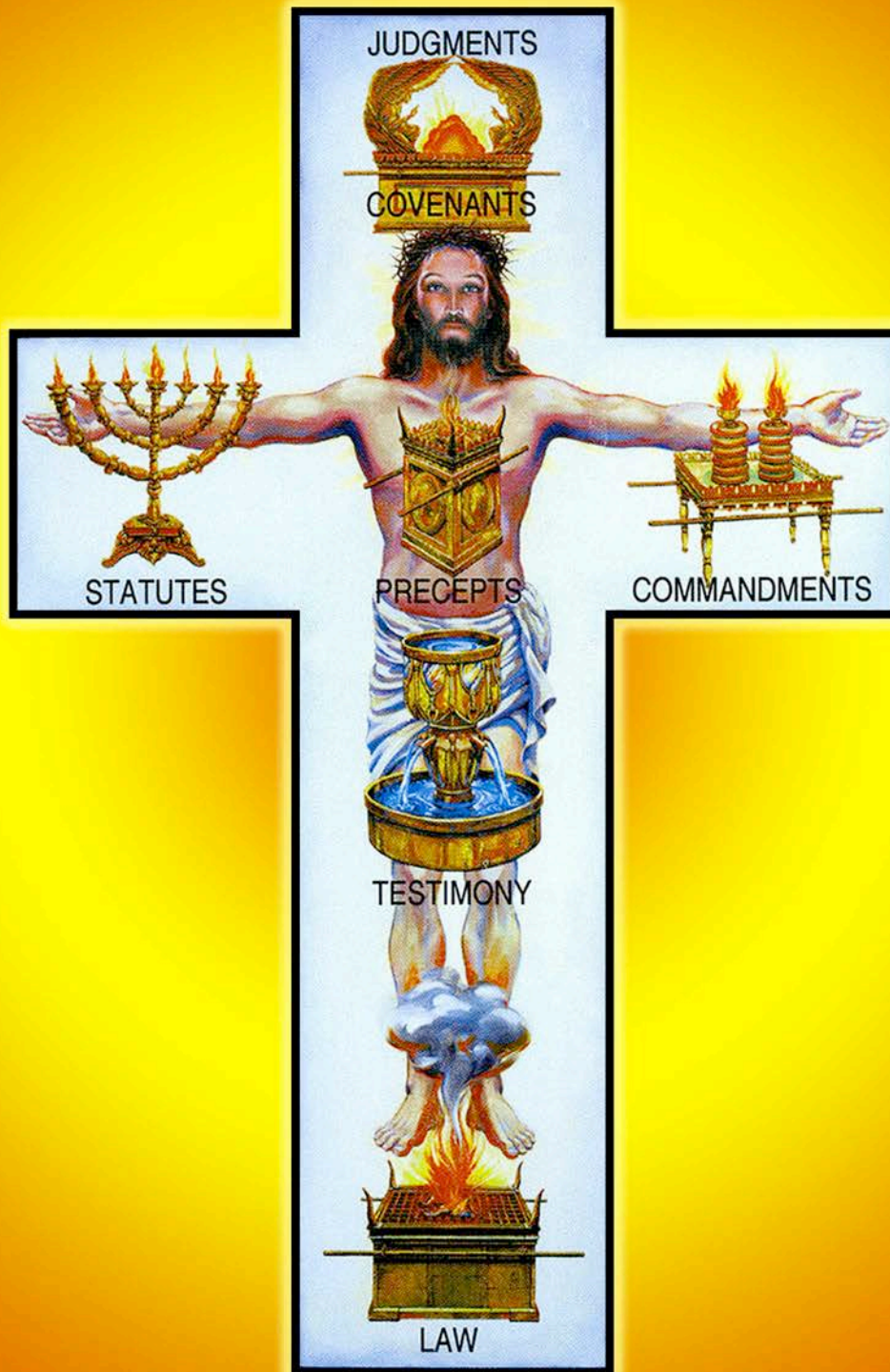


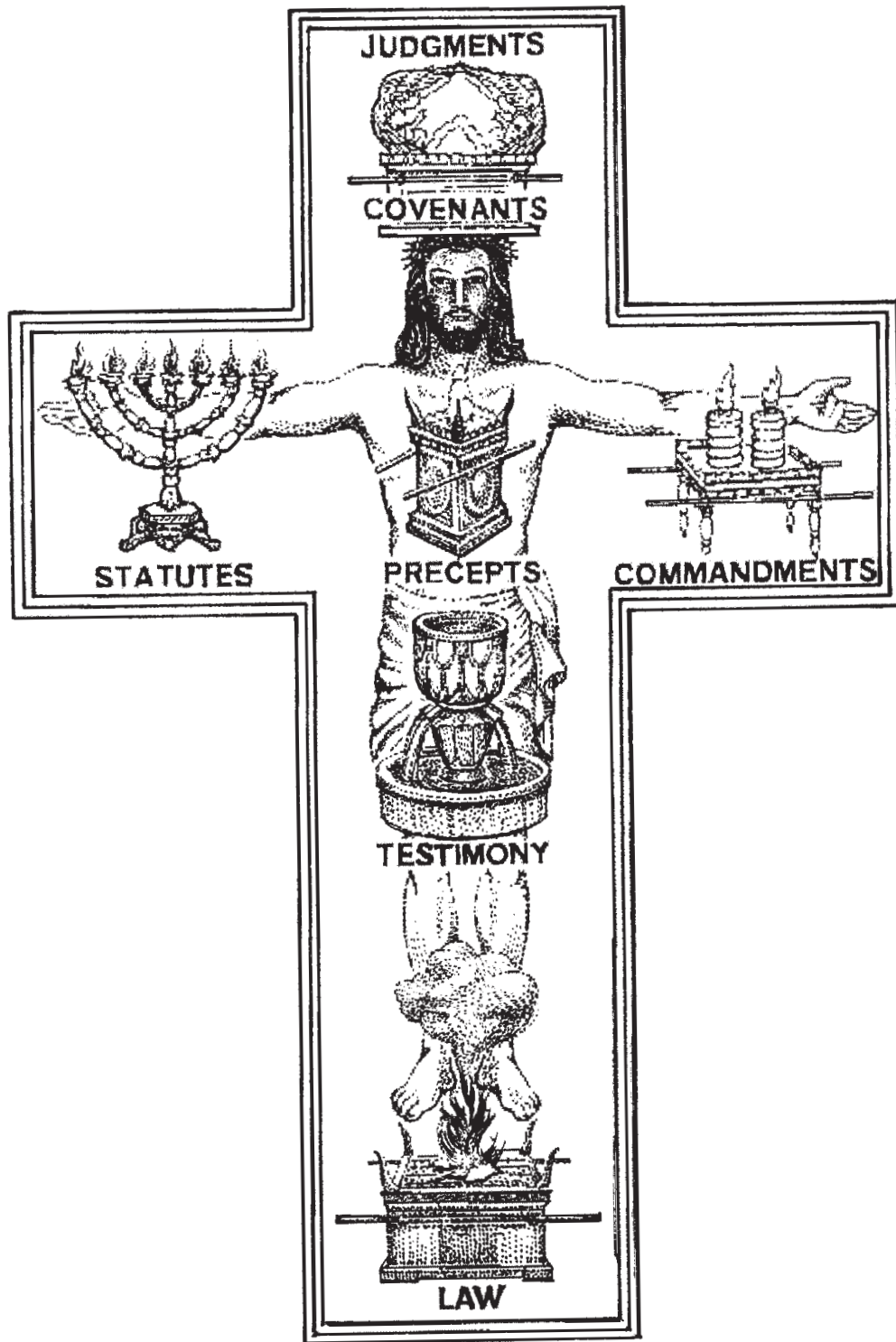
The Precious Gem In The Mosaic Tabernacle



B.R. Hicks

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Preface

The Reasons For Studying The Old Testament Tabernacle

As the title of this book indicates, our study centers in the Old Testament Tabernacle to show the reader the relationship of the Mosaic Tabernacle and its furnishings to the Stature of the Lord Jesus Christ in the New Testament.

As a new-born Christian, I began my walk with the Lord Jesus Christ with a tremendous desire to learn more about Him, so I diligently studied my Bible and prayed and fasted and began to memorize the Scriptures: by verses, by chapters, and by Books. Then, one day, as I was quoting the fourth chapter of the Book of Ephesians, the words “the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ” became a living Truth in my soul and spirit. But what was this “stature” of which Paul spoke when he said the following:

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: (Ephesians 4:13).

So I began a diligent search for someone to explain the meaning of this verse, but no one could give me an answer. Then, one day, as I was crying great tears in my desperation to understand the meaning of this verse, the Spirit of the LORD came upon me, and Jesus opened a great window in Heaven, and all the seven pieces of furniture in the Old Testament Tabernacle came tumbling down and stood before me in the form of a Cross. Jesus told me that if I would study about these pieces of furniture—their construction, their function in the Mosaic Tabernacle, and all things relating to them—then I would learn about His Stature because they were pictures, shadows, and types of the second greater and more perfect Tabernacle—Jesus Christ’s Living Stature in the New Testament—to which the Apostle referred in the Book of Hebrews:

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; (Hebrews 9:11).

From that day, I began to study about the “measure of the Stature of the Fullness of Christ,” and, little by little, I gained the Knowledge that I needed in order to grow spiritually into the Likeness of the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ. I also have grown in the Unity of the Faith, as spoken of by the Apostle Paul. To God be all the Glory!

A little later, the LORD Jesus Christ spoke to me and told me to write a book so that other Christians who studied the Old Testament Tabernacle could see its relevance to the Living Stature of Jesus Christ in the New Testament.

It is for the following reasons, then, that we study the Old Testament Scriptures.

I. The Mosaic Tabernacle Contains the Eternal Picture of the Measure of the Fullness of the Lord Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature.

Nowhere in the Scriptures do we find such a Precious Gem of Truth or complete picture of the extent and dimensions of Christ's Spiritual Stature, which we must have in order to accomplish our spiritual growth to maturity, than in the Scriptures that tell us about the Mosaic Tabernacle and its furnishings.

The LORD desires for every believer to grow unto the measure of the Stature of the Fullness of Christ. This Principle of Spiritual Growth was reinforced by the Apostle Peter.

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: (I Peter 2:2).

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen (II Peter 3:18).

Our spiritual growth in Christ's Graces liberates us from our childish infirmities that cause us to cling to this present, evil world instead of setting our affections on Jesus Christ at the Right Hand of God in Heaven above.

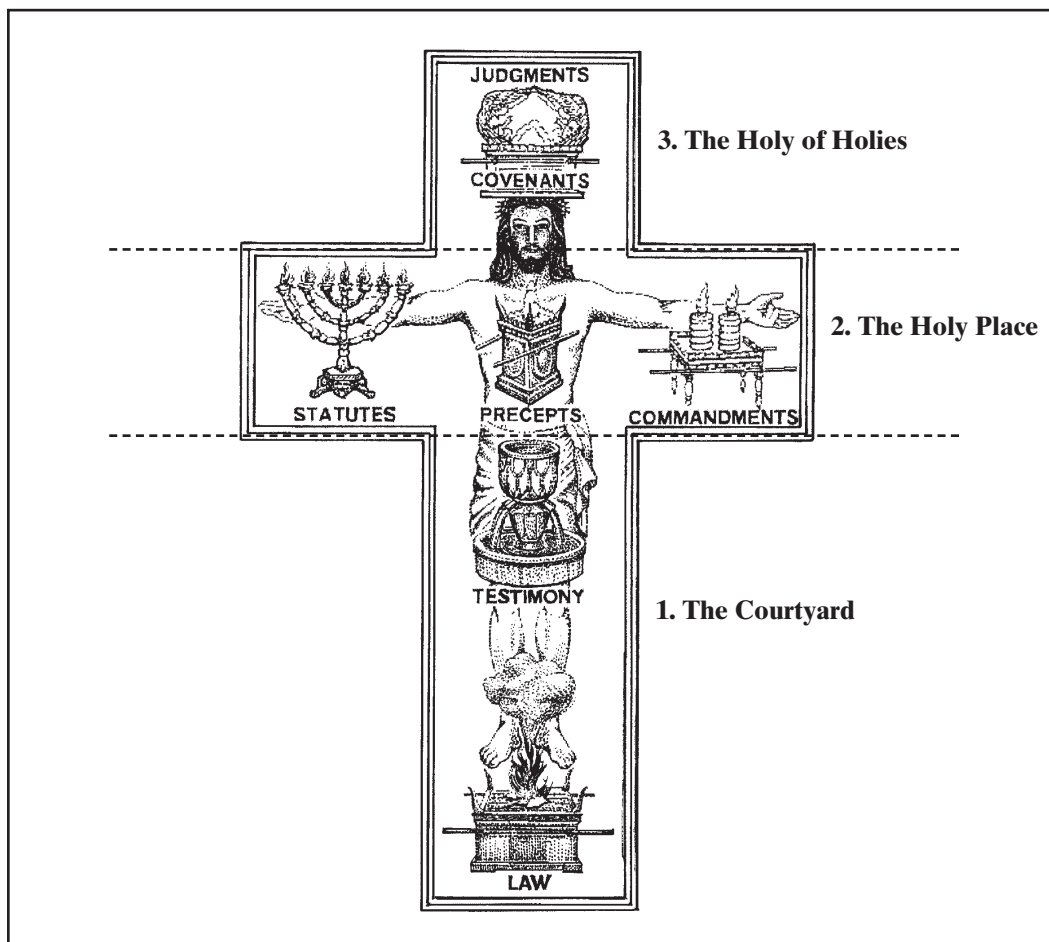
Since it is easier for man to see and to understand Spiritual Truths when they are presented through figures, types, and shadows, God uses many of them in His Word. In his writings, the Apostle Paul reinforced the necessity of the LORD's using figures, types, and shadows in the Old Testament so that their fulfillment, through the LORD Jesus Christ, could be more easily understood in the New Testament. Paul reinforced the necessity of having figures, symbols, and outlines that would help believers' finite understanding. Hence, the Mosaic Tabernacle gives us a Likeness and a Figure that represents Jesus Christ; therefore, we can grow to know Him in a more complete and intimate way by studying the Tabernacle and its furnishings. The Mosaic Tabernacle was an artistic design that represented the Eternal Form of Christ's Spiritual Stature.

The Apostle Paul started the description of the Tabernacle in the wilderness by defining its three separate divisions. The Tabernacle had been built according to the blueprint that was given to Moses. God had cautioned Moses that it was to be built according to His exact instructions because it was to be a figure of the second greater and more perfect Tabernacle of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Then verily the first *covenant* had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. **For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary.**

And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein *was* the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly. Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God. But into the second *went* the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people: The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: Which *was* a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; (Hebrews 9:1-9).

Let us reflect on a descriptive diagram that shows how the Tabernacle was divided.



When the LORD placed its furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle, through which He revealed His Son's Spiritual Stature, He began in the Head realm, the Holy of Holies, and descended to the Foot realm, the Courtyard. But when penitent man begins to grow spiritually, he must begin in the Courtyard or at the Foot of the Cross, the place of Blood for Salvation, and ascend to the Holy of Holies, Christ's Head or the place of complete surrender to Him, where He becomes the Spiritual Husband of believers and they become His mature Spiritual Bride.

The Courtyard, the Holy Place, and the Holy of Holies, the three divisions of the Mosaic Tabernacle, are the three places of spiritual growth to which Jesus referred when He taught the *Parable of the Good Ground*. In the Parable, He told about the Seed of the Word of God that was planted in the *good* ground and the degree of fruitfulness that these Seeds produced.

But other [Seed] fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold (Matthew 13:8).

The amount of fruitfulness produced by the Seed of God's Word that fell in good ground relates to the three divisions of the Mosaic Tabernacle. For example, the believers who will have gained the spiritual experiences found in the Courtyard of the Mosaic Tabernacle will have produced thirtyfold fruitfulness. They will have heard the LORD's Word about the Blood experience of Salvation at the Brazen Altar of Sacrifice and will have understood and accepted it, and its Truth will have become a part of their daily lives. They also will have heard and accepted the experience of the Fire of the Holy Ghost that was pictured at the Brazen Altar in the Tabernacle. To complete their foundational experiences, the thirtyfold believers will also have heard and accepted the Truth of Water Baptism, pictured by the Brazen Laver.

Believers' rewards will be based on the degree of spiritual growth that they will have attained while on Earth, which, for the thirtyfold believers, will be an eternal abode in the New Heavens.¹

Believers who will have continued to grow in the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ will have produced sixtyfold fruitfulness because, in their growth upward, they will have gained the spiritual experiences pictured by the Golden Candlestick, the Golden Altar of Prayer, and the Golden Table of Shewbread in the Holy Place. They will be the group of believers who will have sought and found the Light of God's Revealed Word in which they will have walked; they will have experienced the power of praying in the Spirit, and through consistent study and prayer, they will have partaken of the Strength of the Bread of God's Word. The reward for their degree of spiritual growth will be an eternal abode on the New Earth.

¹ For additional information about the different degrees of reward for believers read, B. R. Hicks, *Degrees Of Reward For Spiritual Growth* (Jeffersonville, IN: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l, Inc., 1984).

The hundredfold believers will be those who will have pressed onward and upward in their spiritual experiences in Christ's Spiritual Stature until they will have found the Grace to walk, daily, under the guidance of the LORD's Holy Headship. These overcoming believers will have reached spiritual maturity and will have experienced the joy of a marriage relationship with the Bridegroom, the Lord Jesus Christ. The reward for their degree of spiritual growth will be an eternal abode in the Most Holy Place, the Place of God's Throne in the New Heavenly City, the New Jerusalem. How great is our God! To Him be all the Glory!

Since the Mosaic Tabernacle and its accoutrements present pictures, figures, and types of Jesus Christ, there are many spiritual gems of Truth that are found when we study this particular portion of the LORD's Word.

II. The LORD's Master Plan in the Mosaic Tabernacle Is a Divine Blueprint for Believers to Grow the Spiritual Stature of Christ in Their Hearts.

Four times in the Book of Exodus, God told Moses to make certain that he constructed the Tabernacle according to the pattern that had been shown to him on the mount.

Moses was also responsible to see that the LORD's commands concerning the building of the Mosaic Tabernacle were duly carried out by those who would be doing the actual work.

And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, *after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof*, even so shall ye make *it* (Exodus 25:8,9).

And look that thou make *them* after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount (Exodus 25:40).

And thou shalt rear up the tabernacle according to the fashion thereof which was shewed thee in the mount (Exodus 26:30).

Hollow with boards shalt thou make it: as it was shewed thee in the mount, so shall they make *it* (Exodus 27:8).

Since the plans for the Mosaic Tabernacle were drawn by the Divine Architect, the LORD God, and were to project a picture of His Son, Jesus Christ, He kept reinforcing to Moses the necessity of not digressing from His Divine Blueprint.

This beautiful inspiration enlightens our hearts not to stray from the LORD's Divine Blueprint in His Holy Word. Believers must yield to the Holy Spirit and to the LORD's Precious Word in order to grow Christ's Spiritual Stature in their souls and spirits. Let us bear before others Christ's Image, both within our hearts and without, in our daily lives.

III. Israel's Moral Condition in Egypt Made It of Great Necessity and of Inevitable Compulsion to Have the Mosaic Tabernacle in Her Journey Through the Wilderness.

For over 400 years, Israel had been in the evil, darkened land of Egypt, which was an idolatrous country, whose people were far away from God. Israel was also without any spiritual leader in Egypt who could receive Spiritual Light and Revelation from the One and Only True God.

Although Israel was God's chosen nation, they were a sinful people, who needed to find the LORD's Will and Way in order to approach Him in true worship.

God's great Love for His people caused Him to provide the Mosaic Tabernacle, which is the Revealed Way to enter into His Presence and to have spiritual fellowship with Him. If our heart is humble and teachable, we will always learn something from others who have walked in true fellowship with God.

IV. The Great Portion that the LORD Has Dedicated in His Word to the Mosaic Tabernacle Generates Sincere Respect and Reverence in Our Hearts and Minds for the Truth It Presents.

The LORD's dedication of so many chapters in His Holy Word to this particular building, the Mosaic Tabernacle, generates spiritual curiosity in our hearts and minds that inspires us to investigate its eternal importance.

God told us something essentially important for us to understand about His Word when He inspired Timothy to write the following Truth:

All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: (II Timothy 3:16).

This verse reveals the four eternal reasons about why we should study and absorb God's Word from Genesis to Revelation. His Word is our source of Knowledge that we need in order to grow spiritually in Him. We need to grow in:

1. His Doctrine,
2. His Reproof,
3. His Correction, and
4. His Instruction in Righteousness.

V. The Old Testament Scriptures Prepare Our Hearts and Minds for the Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge of the New Testament Scriptures that We Need in Order for Our Eyes to Be Enlightened by All of God's Truth.

There are many New Testament Scriptures that are built on Old Testament Scriptures. As a result, not all New Testament Scriptures will be clearly understood until the Old Testament Mosaic Tabernacle has been studied. This is why all Scripture is profitable.

Many quotations and references in the New Testament have their origin in the Old Testament Scriptures. Because the Mosaic Tabernacle is a picture of God's Son, there are Scriptures in the New Testament that will be more clearly understood when one sees their foreshadowing in the Old Testament. God has given "All Scripture" for the purpose of revealing His Son, the LORD Jesus Christ.

VI. The LORD Gave the Mosaic Tabernacle a Multiplicity of Names.

First, the LORD's Structure for worship was called a *Tabernacle* or *mish-kan* in Hebrew, which means a dwelling place, a habitation, a lodging place, to remain, to rest, to abide, or to reside.

God always met with His people in the Mosaic Tabernacle, as they journeyed through the wilderness. God's Word also says that Jesus came down and "tabernacled" among us.

Jesus came and took up His abode in the Body of Flesh and Blood that His Father had specially prepared for Him. Thus, on Calvary's Cross, He became the Perfect Sacrifice for our sins. Now, man can have eternal fellowship with God.

Christ's Divine Presence has always been in the world. The Apostle John clearly expressed Christ's Incarnation.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

Jesus Christ was Holy and harmless; He never afflicted anyone. He was fallen man's Holy, Pure, and Perfect Sin Offering on the Cross of Calvary. Jesus Christ is also believers' perfect Melchizedek High Priest, at God's Right Hand.

Let us repeat what the Apostle Paul revealed about Jesus' Body being a greater and more perfect Tabernacle than the Mosaic Tabernacle, the first Tabernacle.

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; (Hebrews 9:11).

Jesus' Holy Flesh or Body was conceived by the Holy Ghost as it overshadowed the Blessed Virgin Mary. This New Building or Tabernacle of Jesus Christ's Body was Infinitely and Divinely Superior to the Mosaic Tabernacle.

With His Infinite, Divine Blood, Jesus obtained Eternal Redemption for all sinful souls. To repentant, believing souls, Jesus Christ is their:

- High Priest,
- Altar,
- Sacrifice, and
- Eternal Redeemer.

The Mosaic Tabernacle was also called a *tent*.

And the remnant that remaineth of the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that remaineth, shall hang over the backside of the tabernacle. And a cubit on the one side, and a cubit on the other side **of that which remaineth in the length of the curtains of the tent**, it shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle on this side and on that side, to cover it. **And thou shalt make a covering for the tent** of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering above of badgers' skins (Exodus 26:12-14).

The Hebrew word for *tent* is *o-hel*, which means a dwelling place, a home, a tabernacle. A tent is clearly conspicuous from a distance. *O-hel* (tent) is from the Hebrew root word *aw-hal*, which means to be clear, to shine; it also refers to a temporary dwelling place made of canvas.

What a precious Truth to think that the God of Heaven would be willing to come down to Earth as a lowly “tent” in order to establish an eternal fellowship with His people. Our lovely LORD and Saviour, Jesus Christ, humbled Himself and took upon Himself His “Tent of Flesh” so that, through the “Tent of His Blood and Flesh,” we can receive Eternal Salvation and fellowship with His Infinite, Divine, Unbegotten Father.

The Mosaic Tabernacle was also called the *Sanctuary*.

And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them (Exodus 25:8).

The Hebrew word for *sanctuary* is *kod-esh*, which means a sacred place or thing, a consecrated thing, a dedicated thing, a hallowed thing, a Most Holy thing, a saint. God's Holy Things should generate a desire in our hearts and a longing in our souls and spirits to experience more about His Holiness in our thoughts, feelings, and deeds.

The Mosaic Sanctuary was a Holy Place because God sanctified it and set it apart for His Holy Use. The Mosaic Tabernacle was also Holy because God's Divine Presence was there.

VII. The LORD's Arrangement of the Furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle Draws out the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ.

In furnishing the Mosaic Tabernacle, the LORD God began His orderly arrangement of the seven pieces of furniture by placing the Ark of the Covenant and its covering Mercy Seat in the Holy of Holies. These two pieces of furniture pictured Jesus Christ's Head or the Seat of His Headship, His Supreme, Sovereign Authority, and His total Dominion.

And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein *was* the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly (Hebrews 9:3-5).

Then, the LORD descended in the Tabernacle and placed the Table of Shewbread, the Golden Candlestick, and the Golden Altar in the Holy Place, which was a picture of His Arms and Heart.

For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein *was* the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary (Hebrews 9:2).

Last, He placed the Brazen Laver, a picture of His Loins, and the Brazen Altar, a picture of His Feet, in the Courtyard, where all the people could enter, while only the Priests could enter the Holy Place, and only the High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies and, then, only once a year, on the Day of Atonement.

The LORD reaffirms this Moral Principle in the New Covenant.

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; **that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*,** Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: **And hath put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things* to the church,** (Ephesians 1:18-22).

Having established a Way for man to return to Him through spiritual growth in the Resurrected Christ, the LORD leads man to begin his spiritual experiences at the Brazen Altar, the place of sacrifice where blood was shed for the sins of the people.

From there, the LORD leads man from spiritual experience to spiritual experience until he reaches the Ark of the Covenant in the Most Holy Place, where His Divine Throne is, and which is also the place in which He began building a Way for man to return to fellowship with Him.

This is a precious Gem of Truth, whose rays of Divine Light shine forth to all humble, penitent, souls and spirits. This Gem of Truth is the LORD's Wonderful, Infinite, Indescribable Love.

Man's Salvation began with God's Divine Headship and His *Worker* Heart of Love. Before the foundation of the world, the LORD's Divine Headship of Love provided His Mercy Blood for man, even before man had been created.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world** (Revelation 13:8).

In the Mosaic Tabernacle, God created a Path of Blood from the Brazen Altar in the Courtyard, to the Golden Altar in the Holy Place, on up to the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat in the Holy of Holies.

The LORD chose us in Him *before* the foundation of the world.

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ: **According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:** (Ephesians 1:3,4).

The LORD provided Redemptive Blood for mankind before He had created him. The Apostle Peter also revealed the LORD's Purposive Will and Master Plan for man, which He had determined from *keh-dem* Eternity.

Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, (I Peter 1:18-20).

The LORD provided for man's Salvation, even before the foundation of the world. The thought of Salvation by Blood began with the LORD Himself and proceeded downward, to where sinful man was, so that He could lead man back to His Divine Headship and His Throne in the Most Holy Place!

The way that these verses are fulfilled in the believer's heart is by searching and being taught the Scriptures that show how we reach or acquire the measure of the Fullness of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature. Nowhere in the Scriptures is a more clear picture drawn of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature than in the Mosaic Tabernacle.

This is why we go back to the Old Testament and study its furniture, for it gives us a pattern to follow to mature spiritual growth, which, for man, begins at the Brazen Altar at Jesus' Feet and ends at the Golden Ark and Mercy Seat at Jesus' Head.

I pray that this anointed book, which contains so much Truth from God's Word, will bless all penitent hearts who are looking for a closer and deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. This book presents the Way that the LORD has planned and provided for those who desire to grow to spiritual maturity, which, in turn, will fit them to be in His Bride and to share in His great Wedding Feast. At the Feast, the Bride will have on her beautiful Wedding Garments because she will have walked under His Headship that has led her from spiritual experience to spiritual experience. As she has seen and accepted and lived by these spiritual experiences, she will have been clothed with all she needs in order to be joined to her Bridegroom, the Lord Jesus Christ, in a marriage relationship.

Hopefully, every reader will finish this book with a new vision and a greater love for our Gracious LORD Jesus Christ, our Saviour, our Friend, and our soon Coming King in all His Resurrected Glory!

–The Author

Introduction

All Scripture is for profit, benefit, and gain to God's People. This includes all the Scriptures about the Old Testament Tabernacle because God had Moses to build it according to His explicit instructions as an example and shadow of Heavenly things and as a picture of His Son Jesus Christ, Who would fulfill all the Old Testament types and shadows when He came to Earth.

Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, *that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount* (Hebrews 8:5).

For the law having a shadow of good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect (Hebrews 10:1).

An example means an exhibit for imitation, a pattern, and to copy for imitation. A shadow is a mirrored image, a reflection, or something that is without reality or substance; an imaginary thing, a vision, a shadow of hope.

The Lord Jesus Christ, God's Living Word, existed before anything was created. His Stature of Truth existed before the world began.

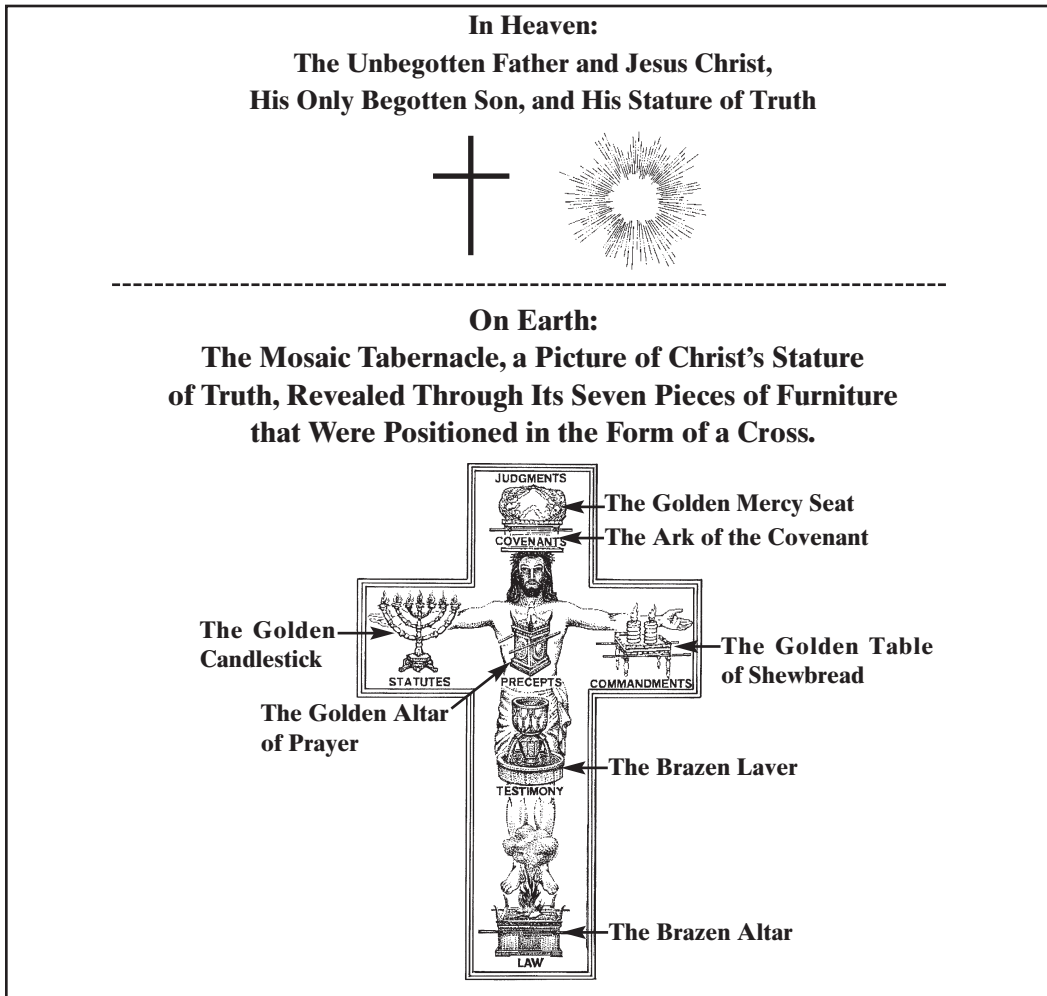
Who hath saved us, and **called *us*** with an holy calling, not according to our works, but **according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,** (II Timothy 1:9).

After the world had been created, in the course of time, God established a picture or shadow of Christ's Stature through the Mosaic Tabernacle, whose seven pieces of furniture were laid out in the form of a Cross.

According to God's Word, Jesus Christ is the greater and more Perfect Tabernacle.

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; (Hebrews 9:11).

Let us reflect on a descriptive diagram that shows the Only Begotten Son in Heaven with His Unbegotten Father and, then, how the Father presented a picture of His Son through the Mosaic Tabernacle.



In His Word, which we have already quoted, but which bears repeating, the LORD commanded all believers to grow in Christ's Spiritual Stature.

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: (I Peter 2:2).

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen (II Peter 3:18).

In his letter to the Ephesians, the Apostle Paul listed five different ministries with which Jesus Christ anoints His messengers of the Gospel for the express purpose of helping true believers to grow into the measure of the Fullness of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature.

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the

ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: (Ephesians 4:11-13).

In the past, in the Old Testament, God provided the Mosaic Tabernacle, or *mish-kan* in Hebrew, which was built in the form or figure of the Cross so that believers could have a clear blueprint of how to build the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ in their hearts.

