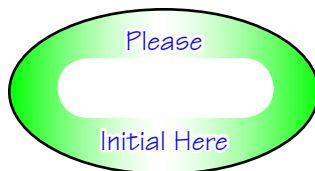


Coloring Page



The children of Israel offered vessels of silver and gold for the building of the tabernacle for God.

Parent's Initials:



PK1

The Travels of the Chosen Children of Israel

- Lesson Six -

God's Dwelling Place

I. Overview.

After God gave the ten commandments to the people of Israel, He began to speak to them about His desire for a dwelling place. The ten commandments helped Israel realize what kind of God He was. Now God was telling them about the tabernacle that He desired for them to build so that He could live among them and have much fellowship with them.



The tabernacle of God was a large tent with many items of furniture.

God gave Moses a detailed pattern for a tabernacle (a large tent) with many items of furniture. The tabernacle was to become the center of life for the children of Israel. Through the tabernacle with all its furnishings and all its services, the children of Israel would serve and enjoy God. God desired to live among His people and have lots of fellowship with them. The tabernacle is actually a picture. The church today is the reality of the picture.

II. Memory Verse.

“...as God said... I will be their God and they will be My people.”

(2 Cor. 6:16b)

III. Lesson.

God gave Moses a detailed plan for the dwelling place that He desired to have among His people Israel. Each one among them was to provide materials and help with the building of the tabernacle. The tabernacle was a large tent with three main sections, each with its particular furnishings.

The Sections of the Tabernacle and Its Furnishings

The outermost section of the tabernacle was called the Outer Court. In the Outer Court was the Altar of Burnt Offering and the Laver. The Altar of Burnt Offering was where the children of Israel offered animal sacrifices with the shedding of blood. The animal sacrifices were a picture of the Lord Jesus shedding His blood on the cross for our redemption and forgiveness. The Laver was a place for washing. This is a picture of how we are washed in the water of the word.



The Showbread Table with its twelve loaves of bread.

The second section of the tabernacle was called the Holy Place. It was more inward than the Outer Court. In the Holy Place were the Showbread Table where twelve loaves of bread were displayed, the Lampstand for light and the Incense Altar for offering fragrant incense to God.

The Showbread Table indicates our feeding on God's word within His house. The lampstand indicates the spiritual enlightenment that results from feeding on God's word. The Incense Altar indicates our prayer based on the enlightenment. These items are more experiential. We can experience Christ in these ways in Gods' house, the church.

The Holiest Place - The Holy of Holies

The Holy of Holies was the innermost part of the tabernacle. In the Holy of Holies was the Ark of the Testimony. The Ark was essentially a beautifully decorated container. Upon the Ark were the mercy seat (the cover of the Ark) and the Cherubim of Glory. Within the Ark were the two tablets of stone containing the ten commandments, a golden pot of manna and Aaron's rod that budded. The Ark is actually a picture of Christ, within Whom is the law of God (the law of life), the bread of life and the resurrection life. All these things were shown through the tabernacle. What a rich dwelling place God desires to have among His people.

--- Questions for Discussion ---

1. What was the tabernacle?

2. What were the three main sections of the tabernacle called?

3. What items of furniture were in the Holy Place?"

4. What was indicated by the Showbread Table?

