

Cleansing the Sanctuary (Part 1)

From the Series

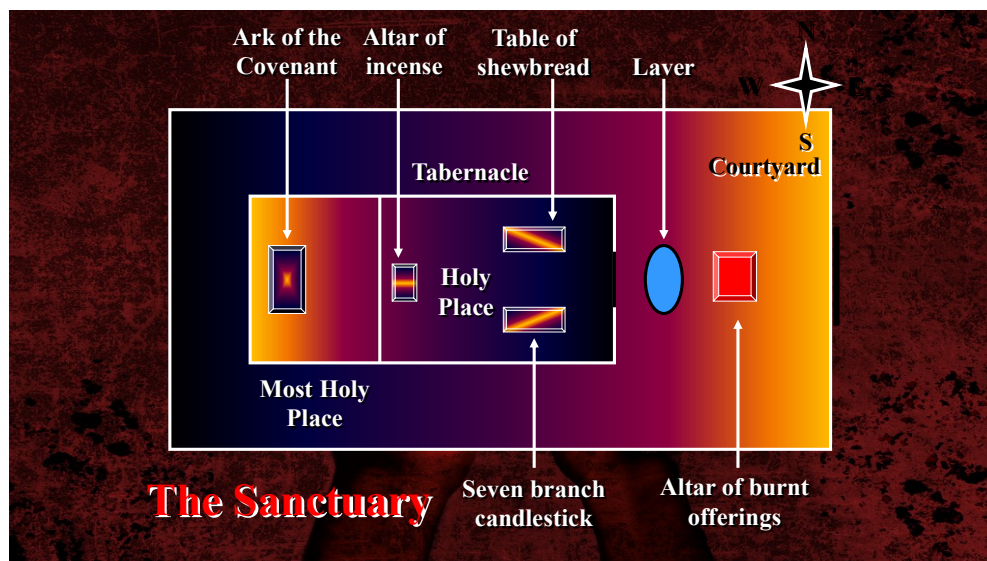
“The Sanctuary: God’s Plan for Your Lives”

Guiding Passage: **Exodus 25:8–9 (NASB95)** — **8** “Let them *construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them.* **9** “According to *all that I am going to show you*, as the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furniture, just so you shall construct it.

Scripture Reading: **Hebrews 9:8–10 (NASB95)** — **8** The Holy Spirit is signifying this, that the way into the holy place has not yet been disclosed while the outer tabernacle is still standing, **9** which is a symbol for the present time. Accordingly both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make the worshiper perfect in conscience, **10** since they relate only to food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until a time of reformation.

Christology and Ecclesiology

Jesus is the Door – He has given us the keys
Jesus is the Altar that Sanctifies – We must bear our cross
Jesus is the Lamb – We are His lambs
Jesus is our High Priest – We are Priests
Jesus was the Baptizer – Commissions us to baptize
Jesus is our Food and Drink – Rivers of Living Water flow
Jesus is the Light – We are the light
Jesus is the Incense – We are His fragrance
Jesus is the Veil – We have access to the Holy of Holies
Jesus is the Mercy Seat – We have passed from death to life.



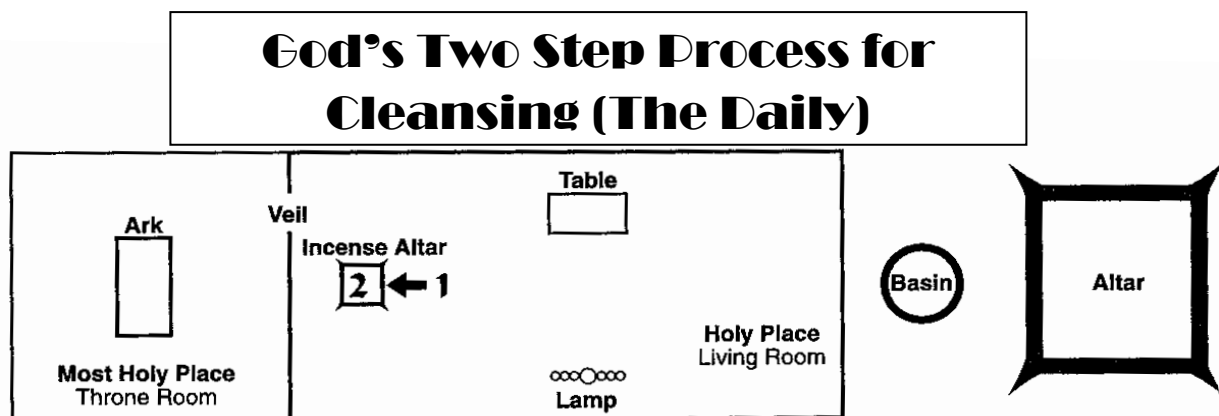
The Daily Versus Once a Year

Hebrews 9:6–7 (NASB95) — 6 Now when these things have been so prepared, *the priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle performing the divine worship*, 7 but *into the second, only the high priest enters once a year, not without taking blood*, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance.