The Apostle Paul reinforced the Truth that Moses was instructed to make all the things of the Mosaic Tabernacle according to the pattern that the LORD had shown him on the Mount.

Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, *that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount* (Hebrews 8:5).

Under the Old Covenant, the Mosaic or Sinai Tabernacle was the place that God chose for His people Israel to meet with Him. In Israel's journey through the wilderness, the Mosaic Tabernacle was moved from place to place, according to God's Divine Headship. Half of the Tribes of Israel followed the Tabernacle and the other half of the Tribes went before the Tabernacle, while the Pillar of Cloud and the Pillar of Fire led the way with the Father's Ark. Wherever the Glory of the God's Headship descended, that was the place in which the host of Israel encamped and rested. Finally, after God's people had entered Canaan's Land, the Mosaic Tabernacle was placed at Shiloh.

And the whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled together at Shiloh, and set up the tabernacle of the congregation there. And the land was subdued before them (Joshua 18:1).

It is important to note that before the land could be divided among the Tribes of Israel to establish what portion of the land would be each Tribe's inheritance, all the soldiers in every tribe had to fight in unity and harmony to drive out the inhabitants of Canaan's Land. Once the land had been conquered, it was divided according to the LORD's commandment or according to His Divine Headship.

These *are* the inheritances, which Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel, divided for an inheritance by lot in Shiloh before the LORD, at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. So they made an end of dividing the country (Joshua 19:51).

Joshua, by God's Governance and Guidance, selected Shiloh as the site on which the Mosaic Tabernacle would be set up. It was here that God's Divine Headship made

the allotments of the Promised Land to the twelve Tribes of Israel. Shiloh became the pivotal center in Israel because the House of the LORD's Holy Headship rested there.

From year to year, Elkanah, the father of the Prophet Samuel, made his annual pilgrimage to Shiloh to worship the LORD and to sacrifice to Him.

And this man [Elkanah] went up out of his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice unto the LORD of hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD, were there (I Samuel 1:3).

Although the LORD's Headship had given the City of Jerusalem to Israel, in which His spectacular Temple was eventually built, she backslid from the One True God. She falsely imagined that the Temple, where God's Headship resided, would automatically provide her with safety and security. Caught up in her pride and rebellion, she followed Lucifer's encouragement to perpetrate all manner of evil. She practiced all kinds of wicked idolatry. Consequently, the Temple became a den of robbers in which God's people took refuge after all kinds of criminal exploits! So God commanded Israel to go back, in her heart and mind, to her true, sincere worship before Him that she had practiced and enjoyed at Shiloh, when they had had the Mosaic Tabernacle there.

When Jeremiah, who was under God's Divine Headship, began to foretell the doom and destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple, the wicked people were ready to destroy him.

Now it came to pass, **when Jeremiah had made an end of speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak unto all the people, that the priests and the prophets and all the people took him, saying, Thou shalt surely die.** Why hast thou prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate without an inhabitant? **And all the people were gathered against Jeremiah in the house of the LORD** (Jeremiah 26:8,9).

The wicked headship of mortal men has always come against the LORD's Divine Headship, which is manifested in their treatment of the LORD's Headship in the following ways:

- His Headship is resented.
- His Headship is rejected.
- His Headship is refused.
- His Headship is rescinded and rebelled against.

However, God's Eternal, Divine Headship marches on after mortal man's temporal, unholy headship has passed away. To God be all the Glory!

Now, under the New Covenant, the LORD's Headship has made provision for His people so that they do not have to return to their own sinful headship. The LORD has given five special helpers to minister in five ways that aid true believers in reaching a degree of spiritual maturity whereby they can continually live in submission to the LORD Jesus Christ's Headship. These five ministries are performed by the following believers:

- Apostles;
- Prophets;
- Evangelists;
- Pastors; and
- Teachers.

I. The LORD's Apostles Were All Required to Have Been Eye and Ear Witnesses of Jesus Christ's Resurrection.

And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning (John 15:27).

The original qualification to be an Apostle was that he should be *personally* acquainted with our LORD's Ministry—from John's baptizing Him in water, to His Ascension after His Resurrection. Consequently, they were particularly fitted to give testimony to the Truth of His Power of Redemption.

Jesus knew the oppression and the hatred that His Gospel of Truth would generate in the hearts of Lucifer's followers, so His Divine Headship made spiritual provision for this problem. Jesus Christ sent Apostles who had such living experiences with the Risen Christ that the Devil's hate could not destroy their eternal testimony.

For Example, consider the following truths that could not be refuted:

- The Apostles had heard all of Jesus' public Sermons of Truth.
- The Apostles had received private teachings concerning Christ's Truth.
- The Apostles had the privilege to ask Jesus Christ questions and to receive answers of Truth from Him.
- The Apostles saw the merciful miracles that Jesus performed everywhere He went.
- The Apostles had the opportunity to see the Purity, Holiness, and Righteousness of Jesus Christ that was displayed at all times through His Holy Thoughts, Feelings, and Deeds.

- The Apostles had the blessing of beholding Jesus Christ's Submissive Obedience to His Father's Infinite, Divine Headship in everything.
- The Apostles saw the display of Christ's Forgiving Love toward all people. Therefore, every true believer in Jesus Christ has every reason to trust the Apostles' words.

For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, **but were eye-witnesses of his majesty** (II Peter 1:16).

The Apostle Peter bore witness that he did not devise fables of untruth to tell believers, but that he was a personal eyewitness to the Majesty of Jesus Christ's Sovereign Power, to His Great Grandeur, and to His Coming to Earth.

The Words of Life that were written by the Apostle John were proof that the Lord Jesus Christ had taught him the Words of Life.

That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and **truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ** (I John 1:3).

The Apostle John told the people that which he had heard with his own ears and had seen with his own eyes.

A. Jesus Himself Chose His Apostles from among His Disciples.

And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, **he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;** (Luke 6:12,13).

After Jesus had spent the night in prayer, He called together twelve of His Disciples and named them Apostles. Jesus then sent the twelve Apostles out to the people to teach, to instruct, and to provide them with Knowledge about the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Later, the LORD's Divine Headship appointed the Apostle Paul to take the place of backslidden, traitorous Judas. The Apostle Paul bore witness that his Apostleship was *not* appointed by *any man but by Jesus Christ and God*.

Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;) (Galatians 1:1).

Jesus prophesied and promised His Apostles that He and His Father would send the Holy Ghost to them and that the Holy Ghost, Who was the Spirit of Truth, would do the following things:

- shew them things to come;
- glorify Jesus Christ;
- give them the things of Jesus Christ; and
- shew them things of Jesus Christ.

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: **and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you** (John 16:13,14).

B. By the LORD's Divine Headship, the Apostles Had Divine Power to Perform Miracles.

And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: **and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles** (Acts 2:42,43).

The early believers, who lived under the LORD's Divine Headship, remained faithful to His Holy Ordinances and to Christ's Deeds of Piety and Love. They were faithful to commune with God and to obey His Purposive Will that He had appointed for them. These early believers were very diligent and attendant to the preaching of God's Holy Word and faithfully heeded the teaching and instruction of the Apostles. Consequently, they continued to grow in the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ and in their love for the Brotherhood.

II. In His Early Church, the LORD's Divine Headship Gave Prophets to His People to Help Them in Their Spiritual Growth in Christ's Spiritual Stature of Truth.

The ministry of the Prophet is to reveal the LORD's reward for both the obedient and the disobedient. The Hebrew word for *prophet* is *naw-bee*, which means to bubble forth. All true Prophets are divinely inspired and actively pour forth the declarations of God's Headship. The LORD's Prophets are also seers, which means that they have a gift from God to see the unity of the past, present, and future. Therefore, God's Prophets can foretell future Truth and spiritual experiences that one must have in order to grow up into the mature Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ.

A Prophet utters and speaks the communication he has with God concerning a believer's present growth in Truth and in his future growth. A True Prophet predicts the spiritual future growth of the Full Stature of Truth in Christ Jesus in believers. In addition, a true Prophet reveals the different eternal abodes that are the rewards for the degree of spiritual growth achieved by God's people.

True Prophets are sent to reveal and to enforce the LORD's Purposive Will and Master Plan of His Divine Headship. True Prophets help to reform and to revive the penitent soul's thoughts, feelings, and deeds so that the soul can grow up in the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ and abide in the New City, the New Jerusalem, above, in Eternity.

III. The LORD's Divine Headship Has Given Evangelists to Preach the Gospel to Lost Souls so that They Can Come to Jesus Christ and Grow to Spiritual Maturity in His Spiritual Stature of Truth.

The ministry of the Evangelist is to minister the "Good Tidings" of the LORD's Infinite, "Divine Gospel of Forgiveness of Sins," for both believers and nonbelievers. Evangelists are God's messengers of the "Good Tidings" for the Body of Christ. God used Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John as messengers to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Matthew, the Evangelist, was the Disciple who preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ that showed Christ's Divine Nature as that of a Man.

Mark, the Evangelist, was the Disciple who preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ that showed Christ's Divine Nature as that of a Lion from the Tribe of Judah.

Luke, the Evangelist, was the Disciple who preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ that showed His Divine Nature as that of an Ox, Who willingly became a sacrifice on the Cross of Calvary and was slain for the sins of the world.

John, the Evangelist, was the Disciple who preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ that showed Christ's Divine Nature as that of an Eagle. The Eagle pictured the bold flight of the Risen Christ, Who ascended to the Father's Right Hand in Heaven.

IV. The LORD's Divine Headship Has Given Pastors to Be Shepherds to His People in His Church for Their Spiritual Growth in Christ's Spiritual Stature of Truth.

A Pastor is a shepherd who feeds God's sheep so that they can live, grow, and fulfill God's Purposive Will. Pastors feed, water, and lead the LORD's sheep to His pastures of "green grass" or His Quickened Word in order to further their spiritual growth in His Spiritual Stature. The Hebrew word for *Pastor* is *ro-eh*, which means a *Shepherd*.

A Pastor has four aspects to his ministry. The first responsibility of a sincere Pastor is to provide true worship in God's House for his congregation. True worship consists of God's people putting their hearts and minds on the LORD Jesus Christ, thanking, praising, blessing, and glorifying Him for being their Saviour, Redeemer, and Reconciler.

In their worship to the LORD, believers must not allow any person or thing to compete with their relationship with Him. If they do, they become guilty of gross idolatry.

God is a Spirit: and **they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth** (John 4:24).

And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, **And let all the angels of God worship him** (Hebrews 1:6).

The second responsibility of a true Pastor is to provide the Milk, the Bread, and the Meat from God's Quickened Word and from His Divine Headship so that His people can grow up to the measure of the Fullness of the Spiritual Stature of His Son, Jesus Christ.

The third responsibility of a true Pastor is to administer the Holy Sacrament, which represents the Death of the Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross. The Communion Table of Jesus Christ is an outward and visible sign of an inward, spiritual Grace that He has given unto believers, which was ordained by Jesus Christ Himself at the Last Supper. The Communion Table is of far more importance to God than man realizes.

Jesus has commanded believers to eat of His Flesh and to drink of His Blood, which is done by *faith* at the Communion Table.

Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. **He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him** (John 6: 54-56).

A very important part of a true Pastor's ministry is to protect God's Truth and God's flock against all enemies who would distort the Truth in an effort to win men's favor.

V. The LORD's Divine Headship Has Given Teachers to His People in His Church for Their Spiritual Growth in Christ's Spiritual Stature of Truth.

Teachers are those believers who have been taught the Truth by God, both theoretically and empirically; then, as Teachers, they instruct others in the Way of Truth.

Teachers are to share the Living Word of God so that true believers will be shown how to grow unto the measure of the Fullness of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature. The word *Teacher* means to know, to impart knowledge; to give intelligence or information concerning a subject; to instruct a person in spiritual Knowledge; to enable a person to acquire skill in the Wisdom and Understanding of God's Word.

God's Teachers are His great servants who inspire their students to grow up into Jesus Christ's Full Spiritual Stature of Truth. The true Teacher builds up the Righteous Stature of Jesus Christ in the sincere hearts of his students, through expounding the LORD's Revealed Word to them. Teaching is one of the precious Promises that is found in God's Covenant.

And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children (Isaiah 54:13).

God promised Israel that her children, His disciples, would be taught of the LORD; therefore, they would have great peace. God's true children are believers who have been spiritually born again of God.

The LORD's Divine Headship appoints Teachers for those who are zealous to study and to learn about His Holy Word. The LORD's true Teachers are under His Headship, His Direction, and His Blessing. Through the Divine Light of the LORD's Holy Word, He guides His Teachers in educating the least of His children to the greatest of His children, and they shall learn the Truth and grow in the Spiritual Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ!

If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus (Ephesians 4:21).

The Infinite, Divine Father has hidden His Eternal, Spiritual Stature of Truth in Jesus Christ, Who came to teach believers the *Torah*-Truth so that they can grow up in His Spiritual Stature of Truth and find His Peace that "passeth all understanding."

Be careful for nothing; but **in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus** (Philippians 4:6,7).

As long as we stay steadfast and walk under God's Divine Headship, we do not have to be careful for anything; that is, we do not have to be anxious or have distracting thoughts about the cares, difficulties, and distrusts of this world. Then, from our place under God's Divine Headship, we must pray and give thanks and supplication to our precious Saviour and Bridegroom. Our reward for all this is our possession of Christ's Peace that passes all understanding. It is Christ's Peace that prevents us from sinning and sinking in the midst of life's trials.

The Prophet Isaiah described God's Peace.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee (Isaiah 26:3).

LORD, thou wilt ordain peace for us: for thou also hast wrought all our works in us. O LORD our God, *other* lords beside thee have had dominion over us: *but* by thee only will we make mention of thy name (Isaiah 26:12,13).

God's Divine Headship is His believers' reward for keeping their minds on Him. To those who believe on Him, He is their perfect Peace. The LORD's Peace, inwardly and outwardly, is the Eternal Reward given to a penitent soul and spirit. If a believer puts his entire being under God's Divine Governance and Guidance, he will enjoy the LORD's continual Rest and Peace. What a Mighty God we serve! To God be all the Glory!

The LORD's *Perfect Peace and Spiritual Satisfaction* are the rewards that He gives to His true Teachers. Thanks be unto the LORD for His great gifts of *Apostles, Prophets,*

Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers, whom He gives for the perfecting of His believing saints so that they can be formed, fashioned, and molded into the mature Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ.

Conclusion:

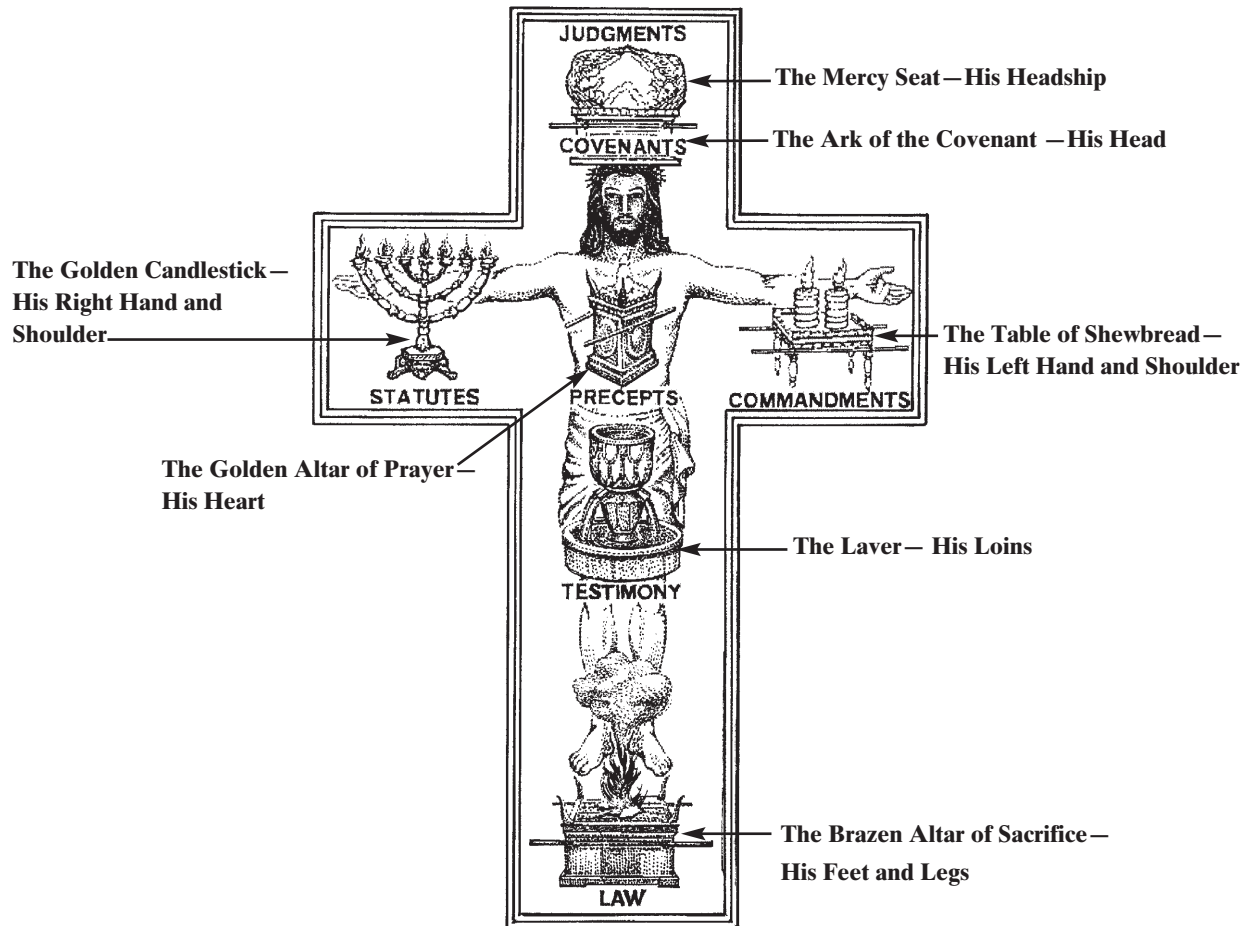
The Seven Pieces of Furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle portray a most clear figure and picture of the LORD Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature in which God's Word commands us to grow.

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ** (Ephesians 4:11-13).

The following diagram provides a clear picture of how the furniture was placed in the Mosaic Tabernacle to form a shadow and type of the Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross. This is the Stature and the Figure that we will be studying throughout this entire book.

(See diagram on following page.)

**The Stature of Jesus as Revealed
in the Furniture of the Mosaic Tabernacle**



Since the Mosaic Tabernacle pictures Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature, it is filled with the LORD's Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, and Prudence that are inexhaustible.

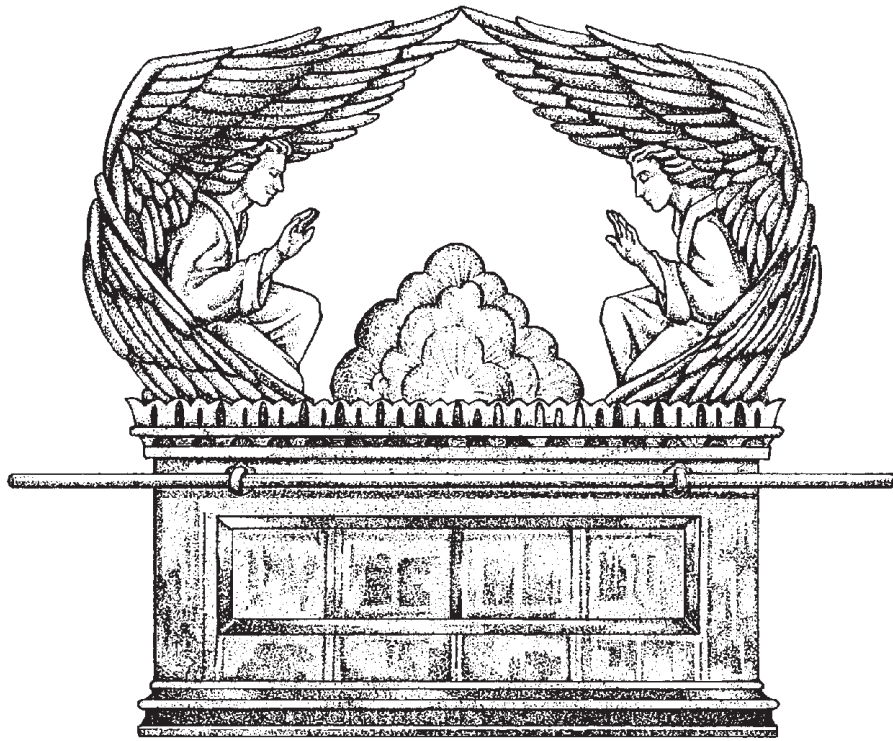
The Purpose of the Mosaic Tabernacle remains in complete darkness to believers, apart from the LORD's Divine Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge that enlighten their spiritual eyes to see the LORD's complete *Plan of Perfection* through Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature. The LORD's Picture and Figure of Christ's Spiritual Stature in the Mosaic Tabernacle gives great Light to believers' spiritual eyes.

As we study the Mosaic Tabernacle and all its furniture and furnishings, we will behold new heights and depths of Divine Truth that God has hidden in His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ. As a result, we will be continually inspired to press onward and upward in Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature to a greater measure and richer Fullness of

its Truth. In addition, in our hearts and minds, we will be liberated from our cold self-complacency and warm self-righteousness that make us think that we have a larger Spiritual Stature than we have.

The introduction to this book has now prepared us for the in-depth study of the furniture in the Old Testament by showing that God has placed Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers in the Church for the perfecting of the saints, the work of the ministry, and the edifying of the Body of Christ until we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the Knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the Stature of the Fullness of Christ.

Moses began furnishing the Tabernacle, as God had told him, by placing the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat in the Holy of Holies. This is where our study begins.



**The Ark of the Covenant
and the Mercy Seat**

Chapter One

The Ark Of The Covenant And The Mercy Seat

The Ark and the Mercy Seat on it were placed as the two highest pieces of furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle. They pictured the Son's and the Father's Headship that was upheld by His Infinite, Divine Mercy. The Ark and the Mercy Seat occupied the place of Supreme, Sovereign Authority in the Mosaic Tabernacle, and it held the chief place and position of Government and Guidance for the Nation of Israel.

Moses had the Ark of the Covenant constructed according to the express plan that was given to him by the LORD God on Mount Sinai. The Ark was made of shittim wood and, then, covered with plates of gold within and without. A crown of gold edged the top of the Ark; then, the Ark was surmounted by the Mercy Seat, which was made of pure gold. The purpose of the Mercy Seat was to be a cover or a lid for the Ark.

Within the Ark was placed the following things:

- The *Torah*-Truth that God had written with His Finger on Tables of Stone.
- A Golden Pot that contained some of the Manna that God had rained down from Heaven to sustain Israel in the wilderness.
- Aaron's Rod that had the LORD's Name upon it, which miraculously budded, blossomed, and yielded fruit to prove that God had chosen the Tribe of Levi to be His Priesthood.

On the Mercy Seat rested the awesome Divine Presence of the LORD God. The Priests carried the Ark with the Mercy Seat in the midst of the Tribes of Israel as they journeyed through the wilderness. Half of the Tribes marched in front of the Ark and its Mercy Seat, while the other half of the Tribes followed behind it. The Ark that Moses built went in front of the Israelites to lead the way to Canaan's Land. It represented the Father's Headship.

The Ark with the Mercy Seat represented the Son's Headship. In it were the broken Tables of the Law that needed the Mercy-Grace Blood of the Son to cover and to mend them.

The Father's Ark or the Ark that Moses built in which he put the second set of the Tables of the Law that God wrote when He had Moses come up the Mount a second time, was not covered by a Mercy Seat. This is why, when men touched it or looked in it, they were killed. Impure man can only approach God through the covering of the Son's Mercy Blood.

First Samuel 6:19 tells the story about 50,070 men being smitten because they had dared to look into the LORD's Ark when it had no atoning blood on it. The people lamented and asked, "Who is able to stand before this Holy LORD God?"

And he smote the men of Beth-shemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the LORD, even he smote of the people fifty thousand and threescore and ten men: and the people lamented, because the LORD had smitten *many* of the people with a great slaughter. **And the men of Beth-shemesh said, Who is able to stand before this holy LORD God? and to whom shall he go up from us?** (I Samuel 6:19,20).

From His Presence above the Ark, between the Cherubs on the Mercy Seat, the LORD ruled over Israel as their Divine, Chief Magistrate . It was from there that the LORD controlled Israel's actions and conduct by His established *Torah-Truth*, Purposive Will, and Master Plan. The LORD exercised His Authority and administered His Law of Love from the Ark and the Mercy Seat. He was the Infinite, Divine Governor and Ruler over Israel, and, from the Holy of Holies, He exercised His Wisdom, Knowledge, and Judgments according to His Purposive Will and Master Plan for Israel.

And they shall make an ark of shittim wood: two cubits and a half *shall be* the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. **And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, within and without shalt thou overlay it, and shalt make upon it a crown of gold round about. And thou shalt cast four rings of gold for it, and put *them* in the four corners thereof; and two rings *shall be* in the one side of it, and two rings in the other side of it. And thou shalt make staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold. And thou shalt put the staves into the rings by the sides of the ark, that the ark may be borne with them. The staves shall be in the rings of the ark: they shall not be taken from it.** And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee. **And thou shalt make a mercy seat of pure gold:** two cubits and a half *shall be* the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof. And **thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat.** And make one cherub on the one end, and the other cherub on the other end: *even* of the mercy seat shall ye make the cherubims on the two ends thereof. **And the cherubims shall stretch forth *their wings* on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and their faces *shall look one to another;* toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubims be. And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee. And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which *are* upon the ark of the testimony, of all *things* which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel** (Exodus 25:10-22).

Part of the High Priest's ministry in the Tabernacle was putting the atonement blood on the Mercy Seat on one day each year. But before the High Priest could enter the Most Holy Place, he had to cover the Mercy Seat with a Cloud of Incense so that he would not die. The veil of Incense filled the entire Holy of Holies, preventing the High Priest from being able to look on the LORD's Glory. Having entered the Most Holy Place under the protective Cloud of Incense, the High Priest sprinkled the blood of the atonement upon the Mercy Seat; then, he sprinkled the blood before the Mercy Seat seven times.

When the smoke of the Incense was filling the Holy of Holies, it appeared as a tall, straight palm tree that reached the highest point of the LORD's Infinite, Divine Light in the Holy of Holies. With its unflinching strength and faithfulness, the "Palm-Smoke" of the Incense joined the LORD's Highest Glory Light.

The LORD's *Light* of His Holy Glory carries us through our troubles, trials, dangers, and strifes in this evil world. To God be all the Glory!

The LORD's Infinite, Divine Purpose for the entire Bible is to reveal to believers His Sovereign, Supreme Headship, through His Mercy and His Grace, and to reveal to them His Glory Light that is above His Mercy and Grace.

The Hebrew word for *head* is *roshe*, which means the beginning, the captain, the chief, the excellent, the forefront, the highest part, the principle, the ruler, the top.

In the natural realm, the LORD God created man with a head so that he could lead, guide, and direct all Creation under God's Infinite, Divine Headship. Man's head is the seat of his mind, reason, memory, and intelligence.

After God had created Adam, He put him in the Garden of Eden. Then, He appointed him to be the head over all His Creation. Adam was to rule Creation under God's Infinite, Divine Headship. Thus, man's head was always to be under submissive obedience to God's Governance and Guidance.

In the beginning, the LORD Commanded Adam to do the following things:

- to dress the Garden with his gratitude;
- to keep the Garden by closing its twelve gates;
- to eat of the Tree of Life, Jesus Christ; and
- to eat of all the other victorious Spiritual Trees, who were the people from the three previous Creations who had been overcomers.²

However, Adam disobeyed everything that God had told him to do. Contrary to God's Commands, Adam obeyed the sinful headship of his fallen wife who had chosen to follow

² For more information about the three previous Creations and their world of inhabitants, read *The Missing Link Between the Genesis Creation and Scientific Findings* by B. R. Hicks (Jeffersonville, Indiana: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 1988).

the Serpent's headship. Nevertheless, Adam-male and Adam-female could not escape the LORD's Infinite, Divine Headship that removed them from His Garden of Pleasure. The LORD drove them out of the Garden into a world of displeasure and pain. From that time on, Adam and Eve had to spend their mortal days outside the Garden with the painful consequences of their own sinful headship, which ended in Death.

Their replacement of the LORD's Headship with their own headship led Adam-male and Adam-female to His Omnipresent Headship that still ruled over them. God's Law had said that if they chose to eat of the forbidden Tree, they would surely die! So the punishment for their brazen disobedience was Death! The LORD God's Infinite, Divine Headship leads to Life, but man's sinful, disobedient headship leads to Death.

Sinful man works unceasingly, trying to find great pleasure under his own sinful headship, but his headship leads to Hate, Darkness, and Death. The LORD's Infinite, Divine Headship leads to His Love, Light, Life, and the New City.

Fallen man continually experiences the LORD's Divine Truth, from which he cannot run away. Regardless of how fallen man tries to convince himself otherwise, he cannot escape the Omnipresent, Infinite, Eternal God's Headship.

The LORD's Love, Delight, and Peace are fruits of a spiritual birth into the Unbegotten Father's Holy Headship. When he wrote his first letter to the Church in Corinth, the Apostle Paul revealed the Truth of the LORD God's precious Headship.

But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman *is* the man; and the head of Christ *is* God (I Corinthians 11:3).

The Unbegotten Father shares His Infinite, Divine Headship with His Only Begotten Son, the Christ. In turn, the Son shares His Infinite, Divine Father's Holy Headship with the penitent, faithful husband, in the natural realm, who, in turn, shares the LORD God's Infinite, Divine Headship with his humble wife. The wife then shares the LORD God's Infinite, Divine Headship with the children in their home. Through these four classes of persons, the LORD reveals His fourfold Holy Name *LORD* and His Divine Authority to all penitent souls and spirits.

Let us reflect on the following diagram about the LORD's Infinite, Divine Headship as revealed through His Name *LORD*.

(See diagram on following page.)

**III. *vaw*— Knowledge Love
Omniscient**

The LORD's Name is an *Everlasting Witness* of His Nature of Love.

The LORD inhabiteth Eternity. The Hebrew word for *eternity* is *ad*, which means perpetually, everlasting, world without end, a witness.



**IV. *Second hay*— Prudence Love
Purposive Will**

The LORD's Name is *Holy*. The Hebrew word for *holy* is *kaw-doshe*, which means sacred, clean, a saint, a Holy One.

Despite the Height and Loftiness of the LORD, He dwells with those of a contrite and humble spirit and condescension, which is the LORD's divine exaltation and manifestations of His inscrutable and mysterious Nature or Name of Love.

**II. *First hay*— Understanding Love
Omnipotent**

The LORD's Name is *Lofty*. It is elevated, sublime, and great above all of man's famous achievements on the Earth below.

**I. *yod*— Wisdom Love
Omnipresent**

The LORD is *High*. He is far above all the created eminency of man! The High Place in Heaven is a great, divine extension that is above all Creation.

Since the Unbegotten Father is the Sovereign, Supreme One, Who is above *All*, it is only reasonable that there is no way for Him to move except downward in order to share with others. Thus, the LORD's Sovereign, Supreme Headship is a *descending* Headship.

Our Heavenly Father teaches us that *all* Exalted Power and Position is for the Purpose of taking a Humility Stairway, downward, in order to be one with sincere souls who are beneath us; then, we can share our Unbegotten Father's Headship with them.

The Unbegotten LORD's Sovereign, Supreme Headship is His descending avenue of glory for us to share with others. The Divine, Unbegotten LORD's Headship deserves to be written in Books. So, through many people, over many years, He wrote 66 Books to make His Headship known to man. Not only do God's Books deserve to be written; they deserve to be read. So we read and glory in His Headship from the Book of Genesis to the Book of Revelation, and we find His descending Headship coming down through His Son to the repentant, believing man, and then on to the believing woman.

(See diagram on following page.)

The LORD God's Infinite, Divine, Unbegotten Headship is Ruler over all creatures and all things.

The LORD God's Unbegotten Headship descends to Jesus Christ, His Son.

The LORD God's Unbegotten Headship continues to descend to the believing man.

The LORD God's Unbegotten Headship continues to descend, through the man, to the believing woman.

Since the LORD God's Infinite Headship is willing to move from the highest place to the lowest place, in order for Him to share His Will and direction with penitent, mortal creatures, we should be willingly submissive to fall down, to bow down, and to obey His Divine Headship that is All-knowing—not only of the past but also the present and the future.

The Apostle James wrote that we are to humble ourselves in the sight of the LORD so that He can lift us up.

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up
(James 4:10).

If we descend in humility before our LORD and confess our sinful marks of displeasure about His Holy Headship in our lives and, then, truly repent, He shall lift us up to share the exaltation of His Divine Headship. While Jesus Christ was here on Earth, He confirmed this Moral Principle of Truth.

And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted (Matthew 23:12).

God exalts us after we have humbled ourselves. So, through our submission to the LORD, we receive His Unbegotten, Holy Headship; therefore, we can obey it. Then, we can descend through Jesus Christ and share His Headship with others.

The Apostle Peter also reinforced this Truth.

Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. **Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:** (I Peter 5:5,6).

The LORD God's Infinite, Divine Headship leads us to put on the most beautiful adornment of all Spiritual Clothing, which is the White Linen or the righteous deeds of the saints. The White of the Linen is the highest White Glory of the LORD's Holy Headship, which is *above* His Mercy and His Grace.

