

## ***The Altar of Incense***

**Exodus 30:1-10**

**October 18, 2015**

### Main Point:

As seen in the altar of incense, God accepts and desires your prayers through Jesus Christ; therefore, commit yourself to the privilege of prayer.

1. The altar of incense represented the prayers of the people being offered up to God.
2. The altar of incense teaches you that God accepts your prayers.
3. The altar of incense teaches you that God desires your prayers.
4. The altar of incense teaches you that this is only because of Christ's sacrifice and intercession for you.
5. Respond to the altar of incense by committing yourself to the privilege of prayer.

**Psalm 141:1-2** <sup>1</sup> LORD, I cry out to You; Make haste to me! Give ear to my voice when I cry out to You. <sup>2</sup> Let my prayer be set before You as incense ... (NKJV)

**Luke 1:8-10** <sup>8</sup> So it was, that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division, <sup>9</sup> according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. <sup>10</sup> And the whole multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense. (NKJV)

**Revelation 5:8** <sup>8</sup> Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. (NKJV)

**1 Peter 3:12** <sup>12</sup> For the eyes of the LORD *are* on the righteous, And His ears *are open* to their prayers ... (NKJV)

**Daniel Hyde** “The altar of incense gives us a glimpse into His thoughts, attitudes, and desires toward us, His people. Put into its greatest context, the God who is eternally self-sufficient and who needs nothing beyond Himself ... proclaims to us in His Word that He actually desires – indeed, He is eager – to hear us cry out to Him.”

**Proverbs 15:8** <sup>8</sup> The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination to the LORD, But the prayer of the upright *is* His delight. (NKJV)

**Philip Ryken** “The connection between the two altars served as a daily reminder that the life of prayer depends on having a sacrifice for sin. What secures a place for us before the throne of God’s grace is the atoning blood that was shed for our sins.”

**Hebrews 7:25** <sup>25</sup> Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. (NKJV)

**Hebrews 10:19-22** <sup>19</sup> Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, <sup>21</sup> and *having* a High Priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith ... (NKJV)

**Martyn Lloyd-Jones** “Everything we do in the Christian life is easier than prayer.”

**1 Thessalonians 5:17** <sup>17</sup> Pray without ceasing, (NKJV)

## The Altar of Incense

The wooden altar, overlaid with pure gold (Ex. 30:1–10; 37:25–28), was 3 feet high, and 1.5 feet long and wide (1 m x 0.5 m x 0.5 m). It stood in the Holy Place before the veil which separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place. It was transported by means of wooden poles which were overlaid with gold and inserted through rings attached to the sides of the altar.



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