

INSIDE THE TABERNACLE

TEXT: EXODUS: 27:1-8

LESSON TWO - THE BRAZEN ALTAR

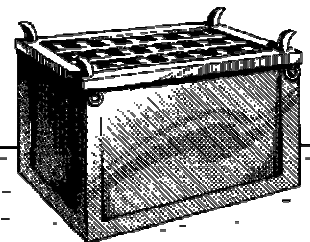
INTRODUCTION: The Tabernacle stood in the center of the camp with the 12 tribes camped around it. From their tents the Israelites could see the visible presence of God's glory hovering over the Tabernacle, assuring them of his presence. Come let us enter the court and see what was involved with the ministry of the Brazen Altar.

THE PLAN OF THE BRAZEN ALTAR

1. The Brazen Altar was a **simple** box made out of shittim (acacia) wood.
 - ✓ Shittim wood was the only wood that could **grow** in the desert; it was called 'incorruptible, indestructible' wood because it was so enduring.
 - ✓ Jesus Christ withstood the fire of the crucifixion, and the decaying effect of the **grave**.
2. The Brazen Altar was overlaid with **brass**.
 - ✓ The Brazen Altar was covered with brass so it could endure the **heat** of the fire.
 - ✓ Brass refers to **judgment**, and it illustrates the deity of Jesus, and as the Son of God that he could endure the awful heat of God's judgment on sin.
3. The Brazen Altar had **4** horns pointing upward and outward on each corner.
 - ✓ The horns were used to **tie** down the sacrifice upon the altar.
 - ✓ The animals were tied to the horns because they were not a **willing** sacrifice.
 - ✓ Jesus was a willing sacrifice because **love** bound Jesus to the cross, not nails.
4. The Brazen Altar was **7 1/2** feet squared and **4 1/2** feet tall.
 - ✓ The Brazen Altar was the largest vessel (sacrifice makes the rest possible). The altar was **large** enough to contain the rest.
5. The Brazen Altar had a **brass** grate that made up the center of the altar.

NOTES:

In Isaiah 53:2, the Bible says that Jesus came from "a root out of dry ground."



The Brazen Altar

INSIDE THE TABERNACLE

6. The Brazen Altar had brass **rings** fastened at each corner.

THE POSITION OF THE BRAZEN ALTAR

1. The Brazen Altar was positioned at the **entrance** of the Tabernacle.
 - ✓ The position of the Brazen Altar made it **unavoidable**.
 - Immediately upon entering the Tabernacle, man is confronted with his **need** to have a sacrifice made in order to approach God.
 - Before the Priest could pass to the Tabernacle, he had to offer a **blood** sacrifice.
 - Approaching the Tabernacle without a proper sacrifice meant certain **death**.
 - ✓ The position of the Brazen Altar made it **accessible**.
 - The Brazen Altar was a demonstration of the holiness of God and his willingness to accept the prescribed sacrifice to enable a **relationship** with Him.
 - The Brazen Altar was always **available** to the guilty Israelites so they could atone for their sin.

When the priest walked into the courtyard the first thing they saw was the price that was paid for him.

THE PURPOSE OF THE BRAZEN ALTAR

1. The Brazen Altar was provided by God for sacrifice. Without sacrifice, there could be no atonement for **sin**.
 - ✓ In the days of the Tabernacle, the Israelites were **restored** to right fellowship with God by offering blood atonement on the altar.
 - ✓ At the Brazen Altar, an **innocent** lamb suffered the judgment of the guilty.
 - ✓ Inside the Brazen Altar, was a supernatural **fire** kindled by God and was to never be put out.
 - ✓ The word altar means **high** place. The sacrifice had to be lifted up on the elevated altar.

The continual fire had a twofold meaning. It proclaimed God's perfect justice, and it was symbolic of his readiness to receive the offering and pardon the sinner.

"...as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the son of man be lifted up."
John 3:14