The Bride of the LORD Jesus Christ shall be clothed in the White Linen of God's Headship.

And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints (Revelation 19:8).

Christ Jesus' Humility Headship or White Linen is the most beautiful of all Garments with which we can be clothed and adorned.

Through Jesus Christ's Obedience to His Father's Headship, penitent souls find all that is pleasant, priceless, and peaceful.

God's Living Word shines with an Eternal Luster in the midst of a *lover* heart! Christ's Humility is the precious road to His *kaw-bode* Glory Headship from His Father that leads on to His *naw-tsakh* Glory that glitters, shines, and sparkles from afar.

The LORD's Holy Headship leads us to the beautiful splendor of His White Linen. It is in the depths of Christ's Humility that our spiritual eyes catch a gleam of His White-Linen Humility. Jesus Christ's Humility is what crowns Him with the greatest of honours, and it is the Source of His Eternal Treasures.

Because of Jesus Christ's Humility, He always obeys His Father's Headship. Jesus Christ's entire Ministry of Humility is to reveal the Divine Light of His Unbegotten Father's Headship. This is why Jesus Christ is the Foundation of all spiritual growth and of all spiritual building.

Jesus Christ's Humility is why the LORD God delights to dwell in the *lover* hearts of humble believers. Consequently, the lowly *lover* heart has a great desire for the LORD's Headship; then, His Headship chooses the low places and high places for the *lover* heart, according to His Purposive Will and Master Plan.

Christ's Humility is the greatest source of abstinence in the whole world; it abstains from self-headship that leads one to seek self-gratification, self-aggrandizement, and selfish gain.

The LORD's Word reveals all the Treasures of His Humility, under both the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart [worker], thou wilt cause thine ear to hear: To judge the fatherless and the oppressed, that the man of the earth may no more oppress (Psalm 10:17,18).

The LORD makes all humble *worker* hearts strong, steadfast, and firm throughout all their troubles, trials, and temptations on Earth.

The LORD judges for the fatherless, who are those without His Headship.

For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; **I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit**, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones (Isaiah 57:15).

The Holy Headship of the LORD God is all the following things:

- His Headship is Wisdom Love.
- His Headship is Understanding Love.
- His Headship is Knowledge Love.
- His Headship is Prudence Love.

The LORD God's Name describes His Nature, His Character, His Reputation, and His Power. His Name is a precious, virtuous Name of Love, and it is one of Glory and Honour that guards His Purposive Will, Master Plan, and His *Torah*-Truth.

The genuine excellence of the LORD's Love causes Him to redeem all things and to make them work together for His Glory and for our good. The LORD God's Name is the most precious and priceless Jewel of all Time and Eternity. Our Unbegotten Father, the LORD God, has bequeathed His Glorious Name to us through His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ. To God be all the Glory, both now and forevermore!

It is plain to see that the LORD God's Unbegotten Holy Headship is the Sovereign, Supreme Ruler over His Only Begotten Son, Who, in turn, is the Ruler over all Creation. What a blessed, beautiful privilege to be governed, guided, and guarded by God's Unbegotten Holy Headship!

When it was time to build the Ark, the seat of God's Headship, the LORD commanded *Bets-al-ale* or Bezaleel (whose name means "in the shadow of God's protection") to make the Ark of shittim wood. *Bets-al-ale* or Bezaleel was the artificer to whom was entrusted the design and construction of the Mosaic Tabernacle in the wilderness. The LORD chose him and anointed him to fulfill the command from His Holy Headship, so he was the one who built the Mosaic Tabernacle and constructed its various pieces of furniture.

Because *Bets-al-ale* was full of the Spirit, he was skilled in all manner of workmanship: in metal, in wood, and in stone. When building the furniture for the Tabernacle, *Bets-al-ale* began with the Ark of the Covenant and its Mercy Seat. The Hebrew word for *ark* is *aw-rone*, which is from the Hebrew root word *aw-raw*. *Aw-raw* means to pluck and to gather.

As Israel journeyed through the wilderness, the Ark with its Mercy Seat was the dwelling place of God's Governing Headship for her, which was received by the High

Priest through the Breastplate he wore when he ministered in the Courtyard and the Holy Place of the Tabernacle.

However, it was Moses' Ark with the unbroken Tables of the Law that went in front of all the Israelites to lead them through the wilderness to Canaan's Land.

And it came to pass, when the ark set forward, that Moses said, Rise up, LORD, and let thine enemies be scattered; and let them that hate thee flee before thee. And when it rested, he said, Return, O LORD, unto the many thousands of Israel (Numbers 10:35, 36).

God's Divine Headship decided when the Ark of *His* Headship would move and when and where it would rest. When the Ark of God's Headship found no place to rest, then God's Presence could not rest there.

The Ark and the Mercy Seat were the Head of all the furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle. But it took every piece of the furniture to picture the measure of the *Fullness* of the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ. The Ark and its Mercy Seat were built and placed in the Tabernacle to portray a beautiful picture of Jesus Christ's Headship and the Unbegotten Father's Holy Headship. When God gave His instruction as to how Moses was to build the Tabernacle, He began with His Son's Headship or the Ark of the Covenant, and He worked His way down from the Holy of Holies to the Holy Place and the furniture there; then, He went on down to the Courtyard, where the Laver and the Brazen Altar were placed. Thus, He revealed His Son's Spiritual Stature from His Head to His Feet.

God's Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge guided Bezaleel to begin with the Ark of the Covenant of His Holy Headship, which guided him through the inner veil to the Golden Table of Shewbread; then to the Golden Candlestick; then to the Golden Altar of Incense; then on through to the veil of the door of the Tabernacle and past the Brazen Laver in the Courtyard, to the Brazen Altar of Sacrifice, the place of the shedding of blood, and, finally, on to the gate in the Courtyard that was the entry into the Courtyard.

There, at the gate, the LORD said to sinful man, "Come, I have begotten a Plan and a Way whereby you may return to spiritual fellowship with me." God has always sought sinful man to return to Him on the Blood-sprinkled Way of the Cross. It was God's Eternal Word Who came to the Garden, seeking sinful Adam. He called, "*Adam, where are thou?*" But Adam was not seeking God. Instead, he was hiding himself from God, trying to cover himself with his stolen Fig Leaves. But God, in His Great Mercy and Love, still sought sinful Adam.

It is likewise with us; we were lost, undone, and turned to our own way, but the precious Spirit of Jesus Christ came seeking us and saved us from being lost. Jesus not only wants to bring us to His Brazen Altar of the Cross, where we experience His Resurrected Blood covering our sins but also He desires to lead us onward and upward in His Spiritual Stature so that we will reach spiritual maturity. Jesus Christ desires to take us

through the Courtyard, through the Holy Place, and into the Holy of Holies—to the Ark of His Holy Headship.

We must pray that the LORD will put within us a spiritual desire to grow up into His Holy Headship. There, we learn to allow Him to be the Governor and Guide over all our thoughts, feelings, and deeds. When Christ Jesus is our Head, we can speak His Truth in Love. We can grow up in Him in all things because He is our Head. The Headship of the LORD Jesus Christ unites the Body of Christ or the Brotherhood of Christ into one unified Body, as the Apostle Paul told the Ephesians.

But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love* (Ephesians 4: 15,16).

So, according to God's Divine Instructions, Bezaleel made the Ark of shittim wood, which pictured our Saviour's, Jesus Christ's, Body of Flesh. The Hebrew word for *shittim wood* is *shit-taw* or acacia, which name was chosen because of its scourging thorns. The shittim wood pictured the Crucified Christ. The shittim wood of the Ark was covered with pure gold, which represented the Resurrected Christ and the Deity of our LORD. Also, a crown of gold was built around the top of all sides of the Ark. The Ark was two cubits and a half in length, a cubit and a half in breadth, and a cubit and a half in height, which was the same height as the Table of Shewbread.

The materials of the Ark—the shittim wood and the gold—pictured a nature of firmness, stubborn persistence, and immutability. The firmness of the wood and gold protected the LORD's *Torah*-Truth within the Ark, as it does without, in the hearts of God's people.

In their inner and outer life, the shittim wood and gold are strengthening, firm, noble, and genuine. They are free from dross, and they resist all altercation and deterioration. Shittim wood and gold made a fit container for the LORD's *Torah*-Truth.

The Ark was God's Throne among His people. The crown of pure gold that went around the top of the Ark signified the Crown of the King, the Crown of the Head, or the One Who commands.

God desired that He Himself would be Israel's King, Who would rule His people through the medium of the High Priest. But Israel waxed worldly in her spirit and her attitude and wanted to be as her neighbors, so she desired a king. This attitude was manifested during the time of the Prophet Samuel. Samuel's sons did not walk in the way of their father; hence, the people of Israel used this as an excuse for wanting a king.

Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. But

the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. **And the LORD said unto Samuel, Harken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them** According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee (I Samuel 8:4-8).

Israel had rejected the King of the Ark and its Mercy Seat, as it were, to reign over them.

This is a picture of how God has set Jesus Christ as King of kings, and Lord of lords over the Church.

That thou keep *this* commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: Which in his times he shall shew, ***who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;*** (I Timothy 6:14,15).

This was true in Israel, and it is even truer in our day when God's children grow cold in their love for their Lord and King and want to be like the unsaved people around them in the world.

In these days, it is difficult to distinguish between the children of God and the unsaved, for the Prince of the power of the air, the Devil, rules both, and the great love and humility of the King of the Ark takes second place in hearts. The redeemed of the LORD need to seek to have the Golden Crown of the Ark formed around their hearts so that the Lord and King might truly rule and reign over Christians' every thought, word, and deed.

The Ark, made of shittim wood and, then, overlaid with gold within and without, was to be carried by its staves and rings. The staves were also to be made of shittim wood and overlaid with gold. They were to be placed in the four rings of gold that were attached to the four corners of the Ark. The staves speak of the Truth of the twofold Nature of Christ Jesus, Who died, was buried, and Who rose again the third day. The two staves pictured the Truth that carries the Message of the King of kings and Lord of lords to the Church of the Living God. The staves that rested in the gold rings at each corner of the Ark signified the Will of God, for before the foundation of the world, the Father's Will had been manifested to the Son about His coming as a ransom for the sinful inhabitants of this sin-cursed world.

The Ark held three things that God told Moses to put in it. Hebrews 9:4 tells us the secret of the contents of the Ark.

Which had the golden censer, and **the ark of the covenant** overlaid round about with gold, **wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;** (Hebrews 9:4).

God told Moses the following:

Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee (Deuteronomy 31:26).

After God had given Moses the first Tables of the Covenant, Moses came down from the mountain and found the children of Israel worshipping the golden calf that they had insisted be made during his absence. Moses became so angry that he threw the Tables of the Law to the ground and broke them. These broken Tables of the Law were put in the first Ark, the Ark of the Covenant that Bezaleel had built. These broken Tables would then be covered by the Mercy Seat and the atonement blood. Therefore, the LORD God would look through the atoning blood of Mercy onto the broken Law, a picture of God's Law that man had broken.

God called Moses to come up the Mount a second time to receive the Ten Commandments again. He told Moses to do the following things:

- to hew two tables of stone;
- to come up the mount; and
- to make an Ark of shittim wood.

At that time **the LORD said unto me, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first, and come up unto me into the mount, and make thee an ark of wood. And I will write on the tables the words that were in the first tables which thou brakest, and thou shalt put them in the ark. And I made an ark of shittim wood, and hewed two tables of stone like unto the first, and went up into the mount,** having the two tables in mine hand. **And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments, which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire** in the day of the assembly: and the LORD gave them unto me. **And I turned myself and came down from the mount, and put the tables in the ark which I had made; and there they be, as the LORD commanded me** (Deuteronomy 10:1-5).

So, for a second time, Moses came up the Mount, carrying a second set of Tables of Stone, and God wrote the Ten Commandments on them. Moses then put this second set of Stones in the Ark that he built. Thus, it was the second Tables of the Law that were unbroken that were placed in the Ark that Moses built.

It was the *broken* Tables of the Law that were in the Ark that Bezaleel had built. The first Ark and its Mercy Seat were indeed a true picture of Jesus Christ as the Ark of God with its Mercy Seat. The Law, which mankind had broken with his sin and disobedience, was mended by being covered by Jesus Christ's Mercy Blood and His Grace Blood that He shed on Calvary's Cross. On the Cross, Christ completed God's Plan of Salvation for sinful man.

The Ark that Moses built pictured Jesus' perfect obedience. He perfectly kept the Tables of the Law that were written in His Heart. He did all this in sinful man's place. The Psalmist said, concerning Jesus Christ, "I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, *thy law is within my heart*" (Psalm 40:8). Jesus delighted to do the Father's Will by dying on the Cross. His delight consisted neither of a dread of God's Punishment nor an expectation of a reward; rather, His delight was His Joy to do His Father's Will and to obey His Headship. Jesus always did the Father's Purposive Will because of the Law of God that was written in His Holy Heart.

Isaiah also recorded a Prophecy of Christ's perfect obedience to His Father.

The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and **I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting** (Isaiah 50:5,6).

The LORD gave His Only Begotten Son learned, cultivated, and fluent speech. The LORD opened or wakened His Son's Ear so that He could hear His Father's Government and Guidance, which He implicitly obeyed. Jesus Christ never turned backwards. He boldly delivered His Father's Truth to His misguided people, although He incurred persecution, humiliation, and rejection. Jesus Christ endured all His Sufferings, Disgraces, and Degradation for His disobedient created creatures' sakes.

Likewise, God wants us to grow up to the Headship of Christ Jesus so that He can write the Words of His Law in our *worker* heart. Then, we, too, will delight in doing His Purposive Will.

The Church of the Living God needs to grow up until they continually walk under Jesus Christ's Headship. When true believers grow to be like Jesus, they do not stand on their own carnal rights, but they delight to follow Christ's meek and humble Way. They joy in dying daily to the rights of their own flesh.

Jesus had a *right* to live! He had done no evil that would place Him under the death penalty. He was Pure and Holy. He had done no evil that was worthy of Death. But He died for fallen man's sins because He was God's Son of Love with the Law written in His Heart. In our place, He kept the Law in His Holy Body. The unbroken Commandments in Moses' Ark are a true picture of the unbroken Law in Jesus Christ's Heart.

The broken Tables of the Law were put in Bezaleel's Ark of the Covenant, along with the Golden Pot of Manna and Aaron's Rod that had budded and bloomed and had brought forth fruit. This Ark, where the LORD's Presence dwelt above the Mercy Seat that covered it, pictured Christ's Holy Headship for the governing of the Nation of Israel. The Golden Pot of Manna in the Ark was to remind Israel that God had been their Miracle Sustainer during their wilderness journey.

And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations (Exodus 16:33).

God wanted Israel, His people, to remember that He had been and was the still the Miracle Sustainer of their physical life.

The Manna was also a picture and a type of Jesus Christ, the Living Bread. Jesus Christ came down from Heaven to give spiritual life to all those who would believe on Him.

This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: **he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever** (John 6:58).

Common bread is the supporter of the natural life of earthly man. Jesus Christ is God's Divine Bread that supports believers' spiritual life. God pictured this Divine Truth through Bezaleel's Ark. Jesus declared that He is the Living Bread that sustains our spiritual life; therefore, we should continuously seek this Divine Bread. The more we grow in God's Word, the more our faith increases. As a result, the more we shall know the value of God's Living Word. The LORD's Spirit quickens Christ's Living Bread of Truth in our Inner Man. In this way, we grow into the measure of the Fullness of the Spiritual Stature of Christ.

Aaron's Rod was also placed in the Ark of the Covenant. Numbers, chapter 16, gives the record of the revolt against Moses and Aaron that was led by Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. Korah, Moses' and Aaron's cousin, conspired with Dathan and Abiram against Moses and Aaron because they were jealous, as was Korah, of the high place that God had given Moses and Aaron from the Tribe of Levi.

Today, in Christ's churches, we see the same sins of Korah committed. God's children should seek the LORD's Purposive Will for their own lives and let God be the Head over His Will for others. If Christians minded their own business instead of trying to mind God's business, they would grow more in God's Will in their own personal lives.

For example, when the LORD prophetically showed Peter what was going to happen to him, Peter immediately wanted to know what was going to happen to John. Jesus answered him, in so many words, that it was not any of Peter's business.

Then **Peter**, turning about, **seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved** following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? **Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do? Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me** (John 21:20-22).

God defended Moses' ministry by causing the ground to open and swallow up his enemies, Korah, Dathan, and Abiram and all that appertained to them. Then, God required that all twelve rods from every Tribe of Israel be brought and laid before the LORD. Aaron's name was written on the Rod that represented the Tribe of Levi. On the morrow, when they returned to look upon the rods, Aaron's Rod had budded, bloomed,

blossomed, and had yielded almonds. Thus, through His Power, God identified and confirmed the Truth that He had chosen Aaron to be Israel's High Priest. Later, Aaron's Rod was placed in the Ark of the Covenant to remind all Israel that Aaron had been chosen of God to be the High Priest.

Here, again, Aaron's Rod that budded is a beautiful picture of Jesus Christ and His Resurrection Power. It was Jesus' Resurrection from the dead that identified His Office and Ministry as His Father's Eternal High Priest. God's Word confirms this Truth in the Book of Hebrews:

Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life. **For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec** (Hebrews 7:16-17).

Through the ages, some men have declared themselves great, and many people have followed them. But not one has ever risen from the dead, nor has any other man given joy, peace, and forgiveness of sins to their followers, as has Jesus Christ. The followers of "gods" cannot sing the old hymn, "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound," for they know nothing of the Saving Power of the Resurrected LORD Jesus Christ, the Only True Lamb of God!

Jesus Christ is God's *Divine Rod* that has budded with His Resurrection Power. Because Jesus Christ lives, we live also, for He has granted unto us His Resurrection Life through faith in His Resurrected Blood. Jesus Himself also declared God's Resurrection Power.

Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection, and the life:** he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: **And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.** Believest thou this? (John 11:25,16).

The first Ark's resting place was in the midst of the Holy of Holies, which was according to God's Infinite, Divine Headship. In the Tabernacle, the Ark of the Covenant, with its Mercy Seat, was in the Head realm of the Spiritual Stature of Christ. Through God's Word, Jesus always stands in the midst of His people to be their Head and their King.

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them (Matthew 18:20).

If there are no more than two or three gathered in His Name, He will be in their midst and will minister unto them as their Head, through His Ministry as a Prophet, Priest, and King. But believers must choose for Him to be their Head. The Apostle John told about Jesus' fulfilling this Promise in John 20:19,21:

Then the same day at evening, **being the first day of the week**, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, **came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you** (John 20:19).

Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as *my* Father hath sent me, even so send I you (John 19:21).

First, Jesus gave peace to His Disciples' fearful hearts; then, He gave them peace to go forth to minister in His Name.

This Truth was typified by the High Priest's ministry, when, *once a year*, he went into the *Holy of Holies* to put the blood of Atonement on the Mercy Seat. *Every day* of the year, the High Priest went into the *Holy Place* to offer fresh Incense at the Golden Altar and to trim the wicks and add fresh oil in the Lamps on the Candlestick so that there would be Light in the Holy Place. Each day, he also went to the Table of Shewbread with invigorating Frankincense, but only once a year did he enter the Holy of Holies.

The anointed High Priest held a unique place among the people, for he was the sovereign, supreme ruler over all the Nation of Israel, which included their kings. The High Priest was the governor and guide of the nation, both in war and peace. The LORD's Headship and Power were executed through the Judgment and Justice of the High Priest, who was a figure, shadow, and type of the LORD Jesus Christ. All Israelites were compelled to obey the High Priest's commands.

The garments that the High Priest wore when he ministered daily in the Courtyard and the Holy Place consisted of eight different pieces that were garments of glory and beauty. The Hebrew word for *glory* is *kaw-bode*, which means weighty, splendor, copiousness, glorious, and honour. The LORD took some of his own Glory from His Headship in the Holy of Holies and put it on the High Priest so that the people would view him with respect and so that his reputation before the Nation of Israel would be greater.

The High Priests eight garments were also for *beauty*. The Hebrew word for *beauty* is *tif-eh-reth*, which means the beauty of bravery, honour, and majesty. The LORD's *tif-eh-reth* glory is the beauty of the His Headship that He placed on His High Priest.

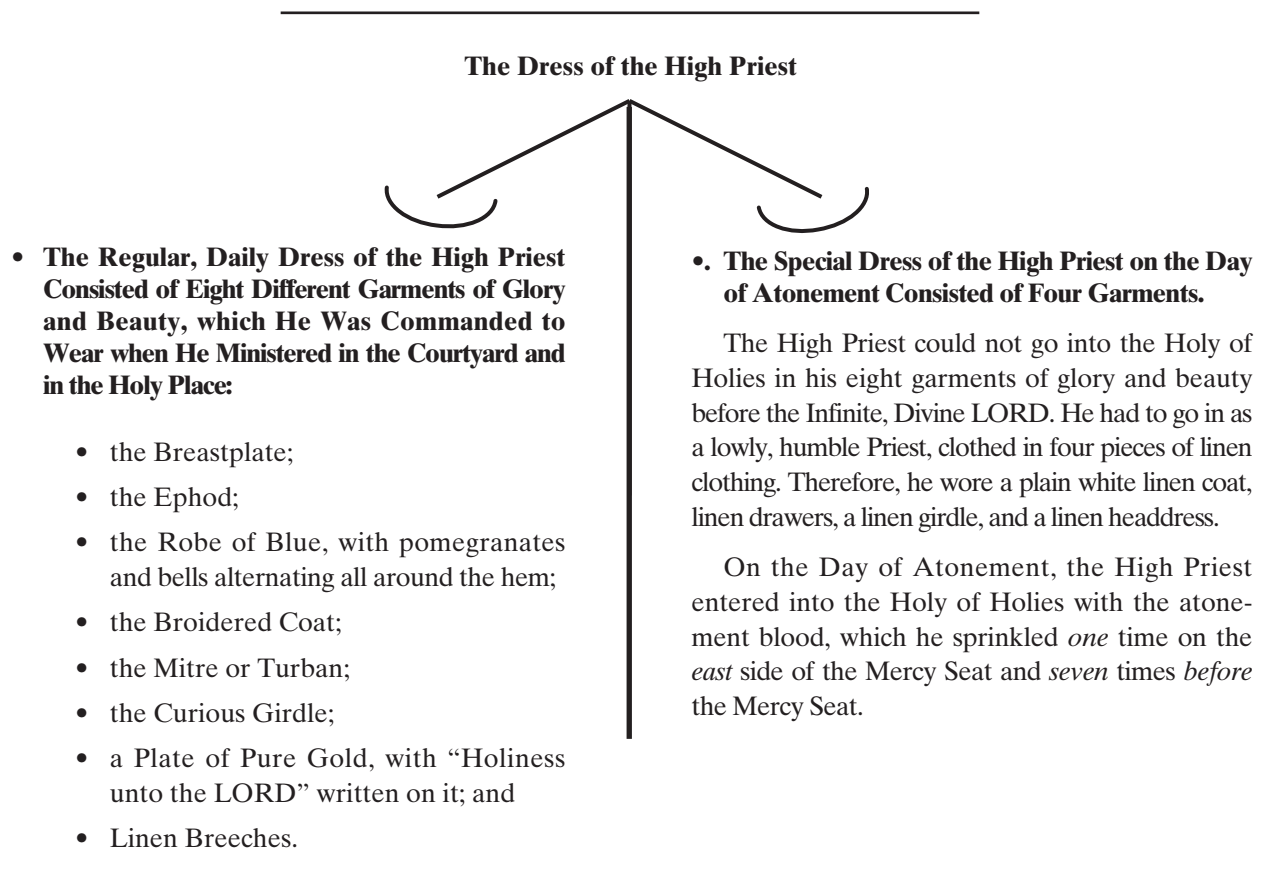
The High Priest's Sovereign Power and Authority to rule over all the Nation of Israel were transmitted to him by the LORD through one of his eight pieces of dress—the Breastplate—which had the mysterious stones, the *Urim* and *Thummim*,³ within it.

When the High Priest had to come before the Infinite, Divine LORD on the Day of Atonement, he had to take off the his garments of glory and beauty, which included the Robe with the golden bells, and leave them in the Holy Place.

³ More information about the *Urim* and *Thummim* can be found in, B. R. Hicks, *God's Governing Light*, pages 117-139 (Jeffersonville, Indiana; Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 1961).

After removing his eight garments, the High Priest had to wash himself in the Holy Place and put on four special garments, which he had to wear in order to come before the Infinite, Divine LORD in the Holy of Holies. These four pieces of clothing were: a white linen coat, linen drawers, a linen girdle, and a linen headdress. These were the same garments as those worn by the regular Priests who never ministered in the Holy of Holies.

Let us reflect on a diagram about the garments of the High Priest.



After the High Priest had finished his ministry in the Holy of Holies, he returned to the Holy Place and took off his four pieces of linen clothing and left them there until the next year. Then, the High Priest again washed himself and put on his regular eight garments of glory and beauty, which included the Blue Robe that had pomegranates and golden bells alternating around its hem.

The ringing of the golden bells on the Blue Robe of the High Priest brought great relief to the fearful hearts of those who waited in the Courtyard. Once they could hear the joyful sound of the golden bells, as the High Priest walked about in the Holy Place,

the Israelites were assured that all had gone well in their behalf, both in the Holy Place and in the Holy of Holies. They knew that the High Priest lived and all was well.

The Israelites rejoiced and were exceedingly glad on the Day of Atonement when the High Priest had successfully carried out God's Purposive Will and Master Plan in both the Holy Place and the most Holy Place. The Atonement was a blessed, Eternal Picture of the Sacrifice that Jesus Christ made of Himself for the sins of the world.

When the children of Israel moved from place to place in the wilderness, Moses' Ark was always their Head that went before them to search out a resting place. When the Israelites followed behind the Ark of God, they had great peace and assurance that their LORD's Headship would give them victory because it went out in front to destroy their enemies. God's defiant enemies deserved no mercy.

On the other hand, the Ark of the Covenant, with its Mercy Seat, stood in the *midst* of the Holy of Holies, just as Jesus stands in the midst of His children from the midst of His Throne in Heaven. Through it, God governed His people.

And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, **stood a Lamb** as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth (Revelation 5:6).

Above the Ark of the Covenant was the Mercy Seat that served as a covering for the Ark. The Mercy Seat was made to cover the Ark of the Covenant completely, for an open Ark would have signified a place of Judgment and Justice without the covering of the atoning blood. What hopelessness sinful man would have had if he had had to stand before the Ark without it. It would have meant instant Death for him, for all men are sinners by birth and deed. Therefore, all people must always be covered by Christ's Atoning Blood. God was so gracious to place a Seat of Mercy completely over the Ark that contained the broken Holy Law. God's Mercy and Atoning Blood covered His broken Holy Law, restoring it in the LORD's Eyes.

The Mercy Seat was made of pure gold, typifying that God's Mercy and Grace did not originate in the Body of sinful Flesh. Through His Son, the LORD had prepared His Mercy *before* the foundation of the world.

Gold speaks of God's Divine Wisdom Love that extends to sinful man through His Divine Mercy; therefore, it is Eternal. His sweet Divine Mercy endures, even when believers are unlovely in their attitudes and dispositions toward Him and others. The LORD's Mercy does not cut believers off; therefore, they ought to seek to obey Jesus Christ's commandment that says:

Judge not, that ye be not judged (Matthew 7:1).

Remember, Jesus Christ extends His Mercy to us, despite the fact that He knows all about us. Consequently, we should refrain from judging others because we never know

all the facts concerning every situation. Because Jesus always extends His Mercy to all, we should also extend the same Mercy to others. Let us not forget that Jesus Christ's Mercy causes Him to take us penitent poor sinners and clothe us with His own Blood of Redemption, thus covering our tattered, torn, dirty garments of sin. We are completely covered with His Divine Blood. Therefore, let us share His abounding Mercy-Blood with others.

There were two Cherubims that faced each other from each end of the Mercy Seat. Symbolically, they were the guards of God's Holiness, Righteousness, and Headship, which was enacted in reality, after Adam-male's and Adam-female's fall into sinful disobedience in the Garden. God used His Principle of Mercy when He cast Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden. God had placed two living Cherubims, with flaming swords, to guard and to protect the Tree of Life. In their sinful condition, if Adam and Eve had eaten of the Tree of Life, they would have lived forever. To prevent this from ever happening, the two Cherubims guarded the Purity, Life, and Holiness of God's Headship that came through the Tree of Life. Likewise, the Cherubims on the Mercy Seat pictured the guarding of the LORD's Righteousness and Holiness of His Word that was in the Ark.

When the Tabernacle was to be moved from one place to another, the LORD gave orders for Aaron and his sons to cover the furniture in a particular way; then, the Levites were to come and carry forward the pieces of furniture. They were also warned that if they touched any Holy Thing, they would die. God's Holiness is so powerful that it will smite all sinful things that are not under His Atoning Blood. God's Holiness is not to be defiled by sinful man. *Without the LORD's Blood of the Atonement*, the Mercy Seat could not have given any man access to the Holy Place or the Holy of Holies.

It is the same with us; only the precious Blood of Jesus can give us access to God's Throne. Consequently, we should give God thanks, all the time, for Jesus Christ's precious Blood. Also, we should thank, praise, bless, and magnify Jesus Christ's Blood on God's Throne.

The Righteousness of God's Law in the Ark and the Peace Offering Blood on the Mercy Seat kissed each other. The Psalmist said:

Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed *each other* (Psalm 85:10).

When the Righteousness of God's Truth is practiced, the LORD's Peace kisses His Righteousness. His Kiss is a witness of the mutual alliance that is formed between the two.

God's Word says that the Law came by Moses, but Truth and Grace came by Jesus Christ. In other words, Righteousness and Peace have kissed each other in our gracious LORD Jesus Christ.

The Ark of the Covenant was the place above which God's Infinite, Divine Presence dwelled. This Ark pictured the Headship of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature. Its Purpose was for God's Governance and Guidance of the nation through the High Priest, who stood in the Holy Place before the veil, which separated the Holy Place from the Holy of

Holies, and inquired of the LORD's Headship concerning His Will for the people. When the LORD answered, the *Urim* and *Thummim* in the High Priest's Breastplate lit up, confirming that what the High Priest was hearing was the LORD's Voice and directions.

The Ark that Moses built, which held the unbroken Tables of the Law, was a picture and type of Jesus Christ's Headship that goes before His sheep to lead them to a resting place.

And they departed from the mount of the LORD three days' journey: and **the ark of the covenant of the LORD went before them in the three days' journey, to search out a resting place for them** (Numbers 10:33).

And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice (John 10:4).

When Moses' Ark, a picture of the Father's Headship, went in front of the people, it inspired and encouraged the people to keep marching to the next resting place.

When we do not wait for the Ark, the Headship of our Shepherd, to go before us, we will run ahead of Him and take on responsibilities, cares, and circumstances in life that the LORD never intends for us to have. Then, we find ourselves filled with worry, strife, and fretfulness, and without the LORD's Divine Rest to rejuvenate us. How wonderful and restful it is to be continually growing up in Christ's Stature and His Headship, as we allow Him to lead us in our thoughts, feelings, and deeds. When we allow Jesus to lead us, we can enjoy the blessing and restoration in His resting place that has been prepared by Him.

The Ark was to be Israel's Head and Guide, just as Jesus Christ is the Head and the Guide of the Church. When Israel respected and followed her Head, she always had victory and blessings.

The Devil prevents many Christians from surrendering their hearts and lives to Jesus Christ because of their fear of what they may have to give up. The Devil's fear deceives them and keeps them in bondage. They never experience the LORD's Divine Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge of the Divine Rest that Jesus desires them to have. The greatest Rest that a penitent soul can experience is *Rest from himself*, and Jesus Christ is the only One Who can give us this kind of Rest and continue on giving it.

The soul of man is like a sponge, in both his conscious and subconscious realms. Man's soul constantly absorbs the motions, the cares, and the weight of the evil world about him. His soul constantly absorbs the emotions and spirits of people, places, and things round about him. So it is necessary for man's soul to come daily to God's Throne of Mercy and Grace in order to empty out, thus allowing Jesus to be the Head of his thoughts, feelings, and deeds. Jesus Christ will lead into His perfect Peace and Rest if believers will allow Him to be the Head.

David's testimony in the Twenty-third Psalm revealed the Presence of God's Headship in his life. He said, "He maketh me to lie down in green pastures." Jesus' Headship will make us to lie down in His green and restful pasture so that we can grow spiritually. But we must yield to His Headship and be willing for Him to lead us to His appointed pasture.

Jesus said, “Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and *I will give you rest*” (Matthew 11:28). We cannot lead ourselves! But, daily, we can yield our soul to Jesus, and He will lead us into His appointed, new pastures of Rest.

Moses desired that Hobab, his father-in-law, go with the children of Israel and lead them and be their eyes. But this was not God’s Purposive Will. This typifies many Christians, today, who desire to lean on the eyes of a mortal man to guide them in their spiritual journey. Jesus Christ, under His Father’s Headship, is the only One Who can take us onward and upward in our spiritual growth in His Stature of Truth. He is the only One Who can lead us, teach us, and cause us to grow in His and God’s Holy Spirit. If we will lean on the Eyes of the Holy Ghost, Who will show us all Truth, we shall be quick to see God’s Truth.

When Israel set forth behind the LORD’s Ark, Moses said, “Rise up, LORD, and let thine enemies be scattered.” Every enemy of God fled from before His Ark. When the Ark was set forward, God’s Headship searched out a resting place for His people.

