

## ***The Altar of Burnt Offering***

**Exodus 27:1-8**

**August 2, 2015**

### Main Point:

The altar of burnt offering pictures for us the cross of Christ, where God's justice and mercy ultimately came together for the salvation of sinners; therefore, since no more sacrifice for sin is needed, rest in the perfect work of the Savior.

1. Upon entering the Tabernacle complex, the first thing you would see is the altar of burnt offering.

2. The altar of burnt offering showed the Israelites that God's justice must be satisfied for their sins.

3. The altar of burnt offering showed the Israelites God's provision for the forgiveness of their sins.

4. The altar of burnt offering pictures for us the cross of Christ, where God's justice and mercy ultimately came together for the salvation of sinners.

**Leviticus 6:13** <sup>13</sup> `A fire shall always be burning on the altar; it shall never go out. (NKJV)

**Deuteronomy 4:24** <sup>24</sup> "For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God. (NKJV)

**Philip Ryken** "The only way to approach this righteous, holy God was through a blood sacrifice for sin. This is what God's justice requires, 'for the wages of sin is death' (Rom. 6:23a), and 'without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness' (Heb. 9:22)."

**A.W. Pink** "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."

**Leviticus 1:3** <sup>3</sup> "If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer a male without blemish. He shall bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the LORD. (ESV)

**Hebrews 10:1, 4** <sup>1</sup> For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect ... <sup>4</sup> For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins. (NKJV)

**Hebrews 10:10** <sup>10</sup> ... We have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*. (NKJV)

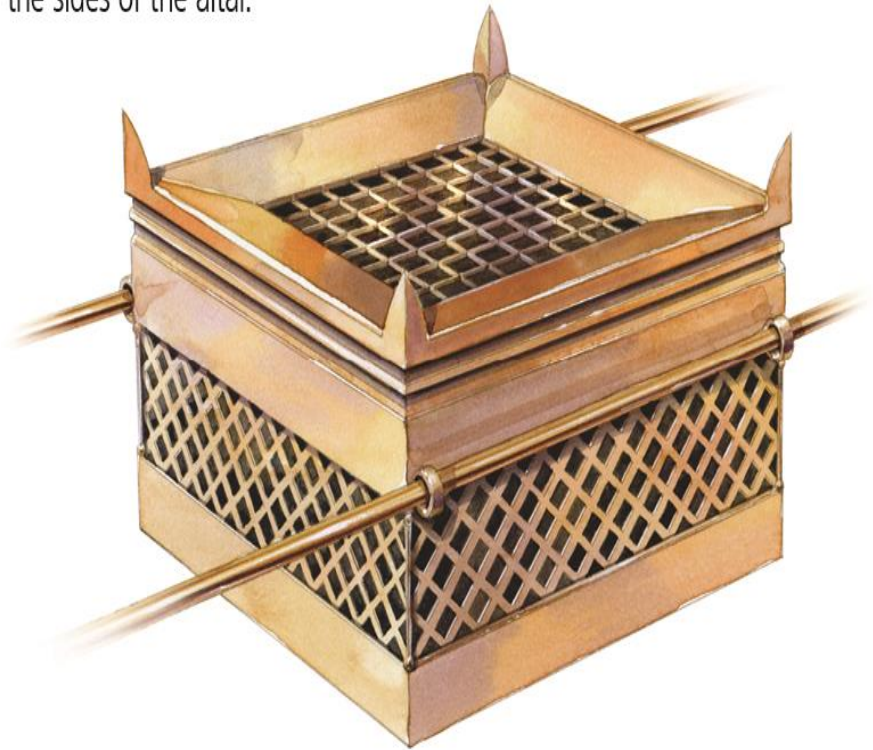
**John Owen** "The altar which we now have is Christ alone, and his sacrifice. For he was both priest, altar, and sacrifice, all in himself."

**A. W. Pink** "There it stood: ever smoking, ever blood-stained, ever open to any guilty Hebrew that might wish to approach it."

**Hebrews 10:18** <sup>18</sup> Now where there is remission of these, *there is* no longer an offering for sin. (NKJV)

# The Bronze Altar

The bronze altar for burnt offerings (Ex. 27:1–8; 38:1–7) stood in the outer courtyard with its poles removed. It was a hollow wooden box, overlaid with bronze, measuring 4.5 feet high and 7.5 feet long and wide (1.4 m x 2.3 m x 2.3 m). There was a bronze grating on the top and on the sides of the altar.



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### THE TABERNACLE AND COURT

The tabernacle was a portable temple—a “tent of meeting”—within a movable courtyard. It was made of gold, silver, and bronze, overlaid with precious stones and jewels on Mount Sinai, and was assembled in the desert as Moses led the Israelites from Egypt to the Promised Land. For an enlargement of the tent itself, see p. 188. The adjacent courtyard was 150 feet (46 m) long and 75 feet (23 m) wide, standing 17.50 square feet (1.649 square meters).

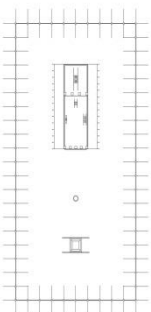
The bronze structure was covered by four layers of skins and hair (Ex. 26:13–14).

The Most Holy Place of the tabernacle tent was a 15-foot (4.6 m) cube, containing the golden table of showbread and the golden lampstand. It was here that the high priest would descend to meet with his people in a cloud of incense (Ex. 30:10).

The Holy Place of the tabernacle tent was 30 feet (9.1 m) long, 15 feet (4.6 m) wide, and 15 feet (4.6 m) high. It housed the golden table of showbread, the golden lampstand, and the golden altar of incense (Ex. 30:1–10; 37:23–29).

The wall separating the Holy Place from the tabernacle courtyard was similar to the wall separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place. The wall were not embedded on it (Ex. 26:36–37). It hung on the golden plates.

The bronze altar, also known as the altar of burnt offerings (Ex. 27:1–8; 38:1–7), was made from a hollow wooden box (7.5 feet/2.3 m long and wide, and 4.5 feet/1.4 m high), overlaid with bronze. It had four bronze poles, one on each side, overlaid by rings of silver plates on its joining through the wilderness.



Tabernacle and Court Architectural Plan

The entire tabernacle tent was 45 feet (14 m) long, 15 feet (4.6 m) wide, and 15 feet (4.6 m) high. It was a wooden skeletal structure, overlaid with gold, with no gold roof or front wall (Ex. 26:15–29).

The bronze structure was overlaid with rings of silver plates (Ex. 26:36–37).

The bronze basin with its stand was overlaid with rings of silver plates (Ex. 30:18–19; 38:8).

The surrounding hangings, fine twisted linen curtains connected to pillars and stabilized by gold ropes and rings, stood about 7.5 feet (2.3 m) high. The 40 wooden poles were overlaid with gold and silver sockets, and the silver sockets were overlaid with gold (Ex. 27:9–19; 38:9–17).

The 30-foot (9.1 m)-wide gilded bronze table of showbread was overlaid with a screen made from blue, purple, and scarlet dyed jennet that were woven with fine violet linen (Ex. 30:18–20).

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