

1. The Design of the Altar and Courtyard (27:1-19)
 - a. The Altar (27:1-8; 29:12; 1 Kings 1:50-51, 2:28)
 - b. The Courtyard (27:9-19)
2. The Spiritual Significance of the Altar and Courtyard and Their Fulfillment in Christ
 - a. The Courtyard
 1. A Place for Drawing Near to God in Worship (Ps 65:3-4; 84:1-4, 10; 96:8-9; 100:4)
 2. A Boundary to Separate a Holy Place from the Ordinary (19:17; 24:1-2)
 3. Fulfillment in Christ (Eph 2:14; Rom 10:11-13; John 4:21-24)
 - b. The Altar
 1. Blood, Death, and Fire to Atonement for Sin (Lev 1-5; 16; 17:11; Rom 6:23; Heb 9:22; Lev 6:12-13; Heb 10:4)
 2. Christ's Sacrifice for Us (Rom 3:23-25; Heb 9:24-26; 10:14; 10:18)

“In the same way that God established a boundary around Mount Sinai to prevent the people from approaching him (19:12–13, 21–24), so too the courtyard fence prevents the Israelites from approaching God inadvertently. As Exodus regularly emphasizes, only those who are holy can be in God’s presence; to approach God otherwise has fatal consequences.” —T. Desmond Alexander

“It was at the Brazen-altar that the holiness and righteousness of God were displayed: His hatred of sin, and His justice in punishing it.” —A. W. Pink

“There it stood: ever smoking, ever blood-stained, ever open to any guilty Hebrew that might wish to approach it. The sinner, having forfeited his life by sin, another life—an innocent life—must be given in his stead.” —A. W. Pink

Reflection Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

1. What is the significance of the courtyard? The altar?
2. How the altar and the courtyard point forward to Christ?
3. How can Christians draw near to God’s presence? What is required to draw near to God today?