Let us be faithful to go to the LORD with our problems, our burdens, and our cares. He will lead us to His appointed Resting Place. He will liberate us from all our enemies of doubts, fears, and worries. All our frettings will flee from before Jesus Christ, our Mighty Master.

When Jesus Christ, under His Father’s Headship, is our Spiritual Ark, as our Head, He makes a Way when there is no way. For example, when Israel crossed the River Jordan on her way to Canaan’s Land, God commanded the children of Israel to take up twelve stones where the Priests had stood, as they had held up Moses’ Ark, under which *all* Israel passed. Thus, the people took on God’s Headship in order to enter Canaan’s Land. These twelve stones were carried onto Canaan’s Land as a witness that God’s Headship had brought the Israelites to Canaan’s Land. Likewise, the stones were a witness that God’s Headship would conquer all the Land of Canaan for His people.

Then ye shall answer them, That **the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever** (Joshua 4:7).

In the beginning of Israel’s going over into the Land of Canaan, the River Jordan stood between them and the Promised Land. But God’s Headship led the Priests, who bore the LORD’s Ark or Moses’ Ark, to dip their feet in the brim of the water of the Jordan River. God’s Headship then opened the River Jordan and the people passed over into Canaan’s Land.

There is no created thing that can stand before the Ark of the LORD’s Headship. Under God’s Headship, the River Jordan stood up in icy walls, allowing the children of Israel to pass over. When the LORD’s Headship is leading us, the waters of trouble must part and let us pass over, and the mountains of difficulties must flee away. Jesus Christ is our *Way Maker*. He is the One Who can make a Way when there is no way.

When we take our place behind and under God's Ark or Headship, Jesus will lead us through every prevailing river and bring us up to our inheritance on the other side.

The Ark stood in the midst of Jordan until all the people *had passed over*, or until all their flesh had passed over under the LORD's Infinite, Divine Headship.

The LORD's same Power that stood up the River Jordan in icy walls can also stand up our will in subjection to His Holy Headship. If we will follow God's Head or Ark, He will lead us to the victory side of the battle. The length of this process depends on how quickly we are willing to yield up our will that we thought was crucified, only to discover that, in the new places in which God puts us, we are not as crucified as we thought we were. We need to seek the LORD so that He can show us the parts of our hearts and minds that have not yet passed over His "Jordan."

Jesus not only opens a new way for crucifixion of our flesh and for our spiritual growth but also opens new ways for us to serve Him. We must yield to the Ark of the LORD's Headship concerning our spiritual growth. We must not run ahead of His Headship, but let His Headship lead us through his appointed doors that are pleasing to Him, which will be in accordance with His Divine Will. The LORD Jesus Christ is God's declared Word, King, Head or Ark, Who can open all doors according to God's Purposive Will. The Apostle John confirmed this Truth.

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; **These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;** (Revelation 3:7).

Jesus Christ has the keys to open the door to all the following:

- to an opportunity to serve the LORD;
- to the utterance of His Truth;
- to hard hearts so that they will receive the Truth;
- to communication with Jesus;
- to heaven for all believers; and
- to the New City, for Christ's Bride.

An example of the LORD's Ark or His Headship's giving victory over the enemy was when the Israelites won the victory at Jericho.

And Joshua the son of Nun called the priests, and said unto them, **Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD** (Joshua 6:6).

So the people shouted when *the priests* blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people

shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city (Joshua 6:20).

After the children of Israel had passed over the River Jordan and had come into the Land of Canaan, there were cities to be taken; there were enemies to be cast out. This could only be accomplished when the Ark, the Father's Headship, went before them, and the people followed His Purpose, His Will, and His Plan.

In the case of Jericho, the Priests carried the Ark of the LORD around the city every day for six days; then, on the seventh day, they encompassed the city seven times, still carrying the Ark of God's Headship. Then, when the people shouted, according to God's Headship, the wall of Jericho fell down to the ground.

This picture presents a deep spiritual Truth to our hearts. Israel followed God's Headship in humility and patience until the time came to shout, according to His command; then, the walls of Jericho came down. If we, too, follow Christ's Headship, we can move onward and upward to possess higher spiritual ground.

If we desire to enjoy the Power of the LORD's Headship from the Ark, we must also consecrate ourselves completely unto the LORD and His Headship. If we desire to follow under His Headship and possess higher ground in His Spirit and in His Word, we must choose to go deeper and deeper in our consecration to the LORD Jesus Christ.

The LORD Jesus Christ will not give us His victory over our enemies when we are living carnally and doing evil in the LORD's sight. If we are doing things that are displeasing to the LORD, He will not give us the Infinite, Divine Power of His Holy Headship. Since the LORD's ways are higher than our ways, we must wait on Him to teach us about the things that *are* pleasing to Him, as well as the things that *are not* pleasing to Him.

We sometimes put our stamp of approval upon many things as being good or evil in our eyes, but we never ask the LORD about whether or not the stamp of His Headship is upon them. The more we grow in the LORD's Headship, the more we shall see the reality of this Divine Moral Principle.

As long as Israel obeyed God and consecrated herself to Him, she had the Power of the LORD's Headship from the Ark of His Covenant. But when she disobeyed God and turned to her own evil way and carnal headship, God gave her over into the hands of her enemy.

This is a solemn warning to our hearts. If we keep humble and submissive to the LORD Jesus Christ, our Divine Head and King, there is nothing that can prevent us from growing in His Spiritual Stature. All enemies must bow their knees to Jesus Christ and His Holy Headship and proclaim that He is indeed the Lord of all because the LORD God has given "All Power" in Heaven and in Earth to Jesus Christ and His Headship.

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who

believe, **according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named,** not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: **And hath put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be the head over all things to the church*,** (Ephesians 1:18-22).

However, if we forsake Jesus Christ and His Headship and turn to our own carnal will, way, and headship, we shall be devoured by our enemies.

God's enemies could not stand even before the Ark of the LORD's Headship under the Old Covenant, which was entered into with only animal blood to seal it. How much greater is the LORD's Headship under the New Covenant that is sealed with Christ's Eternal Resurrected Blood.

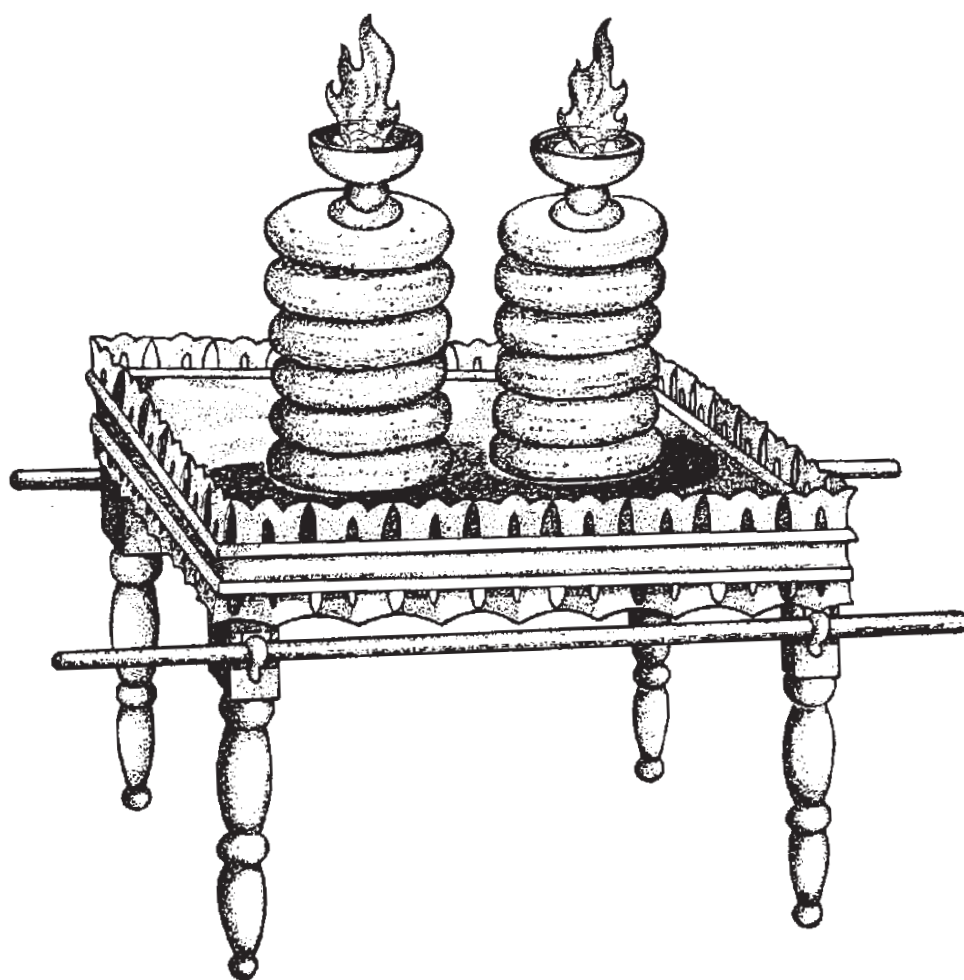
When Jesus Christ's Soul went down into Death and Hell, He came up with the Keys to them and with Eternal Victory over them. The Devil had to fall on his face and acknowledge that Jesus Christ is God's Son. Not only did he have to acknowledge Him, but Jesus Christ cut off his head of power and his hands of service. Therefore, the Devil has no power over God's children. The Apostle James said to resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist the devil, and he will flee from you** (James 4:7).

Yet the Devil's powerless headship tries to promote fear in the hearts of God's people. Let us recognize the Eternal Power of Jesus Christ's Headship that has forever conquered the Devil's Power.

Through the Power of Christ's Headship, we are be able to grow up in His Spiritual Stature and to possess the Spiritual Land of the New City. The New City is a beautiful and fruitful Eternal Land.

With the Resurrected Blood of Jesus Christ, let us daily consecrate ourselves to His Divine Headship and to His Holy Word. As His *aw-bad* servants, let us take our humble place under His mighty Headship; then, He will lead us to new heights and new depths of Truth in His precious Word, and we will continue to grow in His Spiritual Stature!



**The Golden Table of Shewbread
in the Mosaic Tabernacle**

Chapter Two

The Golden Table of Shewbread

The Golden Table of Shewbread was placed on the north side of the Tabernacle or on the Right Hand of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature in the Holy Place. It faced the Golden Candlestick that was placed on the south side of the Tabernacle or on the Left Hand of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature in the Holy Place.

The Hebrew words for the Table of Shewbread are *shoo-lekh-awm, lekh-em, paw-need*, which means "the Table of the Face of Jehovah."

The LORD's Infinite, Divine Headship from the Ark and the Mercy Seat in the Holy of Holies sent forth, as it were, the Table of Shewbread, placing it in the Holy Place. Bread was kept in two places in the Tabernacle: some Manna Bread was kept inside the Ark of the Covenant in the Holy of Holies, and fresh Bread was kept on the Golden Table of Shewbread in the Holy Place. Six loaves of Shewbread were placed in two different rows, which meant that twelve loaves of Bread were kept on the Table at all times.

The number twelve, which is seen in the loaves of Bread, represents God's Governmental Headship. For Example, the number twelve appears in the Bible in the following ways:

- There were twelve Tribes in Israel.
- There were twelve Stones in the Breastplate of the High Priest.
- There were twelve Apostles of Christ, the Lamb of God.
- There are twelve Foundation Stones of the New City, the New Jerusalem.
- There are twelve Gates to the New City.

In the New City, the Governmental Throne of God and the Lamb is surrounded by the governmental number twelve, just as the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat were surrounded by the twelve loaves of Bread on the Table of Shewbread.

Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits *shall be* the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. And **thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, and make thereto a Crown of Gold round about. And thou shalt make unto it a border of a hand breadth round about, and thou shalt make a golden crown to the border thereof round about. And thou shalt make for it four rings of gold,** and put the rings in the four corners that *are* on the four feet thereof. **Over against the border shall the**

rings be for places of the staves to bear the table. And thou shalt make the staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold, that the table may be borne with them. And thou shalt make the dishes thereof, and spoons thereof, and covers thereof, and bowls thereof, to cover withal: *of pure gold* shalt thou make them. **And thou shalt set upon the table shewbread before me alway** (Exodus 25:23-30).

And he made the table of shittim wood: two cubits *was* the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof: **And he overlaid it with pure gold, and made thereunto a Crown of Gold round about. Also he made thereunto a border of an hand breadth round about; and made a Crown of Gold for the border thereof round about. And he cast for it four rings of gold, and put the rings upon the four corners** that *were* in the four feet thereof. **Over against the border were the rings, the places for the staves to bear the table. And he made the staves of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold,** to bear the table. And he made the vessels which *were* upon the table, his dishes, and his spoons, and his bowls, and his covers to cover withal, *of pure gold* (Exodus 37:10-16).

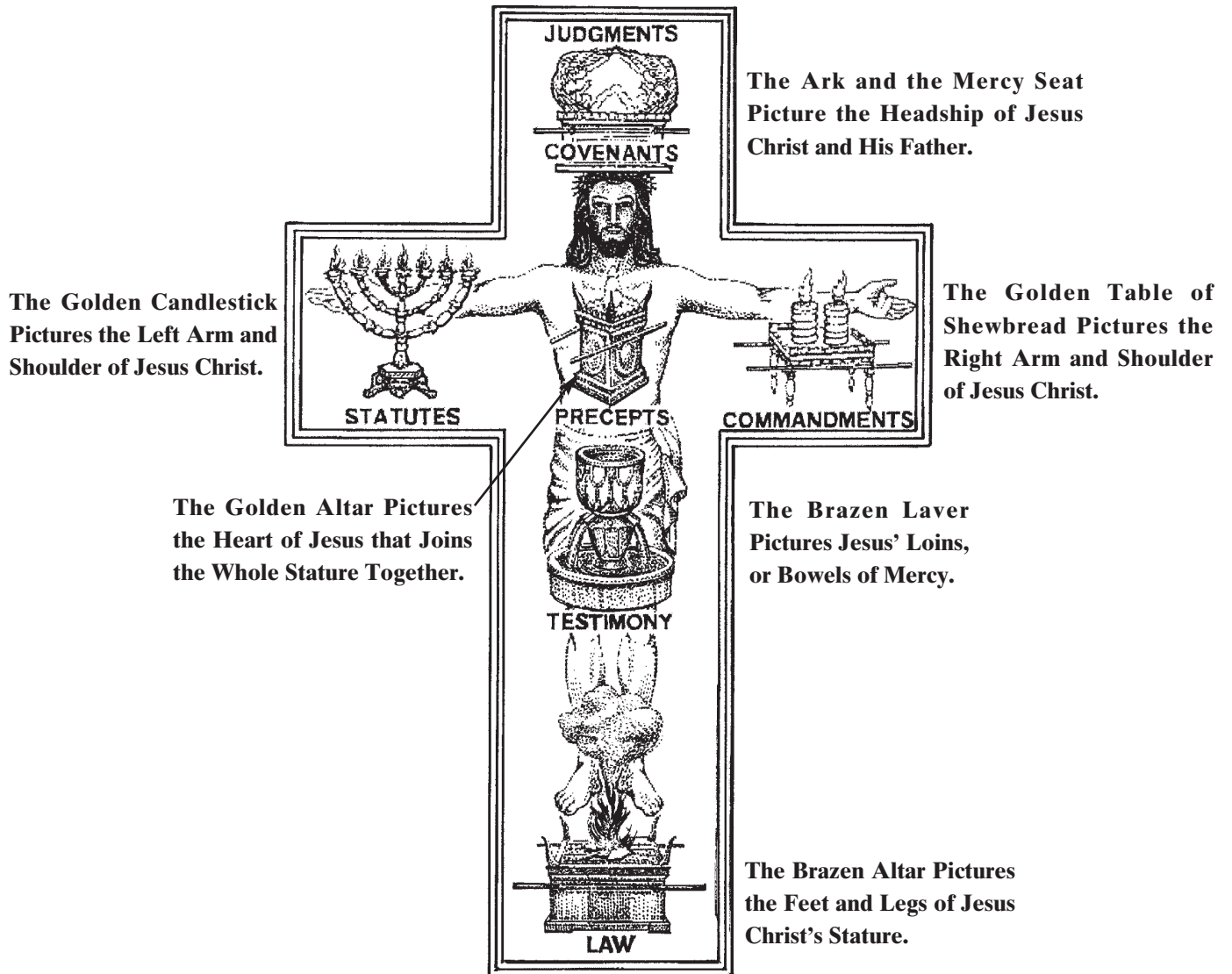
And thou shalt take fine flour, and bake twelve cakes thereof: two tenth deals shall be in one cake. **And thou shalt set them in two rows, six on a row, upon the pure table before the LORD. And thou shalt put pure frankincense upon each row,** that it may be on the bread for a memorial, *even* an offering made by fire unto the LORD. **Every sabbath he shall set it in order before the LORD continually, being taken** from the children of Israel by an everlasting covenant. **And it shall be Aaron's and his sons; and they shall eat it in the holy place: for it is most holy unto him of the offerings of the LORD made by fire by a perpetual statute** (Leviticus 24:5-9).

The Table of Shewbread was made of shittim wood or thorn wood and overlaid with plates of pure gold. The wood pictured the Humility of the Crucified Christ, and the gold pictured the Exaltation of the Resurrected Christ.

Jesus' Humility and Exaltation are seen throughout the Tabernacle in the use of the shittim wood and the gold in making the Ark of the Covenant, the Table of Shewbread, and the Altar of Prayer. His Humility and Exaltation are also seen in the use of the shittim wood and the brass in making the Brazen Altar.

The Mosaic Tabernacle pictures the Measure of the Fullness of the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ; therefore, each of its pieces of furniture is of extreme importance.

Let us note, once more, how the seven pieces of furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle fit with Christ Jesus' Spiritual Stature. The furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle was laid out in the form of a Cross, according to the pattern that God gave Moses on the Mount. In the following diagram, we clearly see where the Table of Shewbread was placed.



The Table of Shewbread measured two cubits in length. The number two consists of one plus one, and two is the number of Union. Therefore, the Table of Shewbread teaches us that Jesus Christ, the Bread of Heaven, will bring us into Oneness of Mind and Heart with Jesus Christ.

In chapter six of the Book of John, Jesus testified, identifying Himself in the following ways; He said:

- I Am the True Bread.
- I Am the Bread of God.
- I Am the Eternal Bread of Life.
- I Am the Bread from Heaven.

Hence, Jesus Christ is an extension of God, through Whom the Father's Headship from Heaven brings Eternal Life to His lost creatures below.

When the Priests ate the Shewbread from the Table of Shewbread, it pictured true believers feasting on God's Word, the Spiritual Bread of Jesus Christ's Words, His Flesh, and drinking of His Blood. Through eating the Flesh and Blood of Jesus Christ at the Communion Table, we are made One with Him and His Father.

The one cubit breadth of the Table of Shewbread pictured the Unity, the Oneness, and the undivided relationship that a penitent spirit and soul has with Jesus Christ. It is God's Purposive Will to bring a soul who truly believes in Jesus Christ into a Oneness of relationship with Him.

Three adorning Crowns appear in the Mosaic Tabernacle. The Hebrew word for *crown* is *zare*, which means to spread, to scatter, to disperse, to winnow, to sift, to discern, to recognize; therefore, to separate, and to perceive. The three pieces of furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle that had an adorning crown (*zare*) of gold upon them were:

- **The Ark**

And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, within and without shalt thou overlay it, **and shalt make upon it a crown of gold round about** (Exodus 25:11).

And he overlaid it with pure gold within and without, **and made a crown of gold to it round about** (Exodus 37:2).

- **The Table of Shewbread**

Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, **and make thereto a crown of gold round about.** And thou shalt make unto it a border of an hand breadth round about, **and thou shalt make a golden crown to the border thereof round about** (Exodus 25:23,24, 25).

- **The Altar of Incense**

And he made the incense altar *of* shittim wood: the length of it *was* a cubit, and the breadth of it a cubit; it *was* foursquare; and two cubits *was* the height

of it; the horns thereof were of the same. And he overlaid it with pure gold, *both* the top of it, and the sides thereof round about, and the horns of it: **also he made unto it a crown of gold round about** (Exodus 37:25,26).

The LORD put a crown of gold upon the Ark of the Covenant, which revealed that the Ark of the Covenant would exalt His Headship and that the perception of His Headship would be revealed to all who truly followed it. The Ark stood in the place of Jesus Christ's Head, as He is pictured in the Tabernacle.

The LORD also put His *zare* crown of gold upon the Table of Shewbread, which gives all who feast on Christ's Governmental Bread, His elevated or "crown" of perception of complete satisfaction. Therefore, the believer's *worker* heart never hungers nor thirsts for any other kind of bread.

Last, the LORD put His crown of gold upon the Golden Altar of Prayer, where believers experience intercession and travail so that Christ's true prayer warriors are able to perceive that travail and intercession of the Holy Ghost is His *highest* or *crowning* form of prayer.

The Risen Christ Jesus ever lives to make intercession for His true believers.

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, **seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them** (Hebrews 7:25).

How Great is our LORD and God! To Him be all the Glory!

As we have noted, the Table of Shewbread stood on the north side of the Mosaic Tabernacle, facing the Golden Candlestick on the south side. The Table of Shewbread stood in perfect alignment with the Candlestick and the Altar of Incense to form the horizontal bar of the Cross from the North to the South. It was placed so that it stood on the Left Hand of the picture of Christ's Spiritual Stature. It is so beautiful when God's Spirit opens the Eyes of our Understanding so that we can see the invisible Stature of Jesus Christ in the Mosaic Tabernacle.

A bride always stands at the left hand of her bridegroom as a witness that her bridegroom has the responsibility of providing sufficient nourishment for his bride. In the natural realm, a bridegroom provides food for his bride's body. Likewise, believers' Spiritual Bridegroom, Jesus Christ, provides *Eternal Spiritual* Nourishment for His Bride's penitent spirit and soul. Thus, believers are able to grow up unto the Measure of the Fullness of Jesus' Spiritual Stature.

What an exceeding great joy for believers to be able to stand in the Holy Place, at the Table of Shewbread in Christ Jesus' Stature, and feast on His Nourishment of Love for their spiritual Body and their Spirit, while they hold onto their precious Bridegroom's Left Hand of Truth. Thus, believers can truly live, move, and have their being in Jesus Christ. This is the reason for the LORD's triple, exalted crowns: one on the Ark, one the Table of Shewbread, and one on the Golden Altar. They are so that believers can be exalted to see, to receive, and to be doers of the LORD's Purposive Will and Master Plan.

The Lord Jesus Christ's Head, Left Arm, and Heart were elevated by the Father's crown of gold in each place. Likewise, nothing can hinder believers from growing into the Lord Jesus Christ's Full Stature when they have the following:

- Christ's Crown of Headship;
- Christ's Crown of Living Bread; and
- Christ's Crown of True Prayer.

That Jesus Christ was crowned with His Father's Glory, Honour, and Sovereign Headship is confirmed by the Apostle Paul in the Book of Hebrews.

Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; **thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands. Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet.** For in that he put all in subjection under him, **he left nothing *that is not put under him.* But now we see not yet all things put under him** (Hebrews 2:7,8).

The Father's Headship, displayed through the acts performed by Jesus Christ, created all things by His Word and His Glory. Then, it pleased the Father for Jesus to be made a little lower than the Angels so that He could suffer Death on the Cross to redeem lost mankind. He became the perfect Sacrifice, fulfilling all the types and shadows of the Old Testament animal sacrifices that were effective only until Jesus came to Earth and was crucified.

God crowned the Body, which He had especially prepared for His Son, with all the following things:

- Glory;
- Honour;
- Perfection;
- Spirit without Measure;
- ineffable Union with the Father's Headship;
- the suffering of bitter agonies of shameful pain and accursed Death on the Cross so that He might redeem lost mankind and make peace between sinful mankind and a Holy God.

Wherefore, God hath highly exalted Him by:

- giving Him a Name above all names;
- giving Him Glory;

- giving Him Honour;
- giving Him Exaltation;
- giving Him the Highest Dignity in Heaven, which is being at God's Right Hand on His Throne;
- giving Him the Power to reproduce His Full Spiritual Stature in penitent spirits and souls.

The LORD made His Son a little lower than the Angels by preparing Him a special Body in which He could not only humble Himself but also suffer in the Garden of Gethsemane to the point of dying there, but then, be strengthened to go on to Death on the Cross in sinful man's place.

As an Eternal Reward, the Heavenly Father exalted Christ's Body by crowning the Risen Christ with His weighty *kaw-bode* Glory from His Infinite, Divine Headship that dwelled above the Mercy Seat.

The LORD also Crowned the Risen Christ with His Magnificence, His Ornament, Splendor, Beauty, Comeliness, Excellency, Honour, Majesty, Goodly Majesty, Reverence, and Respect.

The Father exalted His Son Jesus Christ with His Eternal Dignity, Dominion, and Authority. The LORD crowned the Risen Christ with the Highest Exaltation in Heaven. He gave Jesus Christ absolute Authority and absolute Dominion over all created things.

Jesus Christ's exaltation was pictured by the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat in the Holy of Holies and by the Table of Shewbread in the Holy Place. The Lord Jesus Christ, by His Father's Unbegotten Mercy and Grace, tasted Death for every man. Now, He has conquered Death, His enemy, and He has turned Death into a friend. Through Christ Jesus' Death (our Friend), we are able to put on Christ's:

- Glory;
- Incorruption;
- Power;
- Quickening Spirit;
- Heavenly Image;
- Heavenly Kingdom;
- Immortality; and
- Victory.

Oh, what a Saviour!

The Apostle Paul's "Friend of Death" helped him to die daily to his fleshly man.

I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily
(I Corinthians 15:31).

The LORD God also has put all things under the Feet of His Son, the Risen Christ.

And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things* to the church, (Ephesians 1:22).

The LORD crowned the Risen Christ with His *kaw-bode Glory* from the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat. The LORD also crowned the Risen Christ with His *Honour* from His Mercy Seat.

The Father gave His greatest Gift, Jesus Christ, to lost mankind. Jesus Christ also gave the great Gift of Himself on Calvary's Cross. Therefore, we are eternally nourished by Him, Who is our Eternal Table of Shewbread.

The Table of Shewbread was called a *pure* Table because it supported the twelve Governmental Loaves of Bread that were a picture of Christ Jesus' Headship.

The Shewbread was identified in the following ways:

- "Presence Bread";
- "Bread of Faces";
- "Bread of Ordering";
- "Continual Bread."

Certainly, the Shewbread was a beautiful picture of Jesus Christ Who is the Face of God in His Spiritual Stature.

When Jesus' Disciple, Philip, asked Jesus to show them the Father, He answered, "If you have seen me, you have seen the Father."

Jesus asked Philip:

Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou *then*, Shew us the Father? (John 14:9).

Jesus made it very clear that if Philip had increased his Spiritual Stature and relationship with Him, he would have seen the Face of the Father in His Son. Therefore, Philip would have known the Father through knowing Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ is the Face of the Godhead, bodily. When we truly see and know Jesus, we will see the Father, within and without, in Christ, through His Mature Stature of Truth. The greater we grow spiritually, the more we will see the Bread of Faces of the Son and the Father. What an Eternal Privilege believers have to go to the Bread of the Divine Faces!

When Jesus hung on the Cross of Calvary, it was plain to see the burning Fires of Suffering of His Spirit, Soul, and Body. As He hung on the Cross, the wounds of His Flesh were visible to the eyes of the cruel crowd, and their ears were open to the sounds of His Suffering. These wicked souls jeered, mocked, and scoffed at Christ's unspeakable Sufferings. As they bashed Jesus, they took brutal delight in watching Him as He suffered as our "Bread of the Faces." His Visage was marred more than any man's, as the Prophet Isaiah described in his Prophecies.

Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high. As many were astonished at thee; **his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:** So shall he sprinkle many nations; the kings shall shut their mouths at him: for *that* which had not been told them shall they see; and *that* which they had not heard shall they consider (Isaiah 52:13-15).

The indescribable depths of Jesus Christ's humiliation as the "Bread of the Faces" left Him so mutilated, maimed, and mangled that He did not appear as a man. Christ's inveterate enemies were inhuman. They buffeted Him; they smote Him on the cheeks; they crowned Him with thorns; they abused Him so barbarously with shame, and they spit upon Him. Jesus looked like a smashed, lowly worm, but He was triumphant! Jesus Christ did not resemble a man's form. In His appearance, He was far below men in His sorrowful distortion. No wonder that the Father exalted Jesus Christ to the Highest Place in Heaven and put Him above all creatures.

The Shewbread was mingled with oil, which pictured the Holy Spirit. Christ Jesus' "Bread of the Flesh" was mingled with the Oil of the Holy Spirit. Without the Oil of the Holy Spirit, the Shewbread would have been tasteless for the Priests to eat.

The Shewbread also was offered with salt. The durability, purity, fidelity, and loyalty of salt pictured the qualities of the LORD's Living Word, Who came down and dwelled in His specially prepared Body of Flesh and Blood.

God desires that we feed on more of the Salt of His Word, which makes God's Bread of Truth more palatable, durable, and powerful in our *worker* hearts.

Jesus Christ loved Righteousness and hated wickedness. Therefore, above all other men, the Father anointed Him, the Bread of Life, with gladness!

Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows (Psalm 45:7).

The Hebrew word for *gladness* is *soos*, which means to be bright, to be cheerful, to be glad, great joy, to rejoice, mirth. The Psalmist prophesied about the great Joy that would be upon Jesus, the Bread of Life, Who would come down from Heaven. The Oil of Gladness inspired Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, to delight with great Joy in going to the Cross. Christ's Gladness or Joy was above all His fellows, who *could not*, nor *would not*, nor *did not* go to Calvary's Cross.

The Apostle Paul also witnessed about Christ's Oil of Gladness that covered Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, Who went willingly to Calvary's Cross.

Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, *even thy God,* hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows (Hebrews 1:9).

The special Union that Jesus Christ had with His Heavenly Father was His "Garment of Gladness." The LORD's true Gladness is the Father's Infinite, Divine Headship of Eternal Joy and Gladness. True, Eternal Gladness is always found in the Father's Purposive Will and Master Plan that comes from His Holy Headship. The Father's Infinite, Divine Gladness of His Holy Headship is the fruition of Christ Jesus' Love and service to His Father, as He hung on Calvary's Cross in obedience to His Father's Will.

We always find Jesus Christ's Garment of Gladness when we share Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, with others. When we share, the Heavenly Father rewards us by sharing more of His Eternal Garment of Gladness with us.

In all life's circumstances, whether favorable or unfavorable, when we trade our carnal headship for the LORD's Infinite, Divine Headship, which emanates from His Ark and Mercy Seat, and stay under His Headship, regardless of the dominion of outward conditions and the selfish clouds of ailments and grievances and dark clouds of fear, our spirits and souls are covered, afresh and anew, with His Garment of Gladness. His Gladness then fills our *worker* heart with joy, cheerfulness, pleasure, readiness, and willingness to bow submissively to God's Holy Headship, all over again.

The Shewbread in the Mosaic Tabernacle was renewed each week. Every Sabbath Day, the LORD's Divine Headship provided fresh Bread in the Holy Place.

Jesus is always our fresh Bread. He is always in the Holy Place to impart His Bread of Life to all those who come to His Golden Table with its Golden Crown.

The Prophet Jeremiah said the following:

Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts (Jeremiah 15:16).

Jeremiah found the Bread, the Word, on the LORD's Table, and he ate it and found that it was the joy and rejoicing of his heart.

Since the LORD's Prophetic Word filled Jeremiah's *lover* heart with such joy and rejoicing, during the time of the Old Covenant, how much more will Jesus Christ, the LORD's Living Word and Bread of Truth of the Eternal New Covenant, feed us personally and fill our penitent *lover* hearts with His Eternal Joy, Rejoicing, and Gladness?

If Jeremiah found the LORD's Words tasty, when he ate them under the Old Covenant, how much sweeter and more tasty and more satisfying is the LORD's Living Bread of Truth, the Word, Who came down from Heaven, when eaten under the New Covenant? There is no joy nor rejoicing that is comparable to having Jesus Christ, the LORD's Quickened Word, to feed our penitent spirit and soul.

Jeremiah was one of the LORD's greatest Prophets and servants. The LORD gave Jeremiah His judgmental Words of Destruction and Death to pronounce upon idolatrous Old Jerusalem and its unclean Temple. Jeremiah ate the Words of God's Judgment, and he found them to be sweet to his taste because they were Words from God's Holy Headship. Jeremiah proved that God's Divine Headship was of more Eternal Worth to him than His people, His Temple, and His City, Jerusalem. Therefore, he ate the LORD's judgmental Words that were against His people, His Temple, and His City, Jerusalem. God's Words were still the joy and rejoicing of his *lover* heart!

Likewise, David declared that God's Words were sweeter than honey.

How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! (Psalm 119:103).

David found that the LORD's Words were more sweet, smooth, and succulent than honey.

The spiritual taste of God's Word, with its inward savor and relish, is sweeter to the penitent spirit and soul than honey is to the body. The sweetness of God's Word to our penitent spirit and soul makes us very jealous over our time, so we create time for the LORD's sweet, precious Word. Once we have tasted the sweetness of God's Word, we are very zealous and jealous over every minute of our day so that we have time to go to the LORD's Table of Shewbread in the Holy Place and feast on the Sweetness and Delight of His Bread of Truth. This is how we measure our depth of love for the LORD and His Bread of Life.

