

Sermon Notes

02/01/26

9 “Make a courtyard for the tabernacle. The south side shall be a hundred cubits long and is to have curtains of finely twisted linen, 10 with twenty posts and twenty bronze bases and with silver hooks and bands on the posts. 11 The north side shall also be a hundred cubits long and is to have curtains, with twenty posts and twenty bronze bases and with silver hooks and bands on the posts.

12 “The west end of the courtyard shall be fifty cubits wide and have curtains, with ten posts and ten bases. 13 On the east end, toward the sunrise, the courtyard shall also be fifty cubits wide. 14 Curtains fifteen cubits long are to be on one side of the entrance, with three posts and three bases, 15 and curtains fifteen cubits long are to be on the other side, with three posts and three bases.

16 “For the entrance to the courtyard, provide a curtain twenty cubits long, of blue, purple and scarlet yarn and finely twisted linen—the work of an embroiderer—with four posts and four bases. 17 All the posts around the courtyard are to have silver bands and hooks, and bronze bases. 18 The courtyard shall be a hundred cubits long and fifty cubits wide, with curtains of finely twisted linen five cubits high, and with bronze bases. 19 All the other articles used in the service of the tabernacle, whatever their function, including all the tent pegs for it and those for the courtyard, are to be of bronze. Exodus 27:9-19

1. Courtyard:

God made room for the people to draw near, even for a little while, knowing they couldn't stay indefinitely. The sacrifices in the courtyard gave them _____ access to God's presence.

The courtyard also creates space that _____ as well as _____.

- “Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts! We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.” (Psalm 65:4 NIV)
- “My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord... Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere.” (Psalm 84:2, 10 NIV)
- “Planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of our God.” (Psalm 92:13 NIV)
- “Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.” (Psalm 100:4 NIV)
- “You who minister in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God, praise the Lord!” (Psalm 135:2 NIV)

There is something about this space that is more than just functional – it was _____.

2. North and South Sides:

a. Direction

The entrance to the tabernacle is on the same side as the entrance to the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3, reminding us of the tabernacle's purpose.

b. Dimensions:

100 cubits long and 5 cubits tall.
As you looked from anywhere in the camp, you could see the walls of the outer courts, but you could also see the _____.

c. Material:

20 posts on each side with 20 bronze bases.

Bands=fence rail.

The curtains will be made of finely twisted linen.

3. West and East ends:

a. West:

50 cubits wide, with 10 posts.

b. East: Split up into 3 sections.

4. Bronze

Every point of contact that holds the holy space together—boards, posts, curtains—is secured with bronze.

5. Legend:

Bronze: The metal of judgement as well as Holiness.

3: Completeness and divine perfection. 5: Fullness of grace.

15: Deliverance, victory, and fulfillment in God's timing.

20: Completeness in preparation 50: Restoration, release, and freedom

100: Complete fulfillment of God's plan or the full measure of blessing.

Theophanies, Christophanies, and Typologies

The outer courts show us what He accomplishes.

⁴⁹ Then one of them, named Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, spoke up, “You know nothing at all! ⁵⁰ You do not realize that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish.” ⁵¹ He did not say this on his own, but as high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the Jewish nation, ⁵² and not only for that nation but also for the scattered children of God, to bring them together and make them one. John 11:49-52

The outer court had a purpose—it _____ the people of God into _____.

With each entrance we've seen, there is a deeper experience of _____ —not a different God, and not a different Savior, but a fuller _____ in the relationship God offers.

There isn't a new ingredient at each stage. It's still Jesus—the righteous and sinless One, the King of all creation, the One who shed His blood for us.

Life

God never tells us how far the altar is from the tent, or how long it should take to move from one place to another.

If God had given distances, we might assume that closeness to Him could be _____ —how far we've gone, how fast we've progressed, or how much _____ it should take to reach the next level.

Holiness isn't only about where God dwells—it's about how _____ with Him and with one another.

He designed a courtyard that taught His people how to _____ Him, how to _____ before Him, and how to _____ in the presence of a holy God.

God is not in a hurry to move us past _____, because we learn to love Him as we learn to worship _____ His people.

When you realize you're running low on life, it helps to remember the courts—a place God provided where His people could gather, where sacrifice could instruct and encourage others, where they could _____, _____, and _____ to what God was saying.

What we need isn't to rush forward, but to slow down and spend some time here—like the outer courts. God is present. He desires to deal with our sin, not to shame us, but to heal us and draw us closer.