

Sermon Notes

03/08/26

“Make an altar of acacia wood for burning incense. ² It is to be square, a cubit long and a cubit wide, and two cubits high—its horns of one piece with it. ³ Overlay the top and all the sides and the horns with pure gold, and make a gold molding around it. ⁴ Make two gold rings for the altar below the molding—two on each of the opposite sides—to hold the poles used to carry it. ⁵ Make the poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. ⁶ Put the altar in front of the curtain that shields the ark of the covenant law—before the atonement cover that is over the tablets of the covenant law—where I will meet with you.

⁷ “Aaron must burn fragrant incense on the altar every morning when he tends the lamps. ⁸ He must burn incense again when he lights the lamps at twilight so incense will burn regularly before the Lord for the generations to come. ⁹ Do not offer on this altar any other incense or any burnt offering or grain offering, and do not pour a drink offering on it. ¹⁰ Once a year Aaron shall make atonement on its horns. This annual atonement must be made with the blood of the atoning sin offering for the generations to come. It is most holy to the Lord.” Exodus 30:1-10

1. IT IS MOST HOLY TO THE LORD:

Holy of Holies to _____ . This altar is of extreme importance.

a. Square 1X1 cubit and 2 cubits tall, made of acacia wood, with horns:

Horns on an animal represent that animal’s _____ and ability to _____, so when horns appear on an altar, it speaks to the power and authority that that altar carries.

b. Overlaid with pure gold:

God’s glory, _____, and divine _____.

c. Gold rings:

It is gold, not pure gold, and it is carried with poles because when holy things are placed in human hands, God provides a way for _____ to approach carefully and reverently.

d. Placement:

The _____ to God’s presence without being in the Holy of Holies, and yet it is literally described as holy holies.

2. Incense and the lampstand:

It is always in connection with the _____.

3. Don’t confuse this altar with the other:

This altar is not for making _____, only for _____.

Theophanies, Christophanies, and Typologies

The incense altar was about ongoing priestly ministry.

- Every morning.
- Every evening.
- Continual fragrance _____.

²³ Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; ²⁴ but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. Hebrews 7:23-25

But here is the awesome news:

- His intercession is not repeated sacrifice.
- It is the perpetual presentation of a _____ sacrifice.
- The altar of incense _____ to a Priest who would never die,
- Whose ministry would never _____,
- Whose fragrance would never _____,
- Whose intercession would never _____.
- Your failures do not silence heaven.
- Your weakness does not _____ your access.
- Your prayers are _____ by His priesthood.

Life

The life that Jesus offers us in light of the altar comes through your _____.

His intercession is not detached from His _____ - It is lit by it.

And when we bring our prayers — our intercessions, our burdens, our weakness — they are not ignited by your personal purity or your efforts.

They are _____ in the fire of a completed sacrifice.
That is why the altar _____ into us.

Prayer does not give life to Christ's intercession.

His intercession gives life to _____.
We do not breathe life into the altar.
The altar _____ into us.

Right now, Jesus is standing before the Father for you.

Your _____ is before Him.
Your _____ is before Him.
Your _____ is before Him.
And He is speaking — not condemnation — but _____.