When we love to have communion with Jesus Christ in His Holy Place, at the Table of Shewbread, we do not allow anything nor anyone to hinder us from taking time to read and to study His Word. When our *lover* heart is enlarged with the LORD's Quickened Word, it generates an insatiable hunger and thirst to feed upon His Holy Word in the Holy Place, at the Table of Shewbread.

Remember, the Shewbread was always offered with salt, and salt makes one extremely thirsty for the Waters of God's Word, which leads one to the next piece of furniture in the Tabernacle, the Golden Candlestick, where the Light of the Word shines from all sixty-six Books in the Bible to enlighten our Understanding.



**The Golden Candlestick
In The Holy Place
In The Mosaic Tabernacle**

Chapter Three

The Golden Candlestick

The Golden Candlestick, with its seven Golden Lamps, was placed on the south side or on the Left Hand of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature in the Holy Place. The Golden Candlestick furnished the only Light in the Holy Place. It was fashioned with sixty-six bowls, knops, and flowers, which picture the sixty-six Books in the Bible or the complete Light of God's Word of Truth.

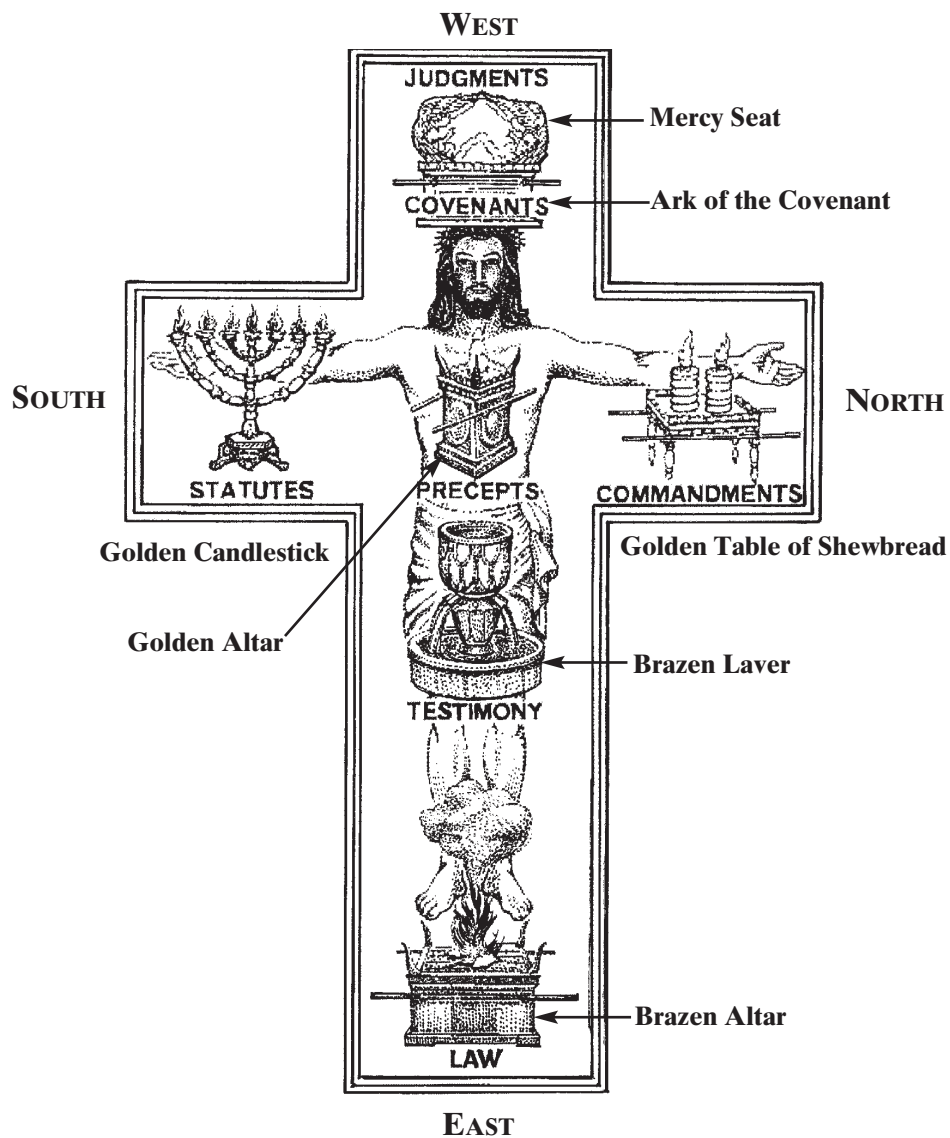
Bezaleel made the Golden Candlestick out of beaten gold, exactly as God had instructed Moses.

And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same. And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side: Three bowls made like unto almonds, *with* a knop and a flower in one branch; and three bowls made like almonds in the other branch, *with* a knop and a flower: so in the six branches that come out of the candlestick. And in the candlestick *shall be* four bowls made like unto almonds, *with* their knops and their flowers. And *there shall be* a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, according to the six branches that proceed out of the candlestick. Their knops and their branches shall be of the same: all it *shall be one beaten work of pure gold.* **And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it.** And the tongs thereof, and the snuffdishes thereof, *shall be of pure gold.* *Of a talent of pure gold shall he make it, with all these vessels.* **And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount** (Exodus 25:31-40).

And he made the candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work made he the candlestick; his shaft, and his branch, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, were of the same: And six branches going out of the sides thereof; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side thereof, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side thereof: Three bowls made after the fashion of almonds in one branch, a knop and a flower; and three bowls made like almonds in another branch, a knop and a flower: so throughout the six branches going out of the candlestick. And in the candlestick *were* four bowls made like almonds, his knops,

and his flowers: And a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, according to the six branches going out of it. Their knops and their branches were of the same: all of it *was* one beaten work of pure gold. And he made his seven lamps, and his snuffers, and his snuffdishes, of pure gold. **Of a talent of pure gold made he it, and all the vessels thereof** (Exodus 37:17-24).

Let us again reflect on a descriptive diagram of the seven pieces of Furniture in the Tabernacle so that this picture of Truth may be deeply imprinted in our hearts and minds.



When we look at the furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle, starting in the Courtyard, then going up to the Holy of Holies, we see that the Brazen Altar, the Brazen Laver, the Golden Altar of Incense, and the Golden Ark of the Covenant, with its Golden Mercy Seat, formed and outlined the vertical structure of the Cross, from the East to the West, while the Golden Candlestick, the Golden Altar of Incense, and the Golden Table of Shewbread formed the horizontal bar of the Cross, from the South to the North.

Through the LORD's divine arrangement of the pieces of furniture, we can easily see a complete picture of the measure of the Fullness of the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ.

The Golden Candlestick represented Jesus Christ as the Living Word, the Living Light of God Who appears in all sixty-six Books of God's Holy Word. Jesus Christ is God's Living Candlestick or Son, Who is seated at His Father's Right Hand in Heavenly Places.

The LORD has reinforced this Truth many times in His Holy Word.

Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, (Ephesians 1:20).

If ye then be risen with Christ, **seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God** (Colossians 3:1).

But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool? (Hebrew 1:13).

Now of the things which we have spoken *this is* the sum: **We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;** (Hebrew 8:1).

But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, **sat down on the right hand of God;** (Hebrews 10:12).

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:2).

Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him (I Peter 3:22).

The Father sent His Son from Heaven, above, to Earth, below, in order to show forth His Light of Truth to the world.

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, 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).

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. **In him was life; and the life was the light of men** (John 1:1-4).

In so many words, Jesus said, "I am the *ore* Light, the Messiah of the world." He came to Earth to enlighten the Jews and the Gentiles who sat in Darkness. They all needed a Saviour to redeem them from their sins and, with His Light, He came to lead them out of Darkness to the Light of the Father's Divine Headship.

Jesus, Who is seated at the Right Hand of God, is the Divine Word of Light. God the Father, created all things through His Son, Jesus Christ. Yet, despite all the great miracles that Jesus Christ performed with His Holy Hands in the days of His Flesh on Earth, there were very few who recognized Him as the Living Word of Light.

Jesus acknowledged that He is the Light of the World.

Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them. But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him: That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed? (John 12:35-38).

There were very few people who knew that Jesus Christ was the fulfillment of the type and shadow of the Golden Candlestick of Light in the Holy Place of the Mosaic Tabernacle or that He was truly the LORD's Right Arm of Light. The people in the Courtyard were not allowed to see the Golden Candlestick; only the Priests who ministered in the Holy Place could behold the beauty and splendor of the Light from the LORD's Golden Candlestick.

Likewise, under the New Covenant, only the born-again believers who have been made priests unto God can enter into the Holy Place of Christ's Living Stature of His Word and enjoy the beauty and splendor of the Light of Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge of His Holy Word.

A veil hung between God's Holy Place and the Courtyard, shielding the Golden Candlestick from the gazing eyes of believers who could not go beyond the Courtyard.

The pure gold of the Candlestick pictured Jesus Christ's Deity. In Jesus Christ's invisible Deity, God hid the Light of all His Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge. When Jesus Christ took on the Body of Flesh that the Father had prepared for Him, He manifested the Father's Living Word, the Living Light, through His Mercy and Grace.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

Taking the letter “I” out of the word gold leaves the word “God,” which embraces both aspects of Jesus Christ Who was pure *Gold* because He was Pure; He had absolutely no impurities. He was also *God* manifested in Flesh.

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory (I Timothy 3:16).

Jesus Christ’s being God in the Flesh is a mystery, for *all* beings of flesh have completely corrupted themselves. But Christ Jesus’ Flesh is a “Mystery of Perfection,” which started in the womb and went on to His Incarnation and to His Ascension. Although His being God in Flesh is a great mystery, nevertheless, let us be faithful to do the following things:

- adore God in Flesh;
- bend low in submissive obedience to Him; and
- thank, praise, bless, and glorify Him in everything.

The Apostle Paul preached a God in Flesh, Who reconciled the world unto Himself as the Light of the World.

To wit, that **God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation** (II Corinthians 5:19).

As the Light of the World, Christ Jesus reconciles the world to Himself, the Golden Candlestick. In the Mosaic Tabernacle, the Golden Candlestick was a picture, shadow, and type of Jesus Christ. The gold, out of which the Golden Candlestick of Light was made, had been purified in the fire. Bezaleel took just the one piece of gold and hammered out the Candlestick’s Shaft and six Branches, fashioning them into three shapes. One shape was a bowl; one shape was a knop; and one shape was a flower. When finished, the Candlestick was fashioned with sixty-six bowls, knops, and flowers. The beating of this one piece of gold into all these small appointed shapes pictured all the unspeakable Rays of Light of the Truth that emanate from Jesus Christ. The beating of the pure gold into a Candlestick also pictured the physical sufferings that Jesus Christ endured from the “Waves of Darkness” that came against Him.

The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up (Matthew 4:16).

When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but **this is your hour, and the power of darkness** (Luke 22:53).

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil (John 3:19).

The “Waves of Darkness,” which came from wicked man’s inflicting untold sufferings on Jesus Christ, were so cruelly intense that their dark marks upon His Body, Soul, and Spirit caused Him to lose any resemblance to a person.

Jesus Christ was forsaken of men. He was treated as a despicable outcast. His unspeakable pain and affliction, which He bore for lost sinners, caused people to hide their faces from the repellent sight of His suffering Body.

The beating of the Golden Candlestick in the Tabernacle pictures the beating that the Deity of the Son of God took as He hung upon Calvary’s Cross in fallen man’s place, which was a deeper and more intense suffering in His Spirit and Soul than the pain His physical Body had suffered as the Son of Man. The suffering that Christ Jesus went through inside, in His Heart, when man’s reproach fell on Him as the Son of God, broke His *Worker* Heart as He hung on the Cross.

The Psalmist prophesied about Christ’s Sufferings on the Cross.

Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none (Psalm 69:20).

The wicked “Hammers of Darkness” broke Jesus Christ’s Holy *Worker* Heart as He was being crucified on Calvary’s Cross. When Jesus Christ’s *Worker* Heart was broken, it burst and blew asunder, and Blood and Water poured forth. The Blood-Life and the Water-Life that poured forth from the Body that God had prepared for His Son was from His precious Soul being broken with the pain of reproach from His unrelenting persecutors.

God’s Word reveals the beating and the hammering that the pure gold took in order to be fashioned into a Golden Candlestick of Light and to be a picture of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Who was Deity. God’s Word says the following:

Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; (Hebrews 5:8).

In the midst of the Devil’s horrible “Hammers of Darkness,” Jesus, the Son of God, learned how to be completely obedient to His Father in a twofold way: as the Son of God (Deity), and as the Son of Man (a Body of Flesh).

Let us learn a new lesson about the perfect obedience of God's Son; let us look at the blows and beatings that His Deity or His Pure Gold suffered from the indescribable "Hammers of Darkness."

Chapter four in the Gospel of Matthew relates the beginning of Christ's beatings and sufferings, which the "Hammers of Darkness" inflicted on Him and which He bore for sinful man, the extent of which is staggering and overwhelming. But, through every suffering, Jesus Christ was loyal and obedient to His Heavenly Father.

The Son of God was the Living Word, the Living Light, Who had created all things, yet He received open, hammering blows from the created creature, called the "Devil of Darkness," who taunted Him, saying, "If thou be the Son of God." Jesus Christ learned obedience and subjection in His very Deity. The Devil's hammering taunts were not directed at the *Son of Man* but at the *Son of God*—His Deity. The Devil challenged Jesus Christ's claim to Deity by saying "If you are God, prove it to me!" But Jesus Christ does not have to prove His Deity to one of His created, fallen creatures. The Devil knew Who Jesus Christ was! Every demon out of Hell knew Who Jesus was when they met Him. They cried out, saying, "What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou son of the most high God?" The Devil knew his own Creator, Jesus Christ!

Moreover, Jesus, the Son of God, was present when His Father cast the Devil down from Heaven!

And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven
(Luke 10:18).

What an insulting blow the "Hammers of Darkness" dealt to the Glorious Deity of Jesus Christ, Who had to stand before a sinful, fallen creature, while he demanded that Jesus Christ prove His Deity! Yet Jesus Christ, the Divine Son of God, never lifted even one of His Divine Fingers to defend His Deity! There has never been any greater humiliation suffered by anyone in Heaven or in Earth! The Son of God, the Word of God, Whose Deity was declared in Heaven and Earth, stood mute under the hammering blows of Darkness that were hurled at Him by this little, wicked, fallen *creature*, the Devil.

The Jewish people, God's chosen nation, also attacked the Deity of Jesus Christ by falsely accusing Him. They said: "He makes himself God." Yet Jesus Christ, the Son of God, willingly endured suffering and remained obediently submissive and humble under His Father's Headship and endured the suffering of His Deity as though He had no Divine Power at all.

Jesus Christ, the Divine Word of God, had only to speak the Word in order for things to be made visible and come into being. He had only to breathe upon His enemies with the Holy Breath of His Deity, and they would have been completely destroyed. He had only to ask His Father for legions of Angels from Heaven, and Satan would have been bound before His very Eyes. Yet Jesus never defended His Deity before Satan. He stood in man's place, and He took the humble, meek, and lowly place, as though He had no claim to Deity. He simply referred Satan to God's Written Word.

May God's Spirit open our eyes to see the great sufferings to which Jesus Christ's Deity was subjected for our sakes.

Christ Jesus' Humility as the Son of God was pictured so beautifully by the beaten Gold of the Candlestick. Jesus Christ, the Living Word, was One with His Father and His Father's Infinite, Divine Headship; therefore, because of the Father's Divine Headship over all Jesus Christ's Sufferings in His Deity, Jesus drew Light and Life from His Father's Headship that was over and above Him. This indeed teaches us how to be overcomers in the midst of all our enemies.

Jesus Christ always took the low place of humility, obedience, and subjection to His Father's Headship. He never used the Omnipotent Power of His Deity independently from His Father's Headship. This Truth is one of the greatest mysteries of all Time and Eternity! To God be all the Glory!

When He was in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus Christ again fulfilled the picture of the Beaten Gold. Jesus Christ was "Beaten Gold" when He told His Disciples to watch and to wait with Him in prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me (Matthew 26:38).

But the selfish, weak Disciples slept through Jesus Christ's Suffering in the Garden. The word for *sorrowful*, in this verse, means to pierce through and through, even to the dividing asunder or to the dissolving of Christ's Soul from His Body. Jesus was saying, "My soul is literally dissolving, even unto death: I am about to die."

Although Jesus Christ was about to drink of the cup of Death in the Garden and although His Disciples forsook Him and went to sleep, and, although He knew that, if He were to die in the Garden, He would miss His Goal of going to the Cross for the Redemption of all men, He was so completely subject to His Father's Divine Headship that He would not use one Finger of His powerful Deity to strengthen His disintegrating Body and Soul. Jesus Christ knew that if He died in the Garden, He would never fulfill His Father's Purpose and Plan to go to the Cross; thus, the Plan of Salvation would not be completed.

Three times, in the Garden, Jesus Christ submissively cried to go to the Cross—not to die in the Garden; still, He prayed, "Not My Will, but Thy Will be done!"

Some have thought that the battle in the Garden consisted of Jesus Christ's drawing back from going to the Cross, but if this were true, then Jesus Christ would have feared going to the Cross. In which case, He would have been an imperfect Sacrifice.

Jesus prayed in the Garden that, if it were God's Will, He did not want to die there. His desire was to go to the Cross. However, Jesus Christ submitted His Will to His Heavenly Father and was willing to die in the Garden if God had changed His Mind about His Son's dying on the Cross for the redemption of mankind. Jesus Christ had humbled Himself to His Father's Headship during all His Ministry, which is proof that He would not have rebelled against His Father's Headship when He was in the Garden of Gethsemane.

In the Book of Hebrews, the Apostle Paul explained the mystery of the events in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; [had pious submission] (Hebrews 5:7).

Jesus Christ's perfect submission to His Father's Divine Headship in the Garden is the most incredible picture of perfect subjection ever displayed in Time and Eternity. Jesus Christ knew that He was supposed to drink of the "Cup of Death" on Calvary's Cross—not in the Garden—yet His very Soul was dissolving and disintegrating unto Death. Still, He would not use the Power of His Deity to strengthen Himself, apart from His Father's Headship. Again, Jesus surrendered His own Deity and placed it under the complete Headship of His Father. Had His Father not commanded the "Cup of Death" to pass from Him in the Garden, Jesus was peacefully willing for His Father to change His Will and Plan about His going to Calvary's Cross. What an unspeakable surrender! The Gracious Heavenly Father heard the crying prayer of His Beloved Son and sent an Angel to strengthen Him so that Jesus Christ could fulfill His Father's Eternal Purposive Will and Master Plan concerning His Death on the Cross of Calvary.

Jesus Christ was a willing Sin Offering for lost mankind. How unspeakably humble was God's Divine Son, who subjected Himself to absolute poverty so that He could display absolute dependence on His Father's Purposive Will. Jesus Christ was prostrated in a place of having absolutely no Power, if it meant deviating from His Father's Divine Headship!

This Divine Truth about Jesus Christ's Humility makes us hang our heads in sorrowful shame because of the shallowness of our humility and our lack of dependence on His Divine Headship.

The beating of Christ's Gold or His Deity continued at the Cross of Calvary.

And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest *it* in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross (Matthew 27:39,40).

The cruel judgment of the Jews determined that Jesus Christ should die because they feared Him and His Power. They used the excuse that He made Himself the "Son of God," which would mean that He was Deity. They maintained that this was a falsehood. This was another "hammering blow" of Darkness on the Deity of God's Son or the Pure Gold of His Being.

Jesus Christ never used His Power from His Deity to prove that He was God's Son. Jesus chose His Father's Divine Headship by staying in His state of absolute poverty and in absolute dependence upon His Father.

Jesus Christ's humiliation and subjection to His Father's Headship were pictured by the sixty-six bowls, knops, and flowers that were beaten into shape on the Golden Candlestick.

The Devil was always beating on Christ's Deity because he knew that if he could push Jesus Christ to leave His appointed place of subjection, humility, and obedience to His Father's Headship, then the Redemption of lost souls would be destroyed, and his evil kingdom would not be demolished. On the other hand, Jesus also knew that if He continued to receive these hammering blows upon the Pure Gold of His Divinity, He would be fashioned into an Eternal, Resurrected Candlestick of Glorious Light that would lead all penitent spirits and souls back to His Father's Headship.

The design of the Golden Candlestick that God ordained for the Mosaic Tabernacle was special. To begin with, the Candlestick had a central Shaft that supported the six Branches that extended from it. The Hebrew word for *shaft* is *yaw-rake*, which means to be soft, the thigh, the generative part of the loins. The central Shaft of the Candlestick supported a special Lamp of Light from which the other six Lamps received their Light. This central Lamp pictured the Unbegotten Father of Light. God is *ore* Light.

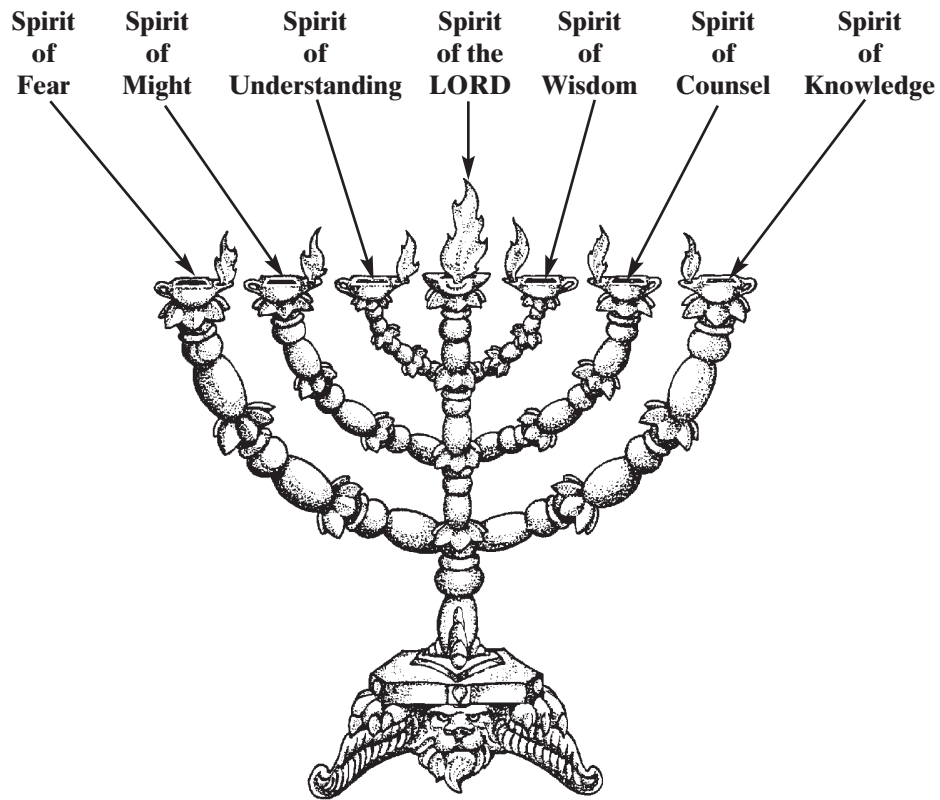
This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that **God is light [ore], and in him is no darkness at all** (I John 1:5).

The Unbegotten God is *ore* Light or the Beauty of Perfection; He has no Darkness at all. God's *ore* Light is all the following things:

- His Moral Divine Perfection;
- His Absolute Purity in His Divine Headship;
- His Penetrative Knowledge in all *worker* hearts; and
- His Burning, Vehement Flame of His Judgmental Jealousy and Justice.

The Unbegotten God of Light begot His Only Begotten Son of *ore* Light. The Unbegotten Father of Light was personified by the Candlestick's middle Shaft of Light, with its Lamp of Light, while the Only Begotten Son of *ore* Light was personified by the Candlestick's six Branches with their six Lamps of Light.⁴ The Seven Lamps relate to the seven Spirits of God, which are identified in the following diagram:

4 An in depth study of the Golden Candlestick is found in the author's book *The LORD's Sixty-six Principles Of Truth, Volume 1* (Jeffersonville, IN: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 1987). The introduction to the study of the Candlestick has diagrams on pages two and three that show the design of the Candlestick (page two). The diagram on page three names all the lamps and relates all the Books of the Bible to the bowls, knops, and flowers on the Candlestick. The Candlestick was a picture of Jesus Christ as the Light of the world and of God's Holy Word.'



Jesus declared that He was the Divine Candlestick of *ore* Light for the world.

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **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).

The Name of the Messiah is also Light.

He revealeth the deep and secret things: **he knoweth what *is* in the darkness, and the light [Messiah] dwelleth with him** (Daniel 2:22).

Jesus Christ, the Sun of Righteousness and the Messiah, enlightens the whole world with His Light of Righteousness.

The Golden Candlestick was the only Light in the Holy Place of the Mosaic Tabernacle, which is a picture of Jesus Christ, the Lamb, and God the Father's being the only Spiritual Light in the New City, the New Jerusalem.

And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: **for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof** (Revelation 21:23).

The LORD commanded that a threefold design should be fashioned on the Shaft and Branches of the Candlestick. The number three pictures the Divine Perfection of the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Using the pattern of a bowl, a knop, and a flower, there were to be four bowls, four knops, and four flowers on the main Shaft or the Loin of the Candlestick. These four bowls, four knops, and four flowers were formed by the hammering and the beating of the pure gold into these three designs.

Four is the number of the LORD's fourfold Holy Name or His *Tetragrammaton*, which is spelled in Hebrew with a *yod*, a *hay*, a *vaw*, and a second *hay*. The LORD's Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, and Prudence is revealed through His fourfold, Unbegotten, Holy Name.

In addition to the twelve bowls, knops, and flowers on the main Shaft of the Candlestick, these three designs were to be hammered out on the six Branches in sets of three so that each of the six Branches had nine designs: three bowls, three knops, and three flowers. This meant that the six Branches had a total of fifty-four bowls, knops, and flowers, which added to the twelve on the center Shaft made a grand total of sixty-six.

The sixty-six bowls, knops, and flowers formed on the Candlestick of Light picture the LORD's sixty-six Books of Life in His Word, His Candlestick of Light. God's Word always gives Light to penitent spirits and souls.

The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple (Psalm 119:130).

God's Divine Light enters through Jesus Christ, the Door of God's Eternal Light.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path (Psalm 119:105).

God's Word is a Light to our feet so that we can walk in the Light of God's Headship and not stumble and fall.

The first decoration on the Golden Candlestick was a *bowl*, which was fashioned to resemble an almond. The Hebrew word for *bowl* is *gheb-ee-ah*, which means convex, a goblet, calyx, cup, pot. The word *almond* means to hasten. The almond tree is called the "hastening tree." It is the tree that hastens to be the first to bloom in the spring. The almond tree is an ornamental tree of great beauty because of its blossoms. It is the "waker tree" because it is the first tree to waken out of its winter sleep. The almond tree pictures watching and hastening. It also personifies God's Divine forwardness in bringing His Word of Promise to pass. Therefore, the *almond* is a picture of the Quickening Power of the LORD's Light.

God's proving that Aaron's Rod was truly God's Rod and that it authenticated His position as High Priest has already been explained, but it bears repeating here because it relates to the almonds on the Golden Candlestick.

When the Israelites questioned the Authority of the Aaronic Priesthood in the Wilderness, God sent out a command that all twelve Tribes were to bring their rods and lay them before the LORD in the Holy Place; thus, the LORD would prove whose rod

had God's Power on it. So, through Aaron's Rod, the LORD God miraculously revealed His divine choice for which Tribe would be His Priesthood. The next day, after they had laid their rods before the LORD, they found that Aaron's Rod had budded, bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds. Although Aaron's Rod was simply a dead piece of wood, when it had been laid before the Light of the Golden Candlestick in the Holy Place, it came alive and bore almonds. The speedy and powerful result that the Light from the Golden Candlestick *effected* also *changed* and *transformed* the wrong attitudes of the eleven Tribes who had falsely accused and murmured against the Aaronic Priesthood, when they declared that their rods were as powerful as Aaron's Rod.

The LORD revealed to the Prophet Jeremiah the secret of His almond seed.

Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, **Jeremiah, what seest thou? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree. Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it** (Jeremiah 1:11,12).

The LORD has personified Himself as an *Almond Tree* because He is watchful of the idolatrous conditions of His people, and He hastens to fulfill His Word, once He has decreed Judgment on His sinful people.

The watchfulness and hastening of the almond tree reveals the ministry of the almond bowls on the Golden Candlestick. This revealed Truth of the almond tree reminds us to be watchful and to hasten in being obedient to the LORD's Divine Word and His Divine Headship.

The almond tree is also a picture of a mature person, both naturally and spiritually. In the Book of Ecclesiastes, the almond tree is used as a picture of the aged, when one's hair has become white, like an almond tree when it is in bloom.

Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets: (Ecclesiastes 12:5).

The white hair of old age is a wakeful, hastening message that the person will soon go into the Presence of the LORD's Golden Candlestick of Light in the LORD's Temple above.

The almond bowls on the Candlestick were a promise and a sign of the LORD's continual new birth of refreshing, renewing Light from the Golden Candlestick of God's Word.

The Hebrew word for *knop* is *kaf-tore*, which means to encircle, a chaplet, a wreath, like a button or an upper lintel. The knops on the Golden Candlestick were a prophetic form that showed that God punishes all His enemies who rise up against His Word of Light and His people of Light.

God gave His *Torah*-Light unto the Nation of Israel. The Prophet Zephaniah prophesied of the peace that will come after God's Judgmental Light (*kaf-tore*) has been poured out on all the nations who have risen up against His Word of Light and His people of Light. Among ancient Israel's enemies were the following people and countries:

- Nebuchadnezzar;
- the Ethiopians;
- the Assyrians;
- the Arabians;
- Babylon; and
- Nineveh.

After His Judgments, the LORD's "Knop of Peace and Rest" shall appear, as prophesied by the Prophet Zephaniah.

And flocks shall lie down in the midst of her, all the beasts of the nations: both the cormorant and the bittern shall lodge in the upper lintels of it; *their* voice [the voice of birds] shall sing in the windows; desolation *shall be* in the thresholds: for he shall uncover the cedar work (Zephaniah 2:14).

The Light of God's Golden Candlestick is always faithful to minister God's Divine Headship in everything.

The third design on the Golden Candlestick, which followed the almond bowl and the knop, was the flower. The Hebrew word for *flower* is *paw-rah*, which means to break forth into a bud, to bloom, to blossom as a flower; to spread, to fly, as extending the wings, to flourish, to spring up.

The LORD's bowls, knops, and flowers of Light correspond to His Faith, Hope, and Love. It is Christ's Faith of Light that lays the foundation for all Spiritual Building, and He keeps on manifesting His Spiritual Light to all penitent spirits and souls.

The Apostle Paul proclaimed that we live by Christ's Faith of Light.

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me (Galatians 2:20).

Jesus Christ's Living Faith of Light consists of two principle things:

- His loving us; and
- His giving Himself for us.

The evidence of Christ Jesus' loving us is that He gave Himself for us. The Lord Jesus Christ, by His Divine Deity, keeps the Flower of Light ever shining brightly in our thoughts, feelings, and deeds, as we walk in His Footsteps.

Jesus Christ's "Wings of Light" are our Hope for the New City. Christ's Empowering Light helps us to grow upward in His Stature of Truth. Christ's Light of Hope rears the structure of our Spiritual Building; His blessed Light of Hope makes us willing to deny ourselves by laying down our Light-Life so that our Spiritual Building may grow in the Light of the *Father's* Headship. The greatest "Flower of Light" is Jesus' "Flower of Love" that crowns the measure of the Fullness of His Spiritual Stature.

The Shaft of the Golden Candlestick and each of its six Branches held a Lamp. The Lamps were golden vessels to hold oil so that they could furnish Light for all the Holy Place. The LORD God Commanded Israel to burn pure, beaten olive oil in the Lamps of the Golden Candlestick in the Holy Place.

And thou shalt command the children of Israel, that they bring thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamp to burn always (Exodus 27:20).

The pure oil of the olive was obtained by beating or bruising the olives so that the oil dropping out of them would be purer and finer than that which was obtained from the olives that were crushed in a mortar.

The Light of the LORD's Word is our Salvation and our liberation from the Darkness of the stolen headship that we have inherited from Adam the First.

The Apostle Paul taught believers to put on an *Armor of Light*.

But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation (I Thessalonians 5:8).

Our "Helmet of Salvation" is the Father and His Infinite, Divine Headship of Light that frees us and liberates us from all the Devil's Darkness.

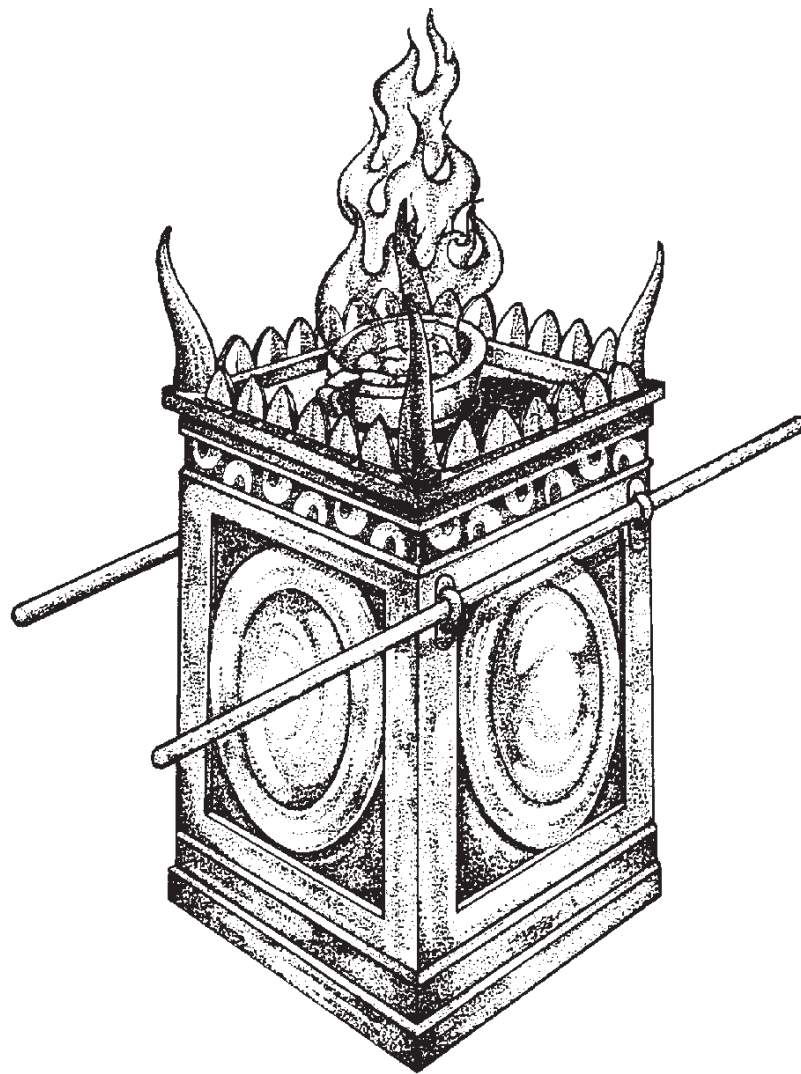
And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: (Ephesians 6:17).

The Light from the Golden Candlestick was kept burning continuously, day and night. Daily, Aaron, the High Priest, had to remove the burnt wick and replace it with a fresh one; then, he filled the Lamp with the beaten oil, in both the morning and the evening. The beaten oil represented the Holy Spirit, Who is so grieved with the ungratefulness of God's People.

The LORD's Word of Light is His Quickening Power in our hearts and minds. It is the Spirit of God, through His Divine Light, that takes the things of Jesus Christ and reveals them unto penitent man. It is God's Divine Headship that gives Christ's Light to heal penitent man's spiritual heart and mind.

It is an Eternal Blessing to understand some things about the Golden Candlestick that was in the Holy Place in the Mosaic Tabernacle. Without this part of God's Word of Light, our Understanding of the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ would be so shallow.

As we continue to walk in the Light of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit will continue to fill us with His beaten, bruised Oil. The beaten, bruised Oil will always remind us of the beating and bruising that Jesus' Deity suffered for us.



**The Golden Altar Of Incense
In The Mosaic Tabernacle**

Chapter Four

The Golden Altar Of Incense

Just as all the other pieces of furniture, the Golden Altar of Incense occupied an *appointed* place in the Mosaic Tabernacle. It stood in front of the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat, but a veil hung between them, separating the Altar of Incense in the Holy Place from the Ark and its Mercy Seat in the Holy of Holies. The Golden Altar of Incense stood in-between the Golden Table of Shewbread and the Golden Candlestick.

And thou shalt make an altar to burn incense upon: of shittim wood shalt thou make it. 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. **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. 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.** And thou shalt make the staves *of shittim wood*, and overlay them with gold. **And thou shalt put it before the veil that is by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy seat that is over the testimony, where I will meet with thee. And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense every morning: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it. And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations. Ye shall offer no strange incense thereon, nor burnt sacrifice, nor meat offering; neither shall ye pour drink offering thereon. And Aaron shall make an 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 30:1-10).**

And he made the incense altar of shittim wood: the length of it *was* a cubit, and the breadth of it a cubit; *it was* foursquare; and two cubits *was* the height of it; **the horns thereof were of the same. And he overlaid it with pure gold, both the top of it, and the sides thereof round about, and the horns of it: also he made unto it a crown of gold round about. And he made two rings of gold for it under the crown thereof, by the two corners of it, upon the two sides thereof, to be places for the staves to bear it withal.** And he made the staves *of shittim wood*, and overlaid them with gold. **And he made the holy anointing oil, and the pure incense of sweet spices, according to the work of the apothecary (Exodus 37:25-29).**

The Golden Altar was made of shittim wood and overlaid with plates of pure gold, just as was the Ark of the Covenant. The Golden Altar had four horns, one at each of its four corners, like the Brazen Altar in the Courtyard. It also had a Crown of Gold near the top and was carried by staves that were put through rings, just as were most of the other pieces of furniture.

Before Aaron went into the Holy Place, in both the morning and the evening, to dress the seven Lamps on the Candlestick, he put fresh Incense on the Fire that was upon the Golden Altar. Therefore, sweet, fresh perfume filled the Mosaic Tabernacle, and all of Aaron's other ministries in the Holy Place were made sweet by the covering smoke of the fragrant Incense. Aaron, his service, and his ministry were literally perfumed with the fresh fragrance and sweet smell of the Incense from the Golden Altar.

Once a year, on the Day of Atonement, the High Priest put blood on the horns of the Golden Altar as he returned from the Holy of Holies on his way back to the Courtyard. The four horns on the Golden Altar were symbolic of Jesus Christ's steadfast, strong *Power in Prayer* that He used in giving thanks, praise, blessing, and glory in lifting up His Father's Name.

The Golden Altar in the Holy Place was unlike the great Brazen Altar in the Courtyard. No burnt sacrifice, meat offering, or drink offering could be offered there; the Golden Altar was for the sole purpose of burning Incense so that the Holy Place would be filled with a sweet-smelling fragrance to the LORD. The Incense pictured the Name of Jesus that overflowed with the fragrance of His humble submissiveness to His Father's Headship. The incense was composed of five ingredients: Stacte or Myrrh, a picture of Jesus' Humility in the letter "J"; Onycha, a picture of the Erasing Power in the letter "E" of Jesus' Name; Galbanum, a picture of the Supporting Power in the letter "S" of Jesus' Name; Frankincense, a picture of the Power of the Understanding-Faith in the letter "U" of Jesus' Name; and Salt, a picture of the Preserving Power in the letter "S" of Jesus' Name.

The Golden Altar was the place of prayerful intercession, travail, and asking prayer. No service is acceptable to God apart from worshipful prayer being offered to Him. Prayer is the principle means by which penitent spirits and souls commune with God.

David made supplication to God in prayer, as he sought His divine aid in the straits of his life.

LORD, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; **give ear unto my voice,** when I cry unto thee. **Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense;** and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice (Psalm 141:1,2).

David desired that his prayer would be like the sweet smoke of the Incense on the Golden Altar and that His prayer be an efficacious union with that sweet Incense.

When Christ's Disciples asked Him to teach them to pray, He taught them what we know as *The LORD's Prayer*, which is all about God's Infinite, Divine Headship.

After this manner therefore pray ye: **Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen** (Matthew 6 :9-13).

Let us reflect on a descriptive diagram about the LORD’s Prayer and how it fits with the Name LORD, His four-lettered Holy Name or His *Tetragrammaton*.

**III. *vaw*— Knowledge Love
Omniscient
Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be
Done, in Earth as It Is in Heaven.**

The LORD’s Kingdom is His Purposive Will and Master Plan for all Creation to bow down and to bend to His Infinite, Divine Headship.



**IV. Second *hay*— Prudence Love
Purposive Will
Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread.**

Jesus Christ is our daily Bread from Heaven, the Bread of Eternal Life from the Father’s Infinite, Divine Headship.

Through the LORD Jesus Christ, the Father forgives us our trespasses. Through Jesus Christ, we forgive all trespasses against us, and we pray not to be led into temptation because Jesus was led into temptation for us and gained the victory for us.

Jesus Christ delivers us from the evil of ingratitude for the LORD and for His Son, Who died on Calvary’s cruel Cross in our place.

Oh, what a Sweet-smelling Savor is Jesus Christ, our Sweet-smelling Incense!

God’s Word says that when Seth’s son, Enos, was born, men began to proclaim the Name of God.

**II. First *hay*— Understanding Love
Omnipotent
Hallowed Be Thy Name.**

The LORD’s Name is Holy, Pure, and Just. The LORD’s Name is Sanctified, Magnified, and Glorified.

We give the LORD thanks, praise, blessing, and glory to His Holy Name of Perfection and its benefits to us.

The LORD, by His Holy Name, is the Divine Headship over all things.

**I. *yod*— Wisdom Love
Omnipresent
Our Father which Art in Heaven.**

The Father’s Throne and Divine Headship occupied the highest place of Authority above all others.

The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all (Psalm 103:19).

The Unbegotten Father and LORD is the Universal King over all. His Divine Throne and Power are Eternal, Everlasting, and Unchanging!

And to **Seth**, to him also **there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the LORD** (Genesis 4:26).

And Enos lived after he begat Cainan eight hundred and fifteen years, and begat sons and daughters: And **all the days of Enos were nine hundred and five years: and he died** (Genesis 5:10,11).

The Hebrew word for *call* is *kaw-raw*, which means to call out to, to address by name, to cry unto, to preach, to proclaim, to publish, to pronounce.

What a powerful man Enos was! All his days on Earth (905 years), he caused people to call, in prayer, on the Name of the LORD!

When man calls upon the LORD in prayer, recognizing Him as their Owner, their Master, the source of Supreme, Sovereign Headship, it gives man the feeling of his true worth before the LORD. The LORD's Divine Headship keeps a man from boasting of himself and from brutalizing and degrading others by his own carnal headship.

Calling on the Name *LORD* includes recognition, devotion, and submission to the LORD's Divine Headship and Purposive Will. Calling on the Name *LORD* in prayer generates true Understanding about spiritual relationships between man and God.

For over 900 years, Enos was able to awaken true consciousness and Knowledge in the hearts of men and the necessity of their calling on the Name *LORD* in prayer. Enos had one of the most glorious testimonies concerning prayer in Time and Eternity.

And Seth lived an hundred and five years, and begat Enos: And Seth lived after he begat Enos eight hundred and seven years, and begat sons and daughters: And **all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years: and he died** And **Enos lived ninety years, and begat Cainan: And Enos lived after he begat Cainan eight hundred and fifteen years**, and begat sons and daughters: (Genesis 5:6-10).

Which was *the son* of Enos, which was *the son* of Seth, which was *the son* of Adam, which was *the son* of God (Luke 3:38).

Prayer is also calling on the LORD's Name in worship and adoration to Him. Prayer at the LORD's Golden Altar is the place and time for believers to express the following things:

- their humble entreaty to God;
- their earnest requests to Him;
- their sincere supplication to Him;
- their spiritual communion with Him; and
- their great gratitude to Him.

It is all believers' spiritual duty to offer prayers and praises to God at the Golden Altar of Incense and to give thanks for everything within their hearts and souls and in all outward circumstances!

Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; (Ephesians 5:20).

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him (Colossians 3:17).

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you (I Thessalonians 5:18).

We give thanks always to our Lord Jesus Christ because, to us, He is all the following things:

- our Great High Priest;
- our Victorious Intercessor;
- our Golden Altar of Prayer;
- our Sweet Incense;
- our Sweet-smelling Savor; and
- our ALL in ALL.

No other incense is so sweet and pleasing in the LORD's sight as the Name Jesus. If we pray to the LORD in Jesus' Name, the Father will answer, as He has Promised.

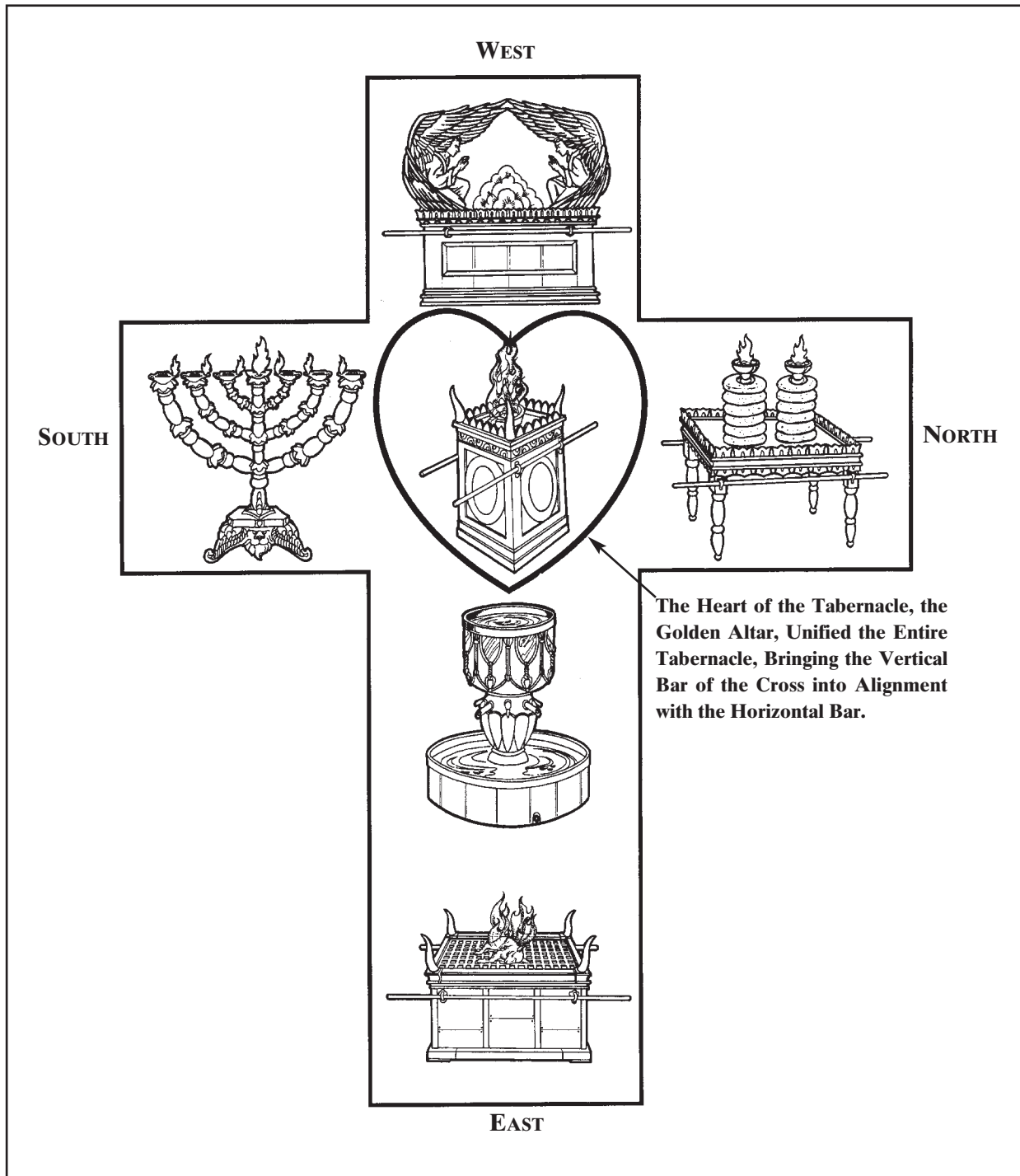
And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it (John 14:13,14).

The LORD God has exalted the Name *Jesus* above all other names!

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:9-11).

The Golden Altar was the most important piece of furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle because it was the very Heart that unified the entire Tabernacle, which, in its entirety, was a shadow and type of the measure of the Fullness of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature.

Let us reflect on a descriptive diagram about the Golden Altar being the very Heart of the Mosaic Tabernacle and of Christ's Spiritual Stature.



The Golden Altar of Prayer functioned in the following two ways:

- The Golden Altar connected the East to the West and the North to the South, unifying those parts of the Tabernacle.
- The Golden Altar of Incense connected the Brazen Altar, the Brazen Laver, the Ark of the Covenant and its Mercy Seat from East to West, and it connected the Golden Candlestick and the Golden Table of Shewbread from the South to the North, thus unifying all the furniture into the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ.

Likewise, man's *worker* heart unifies the following attributes of his being:

- his intellect;
- his affection;
- his thoughts;
- his feelings;
- his will;
- his head; and
- his feet.

In the precious place of prayer at the Golden Altar, believers learn the priceless Power of Jesus' Name. In the place of prayer at the Golden Altar, Jesus desires to make believers' *worker* hearts One with His *Worker* Heart.

The Liberty and Freedom of the LORD's four-lettered Name are found in prayer at the Golden Altar. Likewise, the four horns on the Golden Altar proclaim the Power of Jesus Christ's Name in prayer. The Hebrew root word for *horn* is *kaw-ran*, which means to push, to gore, to shoot out horns or rays of light, and to shine.

The four horns (*kaw-raw*) on the LORD's Golden Altar of Prayer fit with Jesus' four special Names or titles: He was called the *Son of David*; *God's Beloved Son*; the *Son of God*; and the *Son of Man*.

Let us reflect on a descriptive diagram about these names.

(See diagram on following page.)

III. *vaw*—Knowledge Love

Omniscient

Jesus, “The Son of God”

And, behold, they cried out, saying, **What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God?** art thou come hither to torment us before the time? (Matthew 8:29).

Even the devils knew about the Divine Deity of the Son of God. The devils knew, believed, and confessed the Deity of the Son of God.



IV. Second *hay*—Prudence Love

Purposive Will

Jesus, “The Son of Man”

But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, **Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come** (Matthew 10:23).

The Son of Man came within the Body that God had prepared especially for Him. It is through the Son of Man that the LORD brought about the completion of Salvation for all mankind. The Son of Man had a Divine Calling that no one had ever had and that no one after Him will ever have.

II. First *hay*—Understanding Love

Omnipotent

Jesus, “God’s Beloved Son”

And lo a voice from heaven, saying, **This is my beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased (Matthew 3:17).

Jesus was God’s Dearly Beloved Son, Who gave His Father great delight, pleasure, and compensation.

I. *yod*—Wisdom Love

Omnipresent

Jesus, “The Son of David”

And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ (Matthew 1:16).

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name **JESUS**: for he shall save his people from their sins (Matthew 1:21).

The Promise of the Messiah came through the *Son of David*.

Although the House of David was buried in obscurity, God performed His Promise of the Messiah in the midst of the greatest impossibilities.

Jesus’ Body was born in the midst of impossibilities. In turn, Jesus healed blind people in the midst of impossibilities.

And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, **Thou Son of David**, have mercy on us (Matthew 9:27).

And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, **Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David**. And the multitude rebuked them, because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying, **Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David** (Matthew 20:30,31).

Jesus Christ liberated the poor woman who was held captive by the devil.

And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, **Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David**; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil (Matthew 15:22).

Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Son of Man, teaches us about His Liberty and Freedom in prayer. True Prayer is necessary if we are to maintain our liberty and freedom that Jesus Christ has given to our penitent spirits and souls. The *old man* of the flesh, whom we have inherited from Adam the First, continually blinds us with his hindering *chains of scornful rejection* of God's Headship, which he accomplishes in one way or another.

Jesus Christ, the Son of Man, reveals His hidden *chains of restraint* that will take away our scornful rejecting of God's Headship. If we are faithful in praying to Him, He will liberate us and set us free!

The solution to all our problems is to go to the Golden Altar of Incense and Prayer and pray before the Son of Man. The Son of Man waits to liberate our penitent spirits and souls from all confusion, doubts, and fears. The Son of Man can lead us to His Father's Way because He is the Way, as He proclaimed.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (John 14:6).

How precious to know that the Son of Man is always present to liberate us and to set us free. He breaks every fetter that would hinder us from growing in His Spiritual Stature and in the Father's Headship.

Jesus longs for His children to live in the Holy Place at the Golden Altar of Incense and Prayer, where He can reveal their ignorance, their errors, and their mistakes, and where He liberates them by the All-Power of His Resurrected, Atoning Blood. The horns on the Golden Altar of Prayer have become a Living Witness of Christ's Liberating Power since He has fulfilled all the types and shadows found in the Mosaic Tabernacle.

When the High Priest left the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement, he descended to the Golden Altar of Incense and Prayer in the Holy Place, where he put the atoning blood upon its four horns.

And he shall go out unto the altar that is before the LORD, and make an atonement for it; and shall take of the blood of the bullock, and of the blood of the goat, and put it upon the horns of the altar round about. And he shall sprinkle of the blood upon it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it, and hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel (Leviticus 16:18,19).

The High Priest always sprinkled the atonement blood upward, one time, and he sprinkled it downward seven times. The High Priest had to make an expiation for the Golden Altar and the Holy Place because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel and for the regular Priests who entered the Holy Place in a state of uncleanness, yet without being conscious of the fact. Because of the follies, defects, and manifold impurities in the ministry of the Priests, the Holy Place was defiled; hence, the expiation of the Holy Place with the atoning blood was necessary.

The blood was put on the Altar of Incense and its horns as expressly ordered by the LORD.

Ye shall offer no strange incense thereon, nor burnt sacrifice, nor meat offering; neither shall ye pour drink offering thereon. **And Aaron shall make an 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 30:9,10).

Putting the atonement blood on the horns of the Golden Altar was a picture of the Risen Jesus Christ's ascending into the Heavenly Temple and putting His Resurrected Blood on the Golden Altar of Prayer in the Father's Heavenly Temple.

God's Word declares that where the Spirit of the LORD is, there is liberty! The Son of Man always gives us liberty and freedom at the Golden Altar, through His Blood and our prayers.

At the horns of the Golden Altar of Prayer, we find the Divine Compassion of Jesus Christ, the Son of Man, Who is ready to liberate us and to set us free from our fleshly will and obtrusive headship. Oh, glorious eternal liberty! Jesus Christ's Eternal Liberty and Freedom ever grow and increase at the Horns of His Resurrected Stature.

In addition, Jesus, the Divine Son of God, desires to share with us the Light of His Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, and Prudence of God's Word when we meet Him in the place of prayer. Jesus has Unspeakable Light and Indescribable Knowledge of Truth to share with us in the place of prayer.

Jesus Christ also graciously shares His Light of Humility and His Knowledge of Obedience with us at the Golden Altar of Prayer so that we can faithfully walk under the Unbegotten Father's Infinite, Divine Headship and do His Purposive Will and fulfill His Master Plan.

Jesus Christ's Eternal Light, Truth, and Knowledge are lightly esteemed in our modern generation. Nevertheless, His true soldiers strongly protect His Light, His Truth, and His Knowledge because these things are the Source of Life to them. God's Divine Son has great value in the eyes of His true soldiers.

Prayer at the Golden Altar is the special, private place where Jesus shares His Light of Humility, the Light of His Divine Understanding, and the Light of His Knowledge of Obedience with those who seek Him fervently. When believers come before Jesus Christ in prayer, they should bow their heads and weep tears of repentance because their humility is so shallow when compared to His Unspeakable Humility.

May Jesus Christ cause His Divine Passion to burn within our spirits and souls and generate an eternal longing to grow more in His Divine Light of Truth.

The LORD's Golden Crown was near the top of the Golden Altar of Incense. It was an ornamental sign of the honour and the victory over all things that come to us through all the following things:

- the LORD's Sovereignty;
- the LORD's Victory;
- the LORD's Dominion; and
- the LORD's Headship.

The LORD's Eternal Headship is the highest point and the top of all development in the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ. To wear the Crown of Jesus Christ's Headship in our *worker* heart is the highest dignity, honour, and exaltation that can be achieved in Time and Eternity. Jesus Christ's Victorious Headship empowers us to walk under the Father's Headship, His Purposive Will, and His Master Plan. His Purposive Will and Master Plan are for us to lift up His Son Jesus Christ's Name in thanksgiving, praising, blessing, and glorification. Jesus Christ promised that if He be lifted up, He will draw all men to Himself.

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me (John 12:32).

Truly, Jesus Christ was all the following:

- He was lifted up as a spectacle for the world to see.
- He was lifted up between Heaven and Earth as unworthy of living in either one.
- He was lifted up on the Cross, which is the great Lodestone that draws penitent spirits and souls to Him, where they find redemption from all their sins.

The Cross of Christ Jesus is the Eternal Door or Key to His Resurrected Glory and to His Exaltation at the Right Hand of God and to His Spiritual Stature. It is through Jesus Christ's Exaltation on the Cross that we are liberated and freed from all desire to lift up our sinful, unworthy self!

The ministry of prayer in the Holy Place, at the Golden Altar, teaches us to grow up in Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature until His *Worker* Heart is formed within us; then, we can join our Holy Ghost Intercession with His Holy Intercession at God's Right Hand. Our reward will be to experience Eternal Unity with Him in the New City. Jesus intercedes to the uttermost for all who come unto Him.

But this *man*, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. **Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.** For such a high priest became us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; (Hebrews 7:24-26).

When Jesus Christ was resurrected from the dead, He ascended into Heaven, to be at the Right Hand of God. There, He became a merciful and faithful High Priest for everyone who truly believes in Him. Because of His unspeakable Suffering for us on the Cross, Christ Jesus is our Eternal High Priest, Who is touched with the feelings of our infirmities.

Seeing then that **we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God**, let us hold fast *our* profession. **For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin** (Hebrews 4:14,15).

The excellency of our Great High Priest generates an eternal gratitude in our *worker* heart for Him. Therefore, we can come boldly to God's Throne of Grace and let our requests be made known. We can draw nigh to Him with believing awe and reverent repenting. God's Grace, through Jesus Christ, rules and reigns with Sovereign Freedom, Power, and Beauty, under His Unbegotten Father's Headship.

It is at Jesus Christ's Golden Altar of Incense that believers can obtain Mercy and find Grace to help them in times of need. Jesus Christ's Mercy pardons the sins of penitent man, and His Grace purifies their spirits and souls. Consequently, repentant man can come to Christ's Golden Altar of Prayer in the following ways:

- with humble freedom and boldness;
- with liberty of speech;
- with remembrance of having been reconciled to God, the Unbegotten Father, through Christ's Precious Blood; and
- with reverence and godly fear.

When we are true believers, Jesus Christ, our High Priest, is our Trust, Hope, and Confidence at the Golden Altar of Prayer. Jesus Christ is our Mediator, Who gives us all the boldness that we need in order to come to the Golden Altar of Prayer. We have boldness to go to the Golden Altar of Prayer because of Christ's Atonement Blood upon the horns of the Golden Altar. His Priceless Blood ever beckons us to come boldly to His Throne of Grace.

Jesus is our Advocate in prayer. He pleads for us with His Merciful Mouth, and with His Gracious Tongue, while His radiating Rays of Glory shine through the nailprints in His Holy Hands!

Christ Jesus ever lives in Heaven to make Intercession for all those who are true believers. Jesus prophesied to His Disciples about the day in which they would be able to come boldly to His Golden Altar of Prayer and ask God whatever they wished.

And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give *it* you (John 16:23).

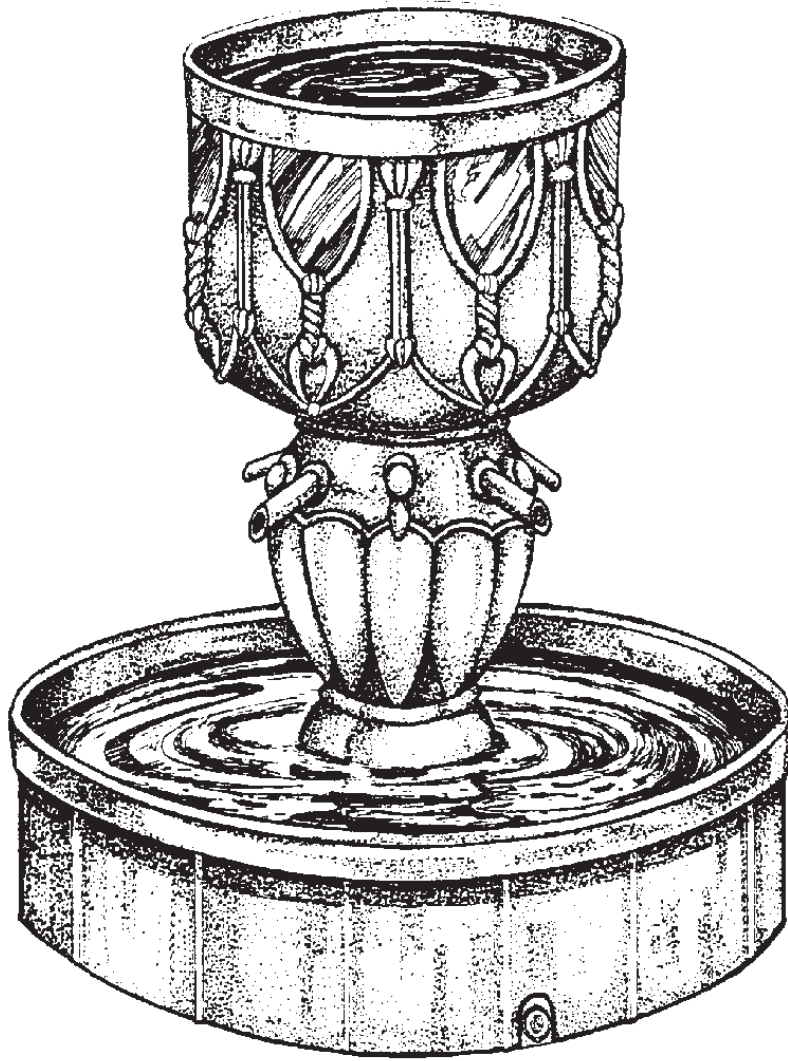
Through the Cross of Calvary, Jesus became the Door for His people to enter into the Holy Presence of the Father. Jesus has shown His people and has led them to the Knowledge of His Father, Who is the Source of Eternal Happiness of Heaven. To know Jesus Christ's Father is the greatest of all mysteries. To know God, personally, as our Father is the greatest satisfaction of all to our will and to our affections.

On the day of Pentecost, the Father sent the Holy Ghost, Who came to lead believers into the Holy Place—to the Golden Altar of Prayer—where God quickens His Holy Word to them so that they can grow up in the measure of the Fullness of the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ. When believers grow up spiritually, they cease to ask God childish questions, such as: “Why? What? When? Where?”

Jesus did not tell us to ask for an exalted position at His Right Hand or His Left Hand or anywhere else. We are to ask in His Name for His Spiritual Stature to grow within us. We are to ask for His Everlasting Humility that is found in His Holy Name or Nature.

When Jesus Christ's Name of Humility has grown within our *worker* heart, we will not be asking for things to satisfy the lusts of our flesh. We will be asking for more of the Humility of the Name of Jesus. Christ's Humility brings pleasure and satisfaction to believers' spirits and souls, and it brings Glory to the LORD's Holy Name.

It is at the Golden Altar of Incense and Prayer that, as true believers, we learn about Jesus and His Father's Divine Headship—the Greatest and the Highest of all Light!



**The Brazen Laver
In The Mosaic Tabernacle**

Chapter Five

The Brazen Laver

God started furnishing the Tabernacle by having the Ark of the Covenant put in place first; then, the Mercy Seat was placed as a lid on the Ark. Next, God had Moses bring in the Table of Shewbread, then the Candlestick, and, last, the Golden Altar of Incense. This completed the furniture in the Tabernacle.

The Brazen Laver, which also proceeded forth from God's Holy Headship, from the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat, was the sixth piece of furniture to be made. It was set up in the *Courtyard*, outside the curtain that covered the entrance into the Holy Place of the Tabernacle so that no one but the Priests saw inside the Tabernacle.

The Hebrew word for *Laver* is *kee-yore*, which means a rounded basin. Standing about midway between the large Brazen Altar in the Courtyard and the Tabernacle, the Laver was made from the women's brass mirrors.

Thou shalt also make a laver of brass, and his foot also of brass, to wash withal: and thou shalt put it between the tabernacle of the congregation and the [Brazen] altar, and thou shalt put water therein (Exodus 30:18).

And he made the laver of brass, and the foot of it of brass, of the looking-glasses of the women assembling, which assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation (Exodus 38:8).

The Brazen Laver was the first piece of furniture that the Priests were required to use before any other piece of furniture could be part of their ministries. Before the Priests could minister at the Brazen Altar of Blood and Fire, they had to wash their hands and feet in the Waters of the Laver.

Israel's experiences in *Egypt*, before crossing into the wilderness, consisted of the following things:⁵

- First, Israel experienced the blood of the Passover lamb to save them from Death.
- Then, as a son in Egypt, he experienced being led by the Pillar of Cloud and the Pillar of Fire.

⁵ For further study about Israel's experiences, from her exodus from Egypt, through her wilderness journey, to her entry into Canaan's Land, read: B. R. Hicks, *The Forty-Two Stops Israel Made On Her Journey From Egypt To Canaan's Land* (Jeffersonville, Indiana; Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 2008).

- Last, he experienced passing through the Water of the Red Sea, which was a baptism (I Corinthians 10:1,2).

But, in the *wilderness*, in the Mosaic Tabernacle, Israel's experiences were in the following order:

- First, Israel experienced Water, the Water from the *zoor* Rock.
- Next, as a wife in the wilderness, she experienced the blood of animal sacrifices.
- Last, she experienced the supernatural Fire from the Brazen Altar that consumed the sacrifices.

The Water in the Laver came from the Water that was released from the *zoor* Rock, which had given Life to the children of Israel in Rephidem when they had had nothing to drink.

Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it, that the people may drink.
And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel (Exodus 17:6).

In the New Testament, Jesus told Nicodemus that he must have a birth of water and spirit in order to enter into the Kingdom of God.

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God** (John 3:5).

Also, in the New Testament, Jesus gave the Samaritan woman the "Water of Life" to drink.

But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw (John 4:14,15).

When on Earth, Jesus promised to fill thirsty believers' bellies with "Rivers of Living Water".

In the last *day*, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, **If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water** (John 7:37,38).

According to the Apostle Paul, the Waters of Christ's Word wash and cleanse His Church.

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, (Ephesians 5:26).

In the Book of Revelation, Christ Jesus promised to give His Water of Life freely to those souls who thirst for Him.

And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. **I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely** (Revelation 21:6).

And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb (Revelation 22:1).

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. **And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely** (Revelation 22:17).

The Brazen Laver held the Water of Life that clothed the hands and feet of the Priests with "Waters of Life" so that they were fit to serve in the Mosaic Tabernacle with Life and not Death.

The Laver proper was huge. No Scriptures give information about the size and shape of the Brazen Laver. There was a shallower basin beneath it, into which the Water ran after being used by the Priests to wash their hands and feet. Nor do Scriptures give instructions about how the Brazen Laver was to be transported through the wilderness. Therefore, we must conclude that the Brazen Laver was miraculously carried by the LORD Himself.

The Laver stood in the Courtyard, near the Brazen Altar, where the Priests could conveniently wash their hands and feet before ministering at the Brazen Altar. The Laver occupied a most important place in the Mosaic Tabernacle because the Priests could not go to the Brazen Altar to offer sacrifices for themselves and for the people, nor could they go into the Holy Place to minister at the Golden Altar, the Candlestick, or the Table of Shewbread until they had washed their hands and feet. Having the Water from the Laver on their hands and feet was the key to their ministering at all the other pieces of furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle because, unless they were cleansed by the Waters from the Laver, the Priests were subject to Death.

The women donated their brass mirrors to make the Laver. The literal mirrors of the women pictured the Mirror of God's Word in which we can see ourselves and in which Christ's Image is reflected. In God's Word, we can see how to sanctify and to cleanse ourselves.

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Thou shalt also make a laver of brass, and his foot *also of brass*, to wash *withal*: and thou shalt put it between the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar, and thou shalt put water therein. For Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet thereat: When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water, **that they die not; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD:** So they shall wash their hands and their feet, that they die not: and it shall be a statute for ever to them, *even* to him and to his seed throughout their generations (Exodus 30:17-21).

The special Water of the Laver ministered Life to the Priests' hands and feet so that they could minister in the whole Tabernacle and to the whole Nation of Israel; thus, they shared the LORD's Waters of Life with the people.

The following scales shows how the Waters of the Laver affected the Priests' hands and feet.

(See scales on following page.)

God's Gift of Man's Hands and His Feet

• Hands

Man's hands are the symbol of his:

- skill,
- energy,
- action, and
- strength.

The hands are skilled servants for the LORD, as were the Priests' hands in the Tabernacle. Hands are lifted up to swear by an oath. Hands are lifted to God, above, in praise and benediction.

To give one's hands to another assures faithfulness and friendship. To give one's hand also includes being submissive to one's conquerer.

The hand pictures the LORD's Infinite, Executive Power and His Divine Purpose. The LORD's Infinite, Divine Hands preserve His saints.

The LORD's Hand is a place of honour. In Christ's Spiritual Stature, His Right Hand is in the South and His Left Hand is in the North. Therefore, no one shall lay anything to God's elect.

What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us?... **Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect?** *It is* God that justifieth. Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, **who is even at the right hand of God**, who also maketh intercession for us (Romans 8:33,34).

It is God Who justifies, and it is Jesus, at God's Right Hand, Who makes intercession for His people. The laying on of anointed hands blesses, heals, and imparts gifts and miracles to those for whom one prays.

• Feet

Man's feet are the extremity of the legs, being below the ankles. They are the part of the leg that treads on the ground, standing or walking, and on which the body is supported. In the early history of man, the roads were mostly dirt; consequently, they had to wash their feet often. Hosts were, of necessity, required to wash their guests' feet.

The Priests in the Mosaic Tabernacle did not wear shoes because the LORD forbade man to wear shoes in His Holy Presence.

And he said, Draw not nigh hither: **put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground** (Exodus 3:5).

When Christ appeared to Moses in a Flame of Fire in a bush, God commanded Moses to take off his shoes because he was on holy ground. In every spot where God manifests the Fire of His Presence, the ground is Holy.

The LORD's Infinite, Divine Fire is for:

- penetrating the feet;
- refining and freeing one from impurities; and
- extending warming, lively, fervent affections and loving thoughts and feelings toward another;
- the quickening Power of His Word, and
- enlivening one's Will to obey.

Taking off one's shoes signified reverence, respect, and submission to God's Presence. The manifestation of the LORD's Infinite, Divine Presence always made the ground Holy.

In the Courtyard and in the Holy Place of the Tabernacle were four great Flames of Fire that burned day and night. So how Holy the ground was in the Mosaic Tabernacle! The Priests had to take off their shoes to minister in the Mosaic Tabernacle; thus, it was necessary for the Priests to wash their feet every time they ministered there.

The Hebrew word for *hand* is *yawd*, which means an open hand for the power of direction. Hands are for administering work.

Hands are also the body's means of feeling. The hands, in connection with the mind, admirably execute the wishes of the human will. The hands acquire and impart to man incomparable skill and power.

Man's hands distinguish him from all other terrestrial beings. Man's hands have been involved in writing the Scriptures, in displaying skill, and in exhibiting strength and efficacy. Hands are great instruments of actions. They also are eminently fitted for helping the mind by the signs and indications that they make.

The Waters of Life from the Laver continually clothed the Priests with the LORD's Divine Life. The LORD desired for His people to be a nation and a kingdom of *Priests*; thus, He furnished them with Waters of Life.

And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These *are* the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel (Exodus 19:6).

However, through Israel's sin and rebellion against the God of Heaven, they forced God to shut up the Priesthood to the family of Aaron. A priest is a person who has access to God. So the LORD chose the family of Aaron to be His Priests, and they came to Him on behalf of His people. Through the LORD Jesus Christ and His shed Blood, all believers in Him have access to God; therefore, they are God's priests under the New Covenant.

But ye *are* a chosen 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).

The Laver was a cleansing place for the Aaronic Priesthood under the Old Covenant. Therefore, it is a picture of God's cleansing of the Waters of the Word for His priests under the New Covenant.

The Brazen Laver pictured the Loins or the Belly of the Spiritual Stature of the Lord Jesus Christ, Who, out of His Love for all mankind, gave a great invitation to all thirsty souls to come to Him and drink of His satisfying Divine Water of Love, regardless of the indulgence of those with earthly cares, such as the following kinds of people:

- those destitute of earthly comforts;
- those overloaded, with crosses to bear;
- those in abundant poverty;
- those with painful afflictions; and
- those enduring pitiful persecutions.

The Laver was made of all Brass. The Hebrew word for *brass* is *naw-koosh*, which means a base, a metal, red color, hard brass. The word *hard* means brass. Brass is hard enough not to be easily dented, pierced, or crushed; it is resistant to pressure, and it is firm and unyielding to the touch, being rigid, solid, and compact.

Brass, in the Father's Realm, personifies His Holy Headship or the position of Supreme Power and Authority that prevents it from being pierced and crushed. God's Headship is the Universal Headship over all Creation.

The Waters of God's Headship will wash our feet and be our shoes as we serve Him as His *aw-bad* servants under His Holy Headship.

The LORD's "Brass Headship" controls His Divine Judgment. He looks at all things with His Divine Scrutiny. Jesus Christ, under His Father's Divine Headship (or the Living Word) took upon Himself the Father's Judgment for our sins.

If we come to the Living Word, He is like a mirror that reveals all the spots and blemishes in our minds and hearts. The Apostle James compared God's Word to a mirror:

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. **For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.** But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth *therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed (James 1:22-25).

The Brass Laver represented Christ's Ministry, through His mirror-like Word that reveals man's sinful hands that are clothed with ingratitude and his sinful feet that are clothed with the fleshly dirt of faults and failures.

The LORD's Brass Word, with its Divine Waters of Truth, is ready to liberate and to deliver us from our sins, guilt, wrath, and Death. God says, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." But if we are only hearers, then the following things happen to us:

- All our good thoughts are forgotten.
- All our convictions are lost.
- All our good affections for Truth are gone.
- All our purposes to do good are cast aside.
- All our discoveries of how we may put away our sins are not remembered.
- All Christ's Garments of Righteousness are vanished.

Thus, we are only hearers of God's Word, but not doers of it.

The Laver itself could not cleanse the Priests' hands and feet, but the Waters of the Laver could cleanse them. Likewise, God's Word reveals to us the dirt of ingratitude in

ourselves; then, when we hear His Written Word spoken, and we repent, the LORD will cleanse our hands and feet.

Christ's Spiritual Water is the Life of His Word. There is Life, Power, and Revelation in the Water of God's Word that will meet our needs if we truly hear His Word and submit to it. The Life and Power of the Water of God's Word will cleanse us from the filthiness of our flesh and carnal mind.

The LORD never revealed the measurements of the Laver. There were two pieces of furniture that God never stipulated anything concerning their size. God never gave Moses measurements for how large to make the Golden Candlestick in the Tabernacle or the Brazen Laver in the Courtyard of the Tabernacle. This fact involves a precious Principle of Truth.

The Laver's purpose was for cleansing the Priests' hands and feet. Servants with clean hands and feet are the only kind of servants who are acceptable to God. Clean hands and clean feet make a person able to render pure service to God; otherwise, his work contaminates where he walks and what he touches.

Since the Priests were forbidden to come near the Brazen Altar to minister in the Courtyard, nor could they go into the Holy Place unless they had washed their hands and feet at the Brazen Laver, we must be aware, after seeing the types and shadows in the Old Testament, that it is of eternal importance that we, too, live in conjunction with God's Holy Word and wash many times a day in the pure Waters of His Holy Word.

If we keep our hands clean, we can lift up holy hands without wrath and doubting, as we thank, praise, bless, and glorify Jesus all day in everything. If we keep our feet clean, we can walk in Jesus' Footsteps, as we serve Jesus Christ in the Holy Place of Prayer (at the Golden Altar) and Light (at the Candlestick) and Strength (at the Table of Shewbread), and in the Holy of Holies (at the Ark), as we walk under His Headship.

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you (I Thessalonians 5:18).

The Waters of God's Word constantly cleanse us within and without. The Waters of God's Word constantly renew our spirits and souls. Therefore, we can always find refuge in the pure Waters of God's Word.

When persons have clean hands and feet, they will desire to help others in the spiritual brotherhood by using their hands and feet to minister to them.

Jesus is our Perfect Example of our ministering to our brothers' feet.

And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's *son*, to betray him; Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; **He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash**

the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel wherewith he was girded. Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet? Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter. Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me. Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not *my* feet only, but also my hands and *my* head. **Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash *his* feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.** For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean. **So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for *so* I am. If I then, *your* Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example,** that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them (John 13:2-17).

Jesus, in His great Humility, Meekness, and Lowliness, washed His Disciples' feet, which, at that time, included Judas' feet, although he was Jesus' betrayer. Despite the fact that Jesus knew that the eleven Disciples were going to forsake Him and deny Him, and that Judas was going to betray Him to be crucified, He displayed His *Worker* Heart of Love to them all. Out of His Holy Heart of Love for these sinful creatures, He washed their feet. Jesus Christ, the Word of God, ministering to His Disciples under the Purifying Waters of Love, washed their feet. Oh, what a Saviour! To God be all the Glory!

The Apostle Peter wanted Jesus to wash his entire person when he found out that, by washing his feet in the Waters of God's Living Word, he could have a part with Jesus. But Jesus declared that since Peter had already been washed with the Waters of Regeneration, it was only necessary for him to have his *feet* washed.

Jesus Christ is all these Living Things:

- The Living Word;
- The Living Water;
- The Living Way; and
- The Living Will.

Therefore, let us live in the Waters of His Word, His Way, and His Will. If we have been cleansed from ourselves and our ways and our will, we can joyfully walk in Unity with Jesus, His Way, and His Will.

If the LORD has opened our spiritual eyes, we will see Jesus Christ and take note of all the following things about Him:

- The Way Jesus Christ walked;
- The Way Jesus Christ talked;
- The Way Jesus Christ treated His enemies (He washed Judas' feet);
- The Way Jesus Christ forgave (He forgave His crucifiers);
- The Way Jesus Christ loved;
- Jesus Christ's devotion to His Father; and
- The Humility and Poverty Jesus Christ suffered and the Redemption He bought for the world.

When we truly *see* Jesus, we will see a greater vision of Christ's Holiness and feel a deeper need for being cleansed from our unholiness and our way of self-righteousness. This will cause us to see that we need to be delivered by the Mighty Power of the Waters of His Word.

God's Word teaches us that we are to approach the Infinite, Divine God with the deepest humility and the highest reverence.

As to the position of the Laver, it was only important because it was the key to ministering throughout the entire Mosaic Tabernacle. Without the Water in the Brazen Laver, the Priests could not go to:

- the Brazen Altar in the Courtyard;
- the Holy Place, where were the Golden Altar of Incense, the Golden Table of Shewbread, and the Golden Candlestick of Light;
- nor could the High Priest go into the Holy of Holies, where the Ark of the Covenant and its covering Mercy Seat were.

Without fresh, clean hands being clothed in the Waters of Life, and fresh, clean feet being clothed in the Waters of Life, the Priests would have died before the Holy LORD. When Jesus Christ came to Earth, He instituted the *Spiritual* Laver or the Waters of Life of God's Word in His Stature in the spiritual realm.

The Waters of the LORD's Word do not contradict His Word. The Waters of God's Word in the Old Testament fit with the Waters of God's Word in the New Testament. The LORD's Word under the Old Covenant and under the New Covenant are joined by the Holy Spirit of the Living God.

We have seen that the Brazen Laver, with its top and bottom, was the first piece of furniture at which the Priests ministered in the Mosaic Tabernacle. Before the Priests could go upward in the Stature of the Tabernacle, they had to go to the Brazen Laver to cleanse their hands and feet. This example is to show us that, in order to serve with our hands, they must first be cleansed, and in order to walk onward and upward in Jesus

Christ's Stature, our feet must be cleansed. The Waters of the Brazen Laver pictured the Waters of God's Word that we must have in order to grow up in the Spiritual Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ.

God's Word is Jesus Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not (John 1:1-5).

- God's Word was in the Beginning with God.
- God's Word was God.
- God's Word made All things.
- God's Word was Life.
- God's Word was Light.
- God's Word was Light, Shining in Darkness.

Under the New Covenant, all true believers are privileged to see the transforming, liberating Light and *kaw-bode* Glory from the LORD's Holy Headship, which shines from the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat. It is the Glory and the Light of God's Word that cause a true believer to grow from one depth and height to another depth and height in the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ.

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord (II Corinthians 3:18).

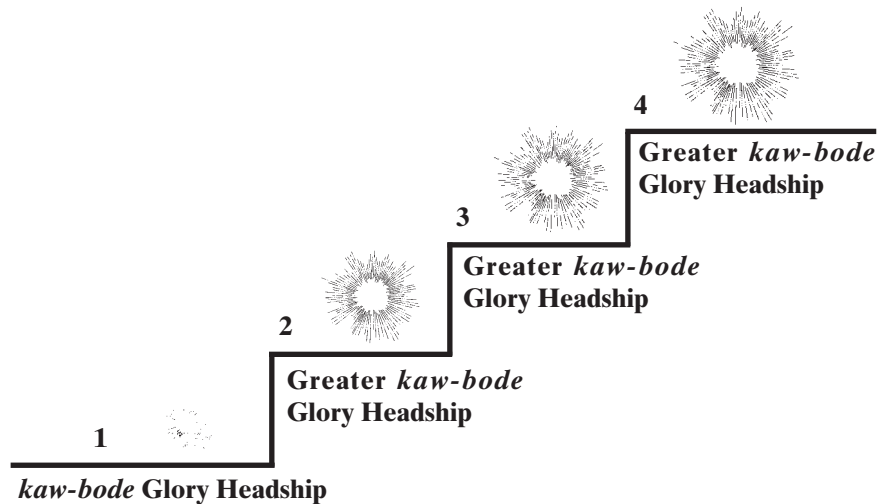
If we *hear* God's Word and *do* God's Word, we will grow in the Spiritual Stature of God's Son.

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. **But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed** (James 1:22-25).

God's Word is His Light and Glory that show us our problems, and it is His Light and Glory that change our old nature into His Nature of Love, Light, and Life. When

we look through the Atoning Blood of Jesus Christ, we look with an open face upon the LORD's Glorious Headship that leads from Glory to Glory. Then, as we grow in Christ Jesus' Resurrected Word of Light, we also grow from one degree to another degree in the *kaw-bode* Glory of His Headship.

Let us reflect on a descriptive diagram about the LORD's ascending Glories.

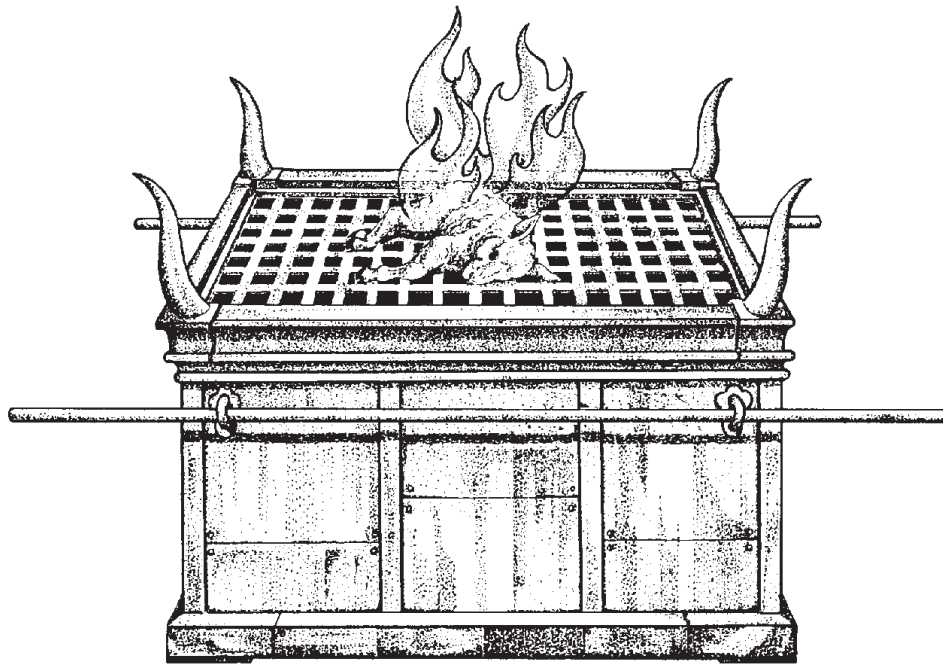


Spiritual growth is the state of progressing in God's Word of Life and being joined to His Light and Glory.

The growth in the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ, the Word of Truth, is unspeakable and indescribable as we move from one Level of Christ's Glory, Mercy, and Grace to another! We should never be satisfied with our present Stature of spiritual growth; rather, until we take our flight from planet Earth to the New City, we should not cease to grow in His Word and Spirit.

Those who are not forgetful hearers of the LORD's Word and the Waters of His Truth, are the ones who are blessed with the Light and Glory of God's Headship. Jesus Christ Loves His Church; therefore, He washes it with the Waters of His Word.

Let us yield more and more to God's Headship so that He can continually lead us to the Laver of His Word. Let us take more time to be in His Holy Presence. Let us speak often with our LORD in great gratitude and abide in Him always, as we feed on His Life-giving Word.



**The Brazen Altar
In The Mosaic Tabernacle**

Chapter Six

The Brazen Altar

The Brazen Altar was the first piece of furniture in the Courtyard of the Mosaic Tabernacle. It was placed between the gate into the Courtyard and the Brazen Laver that stood before the entrance into the Tabernacle. The Hebrew word for the Brazen Altar is *miz-bakh*, which means *Table of the LORD*.

For convenient transportation, the Brazen Altar was made strong but light in weight. It was a hollow box of shittim wood, which was overlaid with sheets of brass. The Brazen Altar was the largest piece of furniture in the Tabernacle for which there are measurements. It had four horns—one on each of its four corners.

The Brazen Altar had a grate, a network of brass, which was placed inside it, halfway between the top and the bottom of the Altar. The shittim wood with which the Altar was constructed was covered with brass in order to protect the wood from the Fire that burned continuously upon it; the Fire was never allowed to go out.

A ledge ran around the outer middle part of the Altar, which afforded a convenient place on which the Priest stood while offering the sacrifices. The LORD miraculously sent Fire from His *kaw-bode* Glory Headship so that there would always be a Fire to devour the sacrifices on the Altar. The Priests, then, had to maintain the Fire perpetually.

And thou shalt make an altar of shittim wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; **the altar shall be foursquare**: and the height thereof *shall be* three cubits. **And thou shalt make the horns of it upon the four corners thereof: his horns shall be of the same: and thou shalt overlay it with brass.** And thou shalt make his pans to receive his ashes, and his shovels, and his basons, and his fleshhooks, and his firepans: all the vessels thereof thou shalt make of brass. **And thou shalt make for it a grate of network of brass; and upon the net shalt thou make four brasen rings in the four corners thereof. And thou shalt put it under the compass of the altar beneath, that the net may be even to the midst of the altar.** And thou shalt make staves for the altar, staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with brass. And the staves shall be put into the rings, and the staves shall be upon the two sides of the altar, to bear it. Hollow with boards shalt thou make it: as it was shewed thee in the mount, so shall they make it (Exodus 27:1-8).

And he made the altar of burnt offering of shittim wood: five cubits *was* the length thereof, and five cubits the breadth thereof; *it was* foursquare; and three cubits the height thereof. **And he made the horns thereof on the four corners of it; the horns**

thereof were of the same: and he overlaid it with brass. And he made all the vessels of the altar, the pots, *and* the shovels, and the basons, and the fleshhooks, and the firepans: all the vessels thereof made he *of* brass. **And he made for the altar a brazen grate of network under the compass thereof beneath unto the midst of it.** And he cast four rings for the four ends of the grate of brass, *to be* places for the staves. And he made the staves *of* shittim wood, and overlaid them with brass. And he put the staves into the rings on the sides of the altar, to bear it withal; **he made the altar hollow with boards** (Exodus 38:1-7).

The Brazen Altar was seven feet and six inches in length on all four sides; hence, it was foursquare. Foursquare means having four equal sides, four right angles, and four corners. The furniture in the Courtyard was made of brass, while all the gold work, which was the richest material used in making the furniture, was hidden out of sight in the Tabernacle itself.

After all the furniture for the Tabernacle proper had been finished, Bezaleel, by adhering to God's Headship, made the Laver and the Brazen Altar out of brass. The Brazen Altar, with all its blood offerings, was the place of Forgiveness. The Brazen Altar was the channel whereby the Israelites could seek reconciliation with God when their sin had estranged them from Him.

The blood of the sacrifices was used and applied in different ways, according to God's Headship. Actually, the ministry of the blood of the sacrifices began while the Israelites were still in Egypt, when, according to the commands God gave to Moses, they were to prepare to leave Egypt by taking the blood of a lamb and *striking* it on the side posts and upper doorpost of their houses; then, the blood of the slain lamb would protect them from the Death Angel.

And they shall take of the blood, and strike *it* on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it (Exodus 12:7).

And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye *are*: and **when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.** And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever (Exodus 12:13,14).

The blood of the sacrifices was to be used in still another way: the LORD commanded Moses to *sprinkle* the blood upon His people and His Covenant that He had made with them.

The Hebrew word for *sprinkle* is *zaw-rak*, which means to be here and there, to scatter, and to strew.

And Moses took half of the blood, and put *it* in basons; and **half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar**. And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient. **And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled *it* on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words** (Exodus 24:6-8).

In another application of the blood, the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron to take the blood of the *whole burnt offering* and *sprinkle* it in a circle upon the Brazen Altar.

And thou shalt slay the ram, and thou shalt take his blood, and sprinkle *it* round about upon the altar (Exodus 29:16).

In addition, God commanded Moses and Aaron to take the *peace offering blood* and *put* it on the ears, thumbs, and great toe of Aaron and his sons. He also was to sprinkle the blood round about on the Brazen Altar.

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** (Exodus 29:20).

The LORD also told Moses to take the blood of a bullock and use his finger to *put* the blood on the horns of the Brazen Altar.

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 (Exodus 29:12).

The Hebrew word for *put* is *naw-than*, which means to make, to add, to apply, to appoint, to ascribe, to assign, to avenge, to bestow, to bring forth, to charge, to commit, to consider, to count, to deliver up, to direct, to distribute willingly.

The Blood also was *poured* at the bottom of the foursquare Brazen Altar.

And thou shalt kill the bullock before the LORD, by the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. 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 [foursquare] altar (Exodus 29:11,12).

The Hebrew word for *bottom of the altar* is *yes-ode*. *Yes-ode* comes from the Hebrew root word *yaw-sad*, which means to sit down together, to settle, to consult, to appoint, to take counsel, to establish, to lay a foundation, to instruct, to ordain, to set, sure. In other

words, the bottom or the Liquid Blood, consisted of the LORD's Infinite, Divine Headship or Foundation of all Christ's Suffering and shedding of Blood, which is the Foundation of our Salvation.

Likewise, this created world is founded upon liquid (seas).

For he hath founded it [His Headship] upon the seas, and established it upon the floods (Psalm 24:2).

All Spiritual Creation is founded on the LORD's Divine Headship of His liquid Blood, through Jesus Christ. Before any Creation had been brought into existence and, hence, no sin had entered in, God's Lamb was slain from the Foundation of the Seed World.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, **whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world** (Revelation 13:8).

John the Baptist also bore witness that Jesus, God's Lamb, had been slain while He was still in His Spirit Form.

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, **Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world** (John 1:29).

John spoke of Jesus' Risen-Spirit Blood, which taketh away the sin of the world. The word *taketh*, is a present tense verb that means that John *saw* the Resurrected Blood of God's Slain Lamb taking away the sin of the world. This is why, when Jesus said, "When I arise *again*," He always referred to His Resurrected Blood.

So the foursquare Blood, under the foursquare Brazen Altar, also pictured the slaying of the Lamb's Blood that formed the Foundation for all Living Seeds from the Foundation of the Seed World.

The Brazen Altar, with its blood, was the place the Israelites could pour out their:

- contrition;
- repentance;
- humility; and
- gratitude.

So the Blood at the Brazen Altar was used to *strike*, to *sprinkle*, to *put*, and to *pour*, according to God's Divine Headship. Let us reflect on a descriptive diagram about how these four ways of applying the blood fit with the LORD's *Tetragrammaton* or His foursquare Holy Name.

III. *vaw*—Knowledge Love Omniscient

After the LORD had proclaimed the Ten Commandments in the ears of the people, and after Moses had ascended and received the Tables of the Ten Commandments, the Israelites promised to be doers of them. Therefore, Moses satisfied God's Covenant by *putting* or thrusting and pushing half of the sacrificial blood upon the people, and by *putting* the other half on the LORD's Covenant and Altar. Then, the LORD's Ten Commandments and the people were united in a solemn bond through the sacrificial bond of blood that was *put* upon them.

This is a precious picture of being joined to the LORD's Blood and Word through His Only Begotten Son Jesus Christ. What an eternal blessing we have to put on Jesus Blood and Word everyday!



IV. Second *hay*—Prudence Love Purposive Will

The blood in the Old Covenant was also *poured* at the bottom of the foursquare Brazen Altar. The Hebrew word for *pour* is *shaw-fak*, which means to sprawl out, to stretch out, to pour out, and to shed. The *poured-out* blood was a picture of Christ's *poured-out* Blood that helps us to pour out the following things to Him:

- We pour out our *lover* heart to the LORD because His is an Eternal Refuge for our *lover* heart.

Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah (Psalm 62:8).

- We pour out complaints to the Blood that Christ poured out for us, which will sanctify our complaints and our troubles.

I poured out my complaint before him; I shewed before him my trouble (Psalm 142:2).

- When Jesus Christ was on the Cross, He was *poured out* like water for us. So we not only have His *poured-out* Blood for us but also His *poured-out* Waters.

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels (Psalm 22:14).

When Jesus hung on the Cross, His Heart melted and became like water. Courage and strength left Him so that He was left without power and resistance, as He hung in our place. Oh, what a Saviour with His Saving Power of His *Poured-Out* Blood!

II. First *hay*—Understanding Love Omnipotent

The Whole Burnt Offering Blood was *sprinkled* round about in a circle upon the Brazen Altar.

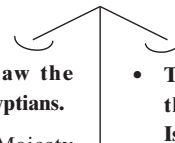
The Hebrew word for *sprinkle* is *zaw-rak*, which means to be here or there, to scatter, and to strew. The Whole Burnt Offering, with its wheel of *sprinkled* blood, pictured the submission of Jesus Christ to His Father's Purposive Will and Divine Headship in its most perfect form. And, as the entire animal was burnt upon the Altar, and it ascended to God as a sweet-smelling savor.

How precious to understand, from the Father, that the *highest realm of submission* to the LORD is for us to be a whole burnt offering to Him.

I. *yod*—Wisdom Love Omnipresent

The LORD's Wisdom to use the *striking* of the blood to dash and to be thrust upon the two side posts and on the upper doorpost of the houses of the Israelites made it possible, while they were eating the Passover lamb, for the LORD to see how to judge the Egyptians and to bless the Israelites.

The LORD's Eyes



- **The LORD Saw the Idols of the Egyptians.**
- **The LORD Saw the Blood on the Upper Doorposts of Israel's houses and Passed over the Blood with the Covering of His *kaw-bode*-Glory Mercy.**

The LORD's Majesty created terror in His enemies. His Divine Justice produced awe and veneration for Him against all the gods of Egypt. In His Divine Justice, He smote all first-born of man and beast. God also smote all idol objects that the Egyptians worshipped.

The LORD assured Israel that it was the *striking* of the blood that would generate their safety in the midst of the Judgmental Death that He would wreak on the Egyptians. Israel remained under God's Infinite, Divine Headship of His Passover Blood. Therefore, the LORD's Wisdom of His Blood of *striking* was their protective Cloud of Life in the midst of Death.

Under the Old Covenant, at the Brazen Altar, penitent souls found the LORD's Blessings, which they shared with each other.

The Brazen Altar pointed to Christ's Way of Life and to His Truth, Righteousness, and Holiness for the Old Testament saints. God, through His types and shadows, brought forth some great saints under the Old Covenant, which was a picture, shadow, and type of the Cross of the LORD Jesus Christ and the saints under the New Covenant of His Eternal Blood.

The four horns in the four corners of the Brazen Altar pictured the LORD's Power, Glory, and Salvation of His Holy Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, and Prudence of His Holy Name to all who come to the LORD's Brazen Altar in Jesus Christ.

This Altar was a picture, shadow, and type of Jesus Christ and His Altar, the Cross of Calvary, and of His Eternal Resurrected Blood. How much greater is Jesus Christ's Eternal Resurrected Blood that gives the LORD's greater Eternal Life, Truth, Righteousness, and Holiness that fulfilled the Old Testament types and shadows.

The foursquare Altar also pictured the LORD's foursquare Name. Jesus bore witness that He came in His Father's Holy Name *LORD*, which was His foursquare Name, spelled in Hebrew with a *yod*, a *hay*, a *vaw*, and a second *hay*.

I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive (John 5:43)

The Israelites were ready to accept false christs and false prophets, while they obstinately rejected their true Messiah because they had forsaken the Fountain of Living Waters, Jesus Christ, Who had come in His Father's Name.

On one side, Jesus Christ had come to the lowest, perfect poverty; on the other side, He had come with the highest Glory of all because He had come in His Father's Name. Although Jesus came in great humility, bearing His Father's *Tetragrammaton* or His Father's foursquare Holy Name, He had His Father's commission that gave His Father all the Glory, yet Israel still rejected Jesus Christ and crucified Him. Nevertheless, Jesus Christ fulfilled all the shadows and types of the Brazen Altar under the Old Covenant by taking His Father's foursquare Name *LORD* to the Cross, which gave His Cross an Eternal foursquare Foundation! To God be all the Glory!

The Brazen Altar presented a great picture of Jesus Christ and His Cross, the penitent soul's True Altar. The Brazen Altar, in the type and shadow, was the foundational part of the Old Covenant, but Jesus Christ and His Cross is our Living Eternal Foundation, our *New Altar*, under our New Eternal Covenant. The Apostle Paul verified this Everlasting Truth in the Book of Hebrews.

We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the

gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. **By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually,** that is, the fruit of *our* lips giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased (Hebrews 13:10-16).

Let us go forth, willingly and joyfully, to Jesus Christ and His Cross, outside the camp, bearing His reproach. Let us go forth to Jesus Christ and leave behind us the following things:

- the *Old Covenant*, the Ceremonial Law;
- the *sin* that animal blood could never take away, but only cover for a season;
- the *worldly* hate that despises the Christ and His Holy Blood; and
- our own spiritual *ignorance*.

Let us submissively, willingly, and delightfully go forth, bearing Jesus Christ's reproach that broke His *Worker Heart*.

The Psalmist prophesied about Jesus Christ's reproach.

Thou hast known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonour: mine adversaries are all before thee. Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked *for some* to take pity, but *there was* none; and for comforters, but I found none. They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink (Psalm 69:19-21).

Jesus Christ's gloating enemies, with their mocking words of reproach, rebuke, and reproving, brought unspeakable suffering and shame to Jesus Christ's *Worker Heart*. Their sinful disgrace, discredit, and dishonour broke Christ's *Worker Heart*, leaving it crucified, grieved, and in despair.

Let us bring our spiritual sacrifices of gratitude back to Jesus Christ and His Cross through the following:

- our faith;
- our praise;
- the fruit of our lips in adoration to Him;
- our thanksgiving to His Name; and
- our good deeds of communicating the LORD's Words of Life to hungry, thirsty spirits and souls.

Let us go forth in gratitude, willingly bearing Jesus Christ's reproach; let us be willing to be the offscouring of the Earth for His Name's sake because He went to the Cross, to Death, and to Hell for us.

David foretold Jesus Christ's Suffering on the Cross for us and His making His Father's Name LORD, His foursquare Name of Love, known to all mankind.

But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people (Psalm 22:6).

Let us reflect on a descriptive diagram about the Humility Suffering of Jesus Christ on the Cross.

**III. *vaw*— Knowledge Love
Omniscient**

I Am a Reproach of Men.

In so many words, Jesus said, "I am an object of contempt, scorn, disdain, and disgrace."

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified (1 Peter 4:14).

**IV. Second *hay*— Prudence Love
Purposive Will
I Am Despised of the People.**

He said, again, "I am looked down upon with contempt, scorn, disdain, and disrespect."



**II. First *hay*— Understanding Love
Omnipotent
I Am no Man.**

In other words, "I am so disfigured by the cruel, brutal afflicting hands of my enemies that I do not have the appearance of a man."

**I. *yod*— Wisdom Love
Omnipresent
I Am a Worm.**

In other words, "I am a worm trodden underfoot with contempt, scorn, and despised. I am a wretched, contemptible, crawling creature."

Jesus Christ entered into great condescension to become a Man. He descended to even a greater extent to become a Servant; then, He humbled Himself still more to become a Worm so that He could be trampled upon and reproached as the following:

- a bad man;
- a blasphemer;
- a Sabbath breaker;

- a wine bibber;
- a false prophet;
- an enemy of Caesar;
- a confederate with the price of deceit;
- a mean, despised man;
- a man with poor followers, who were neither rulers nor Pharisees;
- a man with a mob for followers; and
- a deceitful man, deceiving Himself and others.

Are we going to complain, ignorantly, because we have to fellowship a little portion of His unspeakable Suffering for us?

The Brazen Altar stood not too far from the gate through which one entered into the Courtyard. There were three entrances to the different levels of the LORD's Presence in the Mosaic Tabernacle. The first opening to the LORD's Presence was through the gate into the Courtyard, where stood the Brazen Altar and the Brazen Laver. The only way to get into the Courtyard was through the veil that formed the one and only gate into the Courtyard. The people had to lift up this curtain or gate and crawl under it in order to enter into the Courtyard. God's people had to bow down low and take the worm's road, as it were, by crawling under the veil or gate.

Likewise, the only way that we can reach the precious Foundation of Jesus Christ's Blood is by taking Christ's "worm's road of humility" and confessing and repenting of our sins and believing that the Fountain of Jesus Christ's Blood will wash away our sins.

Jesus was trodden underfoot, like a worm; He was treated with cruel contempt. Jesus was not treated like a man. He was so disfigured by man's crucifying cruelty, that His visage did not look like a man's. Jesus Christ's cruel Sufferings were so unspeakably intense that His resemblance to a person—a man—was lost.

Jesus Christ had to walk to Calvary's Cross. Walking the worm's road disfigured, deformed, and distorted His Face and appearance because of all He encountered on the worm's road. As a result, Jesus Christ was so marred, injured, and damaged that He did not resemble or look like a man. So Jesus Christ hung on the Cross of Calvary with the appearance of a *disfigured worm!*

If we desire to grow up in the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ and go to the New City with Him, we too, have to learn to humble ourselves and recognize that we are unworthy to suffer for Him or to crawl with Him on His worm's road to Calvary's Hill or to hang on the Cross with Him as a worm.

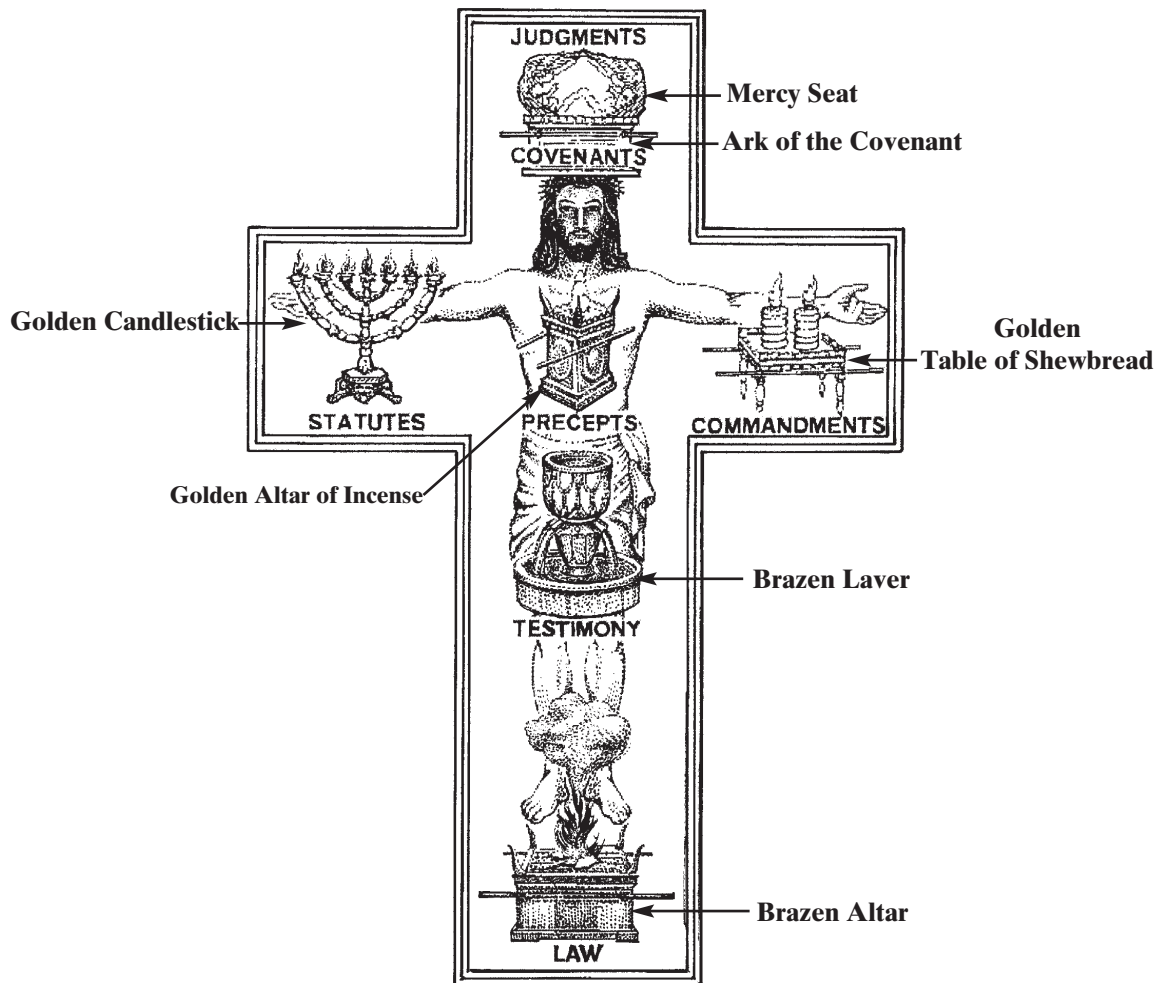
God's people were called the "Worm of Jacob."

Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the LORD, and thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 41:14).

A worm is a symbol of meekness and humility. A worm crawling upon the ground is at the mercy of every foot that passes by. When we become a spiritual worm, by faith, we are crawling in Christ's Meekness and Humility on His worm's road to Calvary's Cross. Jesus Christ, our Spiritual Worm, Saviour, and Redeemer, will be there to help us and to teach us how to be more grateful for the privilege of being a "worm" under the Father's Headship that not only leads to Christ's Life and Death on the Cross but also on to the New City to be joined eternally to Him as our exalted Bridegroom.

Under the Old Covenant, the Brazen Altar occupied the most preeminent place under God's Holy Headship in the Courtyard. The Brazen Altar was not only the tallest and the largest and the greatest piece of furniture in the Courtyard, but it also was the greatest of all the pieces of furniture in the entire Tabernacle.

Once more, let us reflect on a descriptive diagram about the placement of the furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle and see how the furniture formed the Cross.



The Hebrew word for *altar* means to slay or to kill, which pictures Jesus Christ, our Eternal Altar of Sacrifice. Jesus was slain or killed on the Cross of Calvary, which provided an Atonement for our sins and guilt, and a substitute for our deserved punishment. Therefore, if we desire to grow in the measure of the Fullness of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature, we must grow in Christ's Obedient Love, Mercy, and Grace at His Cross of Calvary.

The Brazen Altar was used for two purposes: slaying and burning. When the people brought their sin offerings to the Brazen Altar, the Priest laid his hands on the animal, which signified that the penitent person's sins were being transferred to the animal. Then, the animal was slain and offered on the Brazen Altar for the person's sins. The animal's blood could never take away sin. It could only cover sin until Jesus Christ came and gave His Life's Blood to take away sin once and for all.

The Brazen Altar was the Foundation, the base, and the support of the entire Mosaic Tabernacle, which pictured the Eternal Salvation of Jesus Christ, Who, with His Resurrected-Blood Light, has set penitent spirits and souls free from Leviathan's destructive Darkness.

Jesus Christ has demonstrated His Divine Power by dispelling the Darkness of the captivity of sinful souls. He has delivered penitent spirits and souls from their fearful anxiety and painful tribulations by giving them His liberating Light and Freedom.

Through the Apostle Paul, God revealed that Jesus Christ is the only True Foundation for Salvation and for the further construction upon that Foundation of a True Spiritual Stature.

For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ (I Corinthians 3:11).

Jesus Christ is the Eternal Foundation and Salvation for ALL sinners. Jesus Christ is the Saviour, Mediator, Redeemer, and Reconciler of all penitent spirit and souls. He is the only Eternal Hope for all sinners.

Under the shadow and type, the Priest slew the animal that was brought to him for an offering, and he sprinkled its blood on the Brazen Altar. Then, the Priest burnt the animal on the Altar.

This is a precious picture of Jesus Christ's being crucified on His Altar of the Cross. After He had died, His Body went to the grave, and His Soul went to a burning Death and Hell in our place, while His precious Spirit went into the Hands of His Father.

Under the New Covenant, Jesus Christ became our Eternal New Altar. Jesus Christ took the Judgment for our sins by going to Death, Hell, and the grave. For this reason, the Brazen Altar had the greatest preeminence in the Mosaic Tabernacle, for it was a picture of Jesus Christ's Eternal Sacrifice that was made in sinful man's behalf.

Without the Brazen Altar's great services of slaying and burning, there would not have been a Blood Foundation in the Courtyard of the Mosaic Tabernacle. Thus, under

the shadow and type, there would not have been a way for man ever to enter the Holy Place nor the Holy of Holies. In addition, without the Cross of Calvary, there would not be a Spiritual Foundation provided upon which Jesus Christ could build His precious Spiritual Stature in the penitent spirits and souls of men. Oh, precious Jesus, how great is Thy Love unto us!

The Brazen Altar, with its shittim wood and plates of brass, made a great piece of furniture that could endure the constant strain of being moved from place to place in the wilderness, as well as being impervious to the constant Fire that burned upon it.

Likewise, during His earthly journey, Jesus Christ could only have been our Saviour and Redeemer through His abundant dependence upon His Unbegotten Father, which teaches us that we must acknowledge our abundant poverty in order to depend abundantly on Jesus Christ as our Saviour.

The Prophet Isaiah revealed a picture of God's martyred, crucified Son, Jesus Christ, as He hung on the Cross of Calvary, where He became our Eternal Brazen Altar.

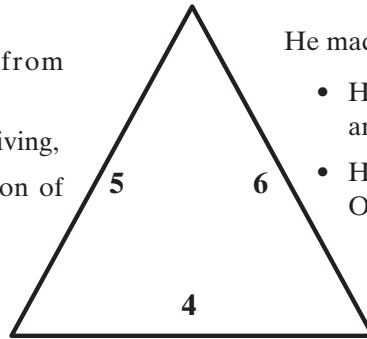
Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: **he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and **the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.** Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see *his* seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand (Isaiah 53:1-10).

Let us reflect on the *Image of the Seal of Jesus Christ's Sufferings on the Cross* as it is found in the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah.

(See diagram on following page.)

He was:

- despised,
- wounded,
- bruised,
- chastened for our sin,
- oppressed,
- afflicted,
- taken from prison and from Judgment,
- cut off from the land of the living,
- stricken for the transgression of the people.



He made:

- His grave with the wicked and the rich in Death;
- His Soul was made an Offering for sin.

He carried:

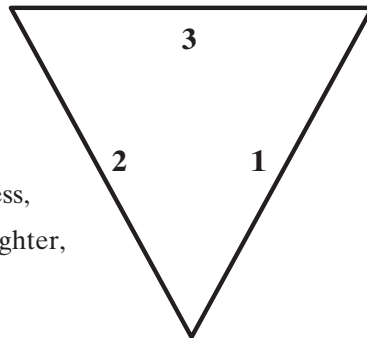
- our sorrows, and He transported our sorrows or sadness, regret, disappointments, and sufferings.

He bore:

- our griefs and our intense emotional pain.

He was:

- despised,
- rejected,
- scorned,
- refused as worthless and useless,
- brought as a Lamb to the slaughter,
- dumb before His shearers.



He had:

- no form nor comeliness;
- no beauty;
- no significance, and was held in contempt,

On the Cross of Calvary, Jesus Christ was:

- rejected,
- mocked,
- railed at,
- derided, and
- cried out against.

Jesus Christ's Cross is our Brazen Altar. His Cross was the most vile and repulsive of all things that ever existed because Jesus Christ suffered for all sinful mankind—from the three previous Creations and the present Creation⁶—as, on the Cross, He bore all mankind's:

- iniquities;
- transgressions;
- sins; and
- trespasses.

However, to all believers, the Cross of Jesus Christ is not repulsive; rather, it is the most:

- Holy;
- Precious;
- Powerful Salvation; and
- Most Glorious of all things!

Jesus Christ's Cross represents all of His total Sufferings that He endured—from His Birth to His Death on the Cross.

And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: (Ephesians 2:16).

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:2).

Jesus Christ's Cross is His entire Doctrine; He is all believers' Eternal Brazen Altar.

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God (I Corinthians 1:18).

But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world (Galatians 6:14).

All opposers of the Cross of Jesus Christ are His enemies.

⁶ A detailed study about the three previous Creations can be found in the book *The Missing Link Between the Genesis Creation and Scientific Findings*, pages 39-137, by B. R. Hicks (Jeffersonville, Indiana: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 1988).

(For many walk, of whom **I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:** (Philippians 3:18).

The Cross of Jesus Christ and His Crucifixion is the Eternal Salvation of all mankind.

For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, **lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect** (I Corinthians 1:17).

Jesus Christ is our Eternal, Living, Brazen Altar. The Infinite, Divine God provided His Eternal Brazen Altar as the place of His Eternal Salvation through Christ Jesus. Without our sins being put under the precious Blood of Jesus Christ, we can never enter into God's Heavenly Tabernacle to behold Jesus in all His Resurrected Glory and Beauty.

The Brazen Altar had four horns—one at each of its four corners. In the natural realm, horns are an animal's chief source of attack and defense that God has given them just for those purposes.

- **Horns Are Emblems of *God's* Power:**

The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and **the horn of my salvation,** and my high tower (Psalm 18:2).

And *his* brightness was as the light; **he had horns coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power** (Habakkuk 3:4).

- **Horns Are Emblems of *Christ's* Power:**

And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; (Luke 1:69).

And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and **in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes,** which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth (Revelation 5:6).

- **Horns Are an Emblem of *Ephraim's* Power.**

His glory *is like* the firstling of his bullock, and **his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim,** and they *are* the thousands of Manasseh (Deuteronomy 33:17).

- **Horns Are an Emblem of the *Power of the Wicked.***

Save me from the lion's mouth: for thou hast heard me from the horns of the unicorns (Psalm 22:21).

All the horns of the wicked also will I cut off; *but* the horns of the righteous shall be exalted (Psalm 75:10).

- **Horns Are an Emblem of the *Power of Kingdoms.***

I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn *were* eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things (Daniel 7:8).

And the ten horns out of this kingdom *are* ten kings *that* shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings (Daniel 7:24).

- **Horns Are an Emblem of the *Powers of Anti-Christians.***

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy (Revelation 13:1).

So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and **I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns** (Revelation 17:3).

And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, **and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns** (Revelation 17:7).

And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast (Revelation 17:12).

And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire (Revelation 17:16).

The Horns of the Lord Jesus Christ and His Salvation have done and *will do* all the following things for us:

- victoriously push against the Powers of Death and Hell;
- victoriously push open Heaven’s Door to God;
- victoriously push open the Door to the Resurrected Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ; and
- victoriously push off our self-life so that we can grow in His Spiritual Stature of Truth.

The Strength, Honour, Power, and Glory of Christ’s Horns enable true believers to find Spiritual Food so that they can eat and grow in Christ’s Spiritual Stature. In Addition, Christ’s All-powerful Horns enable believers to protect their spiritual Food for spiritual growth so that the enemy cannot steal the LORD’s precious Truth from their hearts.

The horns on the Brazen Altar were made of the same materials as the Brazen Altar itself—of shittim wood and, then, covered over with plates of brass. The horns were also ornaments and adornments to beautify the Brazen Altar.

The horns of the Brazen Altar prophesied of the LORD Jesus Christ, Who is coming to Earth on His Horse of Faith, Strength, Honour, Power, and Glory. Christ’s Faithful Obedience, Lowly Humility, Submissive Surrender, and Eternal Victory over Death, Hell, and the Grave are believers’ Eternal Salvation.

Adam the First lost his inheritance through his disobedience and was cast out of the LORD’s Garden or the New City. But the Last Adam, Jesus Christ, regained the inheritance for penitent spirits and souls by His docile Obedience to His Father’s Divine Headship. Consequently, Jesus Christ’s Blood, Sufferings and Agonies gleam forth to Victory as “Horns of Power.” It is these same “Horns of Victory” that enable us to conquer our fleshly rebellion. Without the Power of Jesus Christ’s “Horns of Submissive Obedience” to the Father’s Divine Headship, He could never have purchased our Eternal Salvation. How beautiful are Christ’s Victorious “Horns of Salvation”!

Christ’s Obedient “Horn of Power” made His Blood from Calvary’s Cross a Propitiation for man’s sins. The word *propitiation* means to regain and to win the favor and goodwill of another. When the Risen Christ carried His Resurrected Blood back to His Unbegotten Father, He regained the Father’s Divine Favor for penitent spirits and souls. This Moral Principle of Truth is the fulfillment of the type and shadow of the Atonement Blood that is found on the Mercy Seat and the Ark of the Covenant under the Old Covenant. The Blood on the Mercy Seat in the Mosaic Tabernacle was a temporal shadow and type of Jesus Christ’s Eternal Blood upon the Father’s Eternal Mercy Seat in Heaven. Jesus Christ’s Blood was appointed to be a Propitiation for sinful man so that repentant man might have Salvation.

The Apostles Paul and John bore witness of Christ’s “Propitiation by Blood.”

Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; (Romans 3:25).

Jesus Christ, our Brazen Altar, was sent forth from God to be a Propitiatory Sacrifice for fallen mankind, which was typified by the Atoning Blood on the Mercy Seat, upon which God's *kaw-bode* Glory abode. Since God's *kaw-bode* Glory abode on animal's blood, His *kaw-bode* Glory will abide eternally on the Resurrected Blood that is already mingled with the Father's Resurrection Glory. Therefore, all praise and performances that proceed from our New Man are acceptable to God.

The Apostle John also bore witness of the Power of Christ's Blood as a Propitiation for man's sins.

And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world (I John 2:2).

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins (I John 4:10).

Jesus Christ is man's Expiatory Sacrifice, Who was offered to God, our Judge, for all our offenses against His Divine Headship, Majesty, and His *Torah*-Truth. For all our iniquities, transgressions, sins, and trespasses, Jesus Christ is our:

- Saviour;
- Intercessor;
- Advocate;
- Mediator;
- Redeemer; and
- Propitiation.

The Risen Blood of Jesus Christ has bought us eternal favor with God. Therefore, we can grow up in the measure of the Fullness of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature. As a reward for our mature growth, we can go to the New City, the New Jerusalem, and live forever with the Son of God and His Unbegotten Father.

The Fire on the Brazen Altar came down from the Infinite, Divine LORD's Personal Presence.

And there came a fire out from before the LORD, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat: which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces (Leviticus 9:24).

When Aaron, the High Priest under the Old Covenant, lifted up his hands and blessed the people with the joyful good news that now Israel had a High Priest, the people were

filled with joyful gladness. Aaron was able to discharge his functions as a High Priest for the welfare of God's people; then, God's Divine Fire descended and devoured the sacrifice, denoting that Israel had found favor in God's Sight. As a result, they shouted and fell on their faces.

The Israelites had made a home for God's *Torah*-Truth and had offered their blood sacrifices, so God's Divine Fire descended upon the people's sacrifice, and the people gave themselves freely and happily to God.

When Aaron, the High Priest (a type of Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest), prayed, the Heavens were opened and God's Divine Fire came down upon the sacrifice.

Likewise, when Jesus Christ, our Eternal High Priest, prayed, the Heavens were opened.

Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that **Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased** (Luke 3:21,22).

In answer to Jesus' prayer, the Holy Ghost Dove came to give Jesus greater Power, and the Father's Voice came down to share His Infinite, Divine Pleasure and Delight in His Only Begotten Son.

The LORD's Divine Fire is His Source of revealing, disclosing, and manifesting Himself. For example, the LORD revealed Himself to Moses by His burning Flames of Light in the Fire that burned in the bush.

And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, **the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.** And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt (Exodus 3:2,3).

God opened up the Heavens and gave His Oral *Torah*-Law to Israel when He descended upon Mount Sinai in Fire.

And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly (Exodus 19:18).

Israel saw the Lightnings or Fire of the Law.

And all the people saw the thunderings, and **the lightnings**, and the noise of the trumpet, **and the mountain smoking:** and when the people saw *it*, they removed, and stood afar off (Exodus 20:18).

The Supreme, Sovereign LORD opened the Heavens to Isaiah so that He could see the LORD's Throne in Heaven.

In the year that king Uzziah died **I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up**, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of his glory. And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, **and the house was filled with smoke** (Isaiah 6:1-4).

The LORD opened the Heavens in the days of Ezekiel so that he could see the *Cherubim Chariot* that carries the Unbegotten Name of the LORD.

Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth *month*, in the fifth *day* of the month, as **I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God**. In the fifth *day* of the month, which *was* the fifth year of king Jehoiachin's captivity, The word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was there upon him. **And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire. Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures**. And this *was* their appearance; they had the likeness of a man (Ezekiel 1:1-5).

When the Apostle John was on the Isle of Patmos, God opened the Heavens and allowed John to see Jesus Christ's *Eyes of Fire*. Christ's *Eyes of Fire* are able to penetrate and to pierce every thought and feeling in man's *worker* heart and to generate fear and terror in the hearts of His adversaries.

His head and *his* hairs *were* white like wool, as white as snow; and **his eyes were as a flame of fire**; (Revelation 1:14).

In addition, Christ Jesus will show Himself to the world in a Flaming Fire at His Second Coming.

And to you who are troubled rest with us, when **the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ**: (II Thessalonians 1:7,8).

The LORD guided the children of Israel through the wilderness in a *Pillar of Fire*.

And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; **and by night in a pillar of fire**, to give them light; to go by day and night: (Exodus 13:21).

John the Baptist said,

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: **he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire**: (Matthew 3:11).

The Fire on the Brazen Altar displayed the Living, Fiery Presence of God among His People, which continually refreshed them.

The Fire of the LORD's Glory changes His people into His Image, from Glory to Glory.

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, **are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord** (II Corinthians 3:18).

As we look upon Jesus Christ in the Mirror of the LORD's Word, we will see the reflection of Him, which will change us by the reflection of His Glory-Fire found there. The LORD's Glory-Fire will burn away our image of prideful headship and leave the *kaw-bode* Glory of Christ's Eternal Headship. The Law of God's Divine Fire is that it always spreads itself.

Likewise, the Fire from the Brazen Altar spread itself throughout the Tabernacle: to where the Priest lit the sweet Incense on the Golden Altar; to where he lit the oil in the seven Lamps on the Golden Candlestick; and to where he lit the holders of frankincense on the Golden Table of Shewbread. The LORD's Divine Fire also spread into the Holy of Holies, when the High Priest carried his burning censor in there on the Day of Atonement.

The whole Stature of Jesus Christ's Stature of Truth is filled with His Divine Fire. The Presence of His Divine Fire is a witness that we are to grow up in the Measure of the Fullness of His Spiritual Stature. The absence of His Fire is a witness that we have let the Fire of Jesus Christ, our Brazen Altar, go out for lack of our putting *fuel* on the Fire.

Conclusion

The purpose of this book has been to show believing Christians God's blueprint for spiritual growth through the pattern of the Spiritual Stature of His Son as found in shadow and type in the Mosaic Tabernacle.

Furthermore, the whole Crown of the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ is for the support for His Father's Infinite, Divine Authority or Headship that demands obedience from all beings that He has created, which includes the entire world of inhabitants on planet Earth.

The Unbegotten Father is the originator of His Infinite, Divine Purposive Will and Master Plan; therefore, His Infinite, Divine Power demands obedience from all His created creatures.

The LORD's Infinite, Divine Intellect, Knowledge, and Character joins His Eternal Power in demanding that all His creatures obey His Commands. The Lord Jesus Christ used the complete Stature of His Spirit, Soul, and Body to obey His Father's Infinite, Divine Commands.

This book has shown the depiction of the Spiritual Stature of God's Son, which is sinful man's only pathway to Redemption. And since all growth is upward, whether natural or spiritual, the pattern for growth begins at the Feet—the Feet of Jesus Christ on the Cross of Calvary.

In the natural realm, the feet are used for standing, treading, and walking; they are the support of the body. This is also true in the spiritual realm, for Jesus Christ's Feet, in His Spiritual Stature, consists of His Blood, Fire, and Water that support His whole Body, Soul, and Spirit. In the Mosaic Tabernacle, the Brazen Altar of blood sacrifice and the Brazen Laver of the Waters for cleansing were a picture of Christ's Spiritual Feet and Legs that carried the High Priest from the Courtyard up to the Holy Place and on to the Most Holy Place.

Jesus' Feet, in His Mature Stature, enabled Him to walk by the sea, on the sea, and in the Temple as He shared His Father's Word, Work, and Will or Headship.

Jesus Christ enters into a believer's true, penitent heart and soul, causing the believer to grow up in Christ's Spiritual Stature so that he can support the Father's Holy Headship by standing on the sure Foundation of Blood, Fire, and Water and growing from His Feet up to His Head.

The Loins of Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature, pictured by the Brazen Laver, supported the only Way to His Father's Holy Name and Infinite, Divine Headship in the Holy of Holies, at the Ark and the Mercy Seat. The entire ministry of the Laver was to prepare the appointed Priests, in the Courtyard, to go into the Holy Place, and to prepare the High Priest to go into the Holy of Holies, once a year, to minister before God's Infinite, Divine Headship on the Mercy Seat.

The entire ministry of the five pieces of furniture in the Courtyard and the Holy Place, under the shadow and type, was for the preparation and support of the LORD's Headship in the Holy of Holies.

The Mature Stature of Jesus Christ obeyed all of His Father's Commands from His Holy Headship.

If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love (John 15:10).

From His Cradle to His Cross, while He was on planet Earth, the Full Stature of Jesus Christ kept His Father's Commandments that came from His Holy Headship.

Let us remember that God's whole Purposive Will in the Old Testament Mosaic Tabernacle, which was with them in the wilderness, was designed to teach God's true children about growing up into the mature Spiritual Stature of the Lord Jesus Christ. A *stature* refers to one's bodily height as well as to one's spiritual height.

God's Word commands us to grow in Grace and the Knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ, through the Milk and Meat of His Holy Word.

As newborn babes, **desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:** (I Peter 2:2).

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen (II Peter 3:18).

Growing encompasses the enlarging and the increasing of one's stature, whether spiritual or natural. Jesus has taught us that we cannot make ourselves grow by our own headship. For instance, Jesus Christ said that, in the natural realm, the lily in the field cannot grow by its own headship; it grows only by the Headship of its Creator.

Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: (Matthew 6:27,28).

The life of the lily begins under God's Divine Headship, as it is buried in the dark ground. Then, after it has fed and has drunk of God's provided nutrients, it takes root downward in God's Headship. But, in order to grow, the lily has to *choose* the humble, secret place where God places it.

Likewise, we, too, must learn to accept God's Divine Headship that commands us to feed on Christ's Humility Death. The Apostle Paul said that we are buried in Christ's Death.

Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4).

Jesus Christ's Death is the most humble place in which believers can feed and grow in His Spiritual Stature. The Apostle Paul testified that he died daily in Christ's Death.

I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, **I die daily** (I Corinthians 15:31).

The Apostle Paul died daily to his own wants, will, and way so that he could grow, enlarge, and increase in Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature.

Jesus Christ came to Earth as a small Babe so that He could grow up into a mature Body of a Man and take our place upon the Cross. As a result, He can experientially teach us how to grow up from a small Spiritual Stature to a mature Spiritual Stature in Him.

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him (Luke 2:40).

And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man (Luke 2:52).

Jesus' Stature of Growth, both physically and spiritually, fits with the LORD's precious Divine Name. Let us reflect on a descriptive diagram that shows this relationship.

II. First *hay*—Understanding Love Omnipotent

Jesus waxed strong in Spirit and in Strength. He was powerful in Character so that He could defend and resist all attacks of the enemy through His growth, within and without (Luke 2:40).

III. *vaw*—Knowledge Love Omniscient

Jesus increased in Wisdom and in Stature in His Father's Love (Luke 2:52).



IV. Second *hay*—Prudence Love Purposive Will

Jesus also increased in God's Favor, Kindness, and regard for everyone. He was filled with His Father's Goodwill, Favor, and Gratitude (Luke 2:52).

I. *yod*—Wisdom Love Omnipresent

Jesus, as a Babe, increased, enlarged, and multiplied in His Spirit, Soul, and Body. He increased in His Stature, both naturally and spiritually (Luke 2:40).

One always grows by eating the things that have been provided for him. There are two types of spiritual growth for a believer: one is the growth in Christ's Spiritual Body, within the Brotherhood, which is a Holy Temple of the LORD, and the other one is the individual believer's personal growth in Christ's Spiritual Stature as a part of His Bride.

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together** for an habitation of God through the Spirit (Ephesians 2:20-22).

The personal growth of a penitent spirit and soul in the Spiritual Stature of Jesus Christ takes place within the believer's *worker* heart.

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; **But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:** (Ephesians 4:11-15).

The LORD's Divine, Holy Word is true believers' constant Food that produces spiritual growth. God's Holy, Divine Word is for strengthening, confirming, and advancing His true believers in their spiritual growth in Christ's Stature of Truth.

The LORD does not desire for us to remain babes, either naturally or spiritually. If we do, then, spiritually, we will:

- be weak in faith;
- be inconstant in our choices;
- yield to the pull of our carnal self that draws us to choose people and things over and above our choosing Jesus Christ;
- comply with the temporal choices of others.

The LORD's Eternal Desire is for us always to choose Jesus Christ's Spiritual Stature of Truth because it will cause us to grow to higher levels of Truth in Him. Then, we will become spiritually joined to Jesus Christ in an Eternal Spiritual Relationship in the New City and abide on the top of the Heavenly Mount Zion.

May the Gracious LORD give us a true desire to seek Jesus Christ's Holy Headship. He is our True Example, Who is and always has been obedient to His Unbegotten Father's Infinite, Divine Headship! To God be all the Glory!

Christ's Eternal Bride will learn always to stand on the Living Waters of God's Infinite, Divine Headship. The LORD gave the Living Waters of His Infinite, Divine Headship for the world to stand upon.

The earth *is* the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. **For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods** (Psalm 24:1,2).

The whole world of Creation rests upon the supporting Waters of God's Eternal Headship. In His earthly journey, the reason that Jesus walked on the waters was to display that He *always* walked upon His Father's Holy Headship in all things.

And in the fourth watch of the night **Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea**. And when **the disciples saw him walking on the sea**, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid (Matthew 14:25-27).

The LORD God is the Supreme, Sovereign Authority over all Creation and all things. Under the shadow and type, the whole structure of the Mosaic Tabernacle: the Courtyard, the Holy Place, and the Holy of Holies, supported the LORD's Holy Headship where it resided above the Mercy Seat in the Holy of Holies. Likewise, the whole purpose of Jesus Christ's Full Mature Stature is always for the purpose of supporting His Father's Infinite, Divine Headship over all things.

May the LORD Jesus Christ bless this book by helping those souls who seek to grow up into His Full Spiritual Stature to find the Heavenly Father's Unbegotten, Infinite, Divine Headship that will lead them to His Eternal Throne in the New City, where they will live forever in the Presence of the Father, the Holy Ghost, and His Son, our lovely LORD Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and our Heavenly Bridegroom.