The Daily Application of Blood

Leviticus 3:2 (NASB95) — 2 ‘He shall lay his hand on the head of his offering and slay it at the doorway of the tent of meeting, and Aaron’s sons *the priests shall sprinkle the blood around on the altar*.

Leviticus 4:6 (NASB95) —6 and *the priest shall dip his finger in the blood and sprinkle some of the blood seven times before the Lord, in front of the veil of the sanctuary*.



God’s Two Step Process for Cleansing (The Daily)

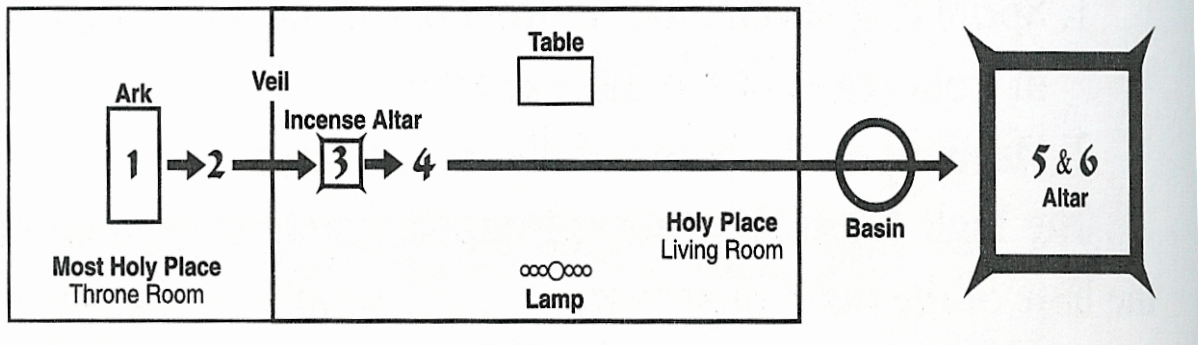
1. Sprinkling blood around the altar,
2. Sprinkling seven times in front of the inner veil, that is, in front of the incense altar.
3. Daubing on the horns of the incense altar.

The Day of Atonement

Leviticus 16:14–15 (NASB95) — 14 “Moreover, *he shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the mercy seat on the east side; also in front of the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times*. 15 “Then he shall *slaughter the goat of the sin offering which is for the people, and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat*.

Leviticus 16:19-20 (NASB95) — 19 “With his finger *he shall sprinkle some of the blood on it seven times and cleanse it, and from the impurities of the sons of Israel consecrate it*. 20 “When he finishes *atonement for the holy place and the tent of meeting and the altar*, he shall offer the live goat.

God's Two Step Process for Cleansing (The Yearly)



God's Two Step Process for Cleansing (The Yearly)

1. Sprinkling once on the lid of the ark.
2. Sprinkling seven times in front of the ark's lid.
3. Daubing on the horns of the incense altar.
4. Sprinkling seven times in front of the veil, that is, in front of the incense altar.
5. Daubing on the horns of the outer altar.
6. Sprinkling seven times on the outer altar.

The Daily Vs. The Yearly

The application of blood during the daily reveals a movement towards the Mercy Seat. The blood is sprinkled around the Bronze Altar in the courtyard and then sprinkled in the Holy Place. Remembering that the blood is Jesus' blood, therefore the daily represents Jesus' work in applying the merits of his life to our sinful records.

The application of blood during the yearly (Day of Atonement) shows a movement out of the Sanctuary. The blood is first applied around the Mercy Seat and finishes at the Bronze Altar. It appears that Jesus' work exemplified by the Day of Atonement represents a final disposition of sin. The sins that had been forgiven during the daily, were now transferred out of the sanctuary in the yearly.

Clean on the Day of Atonement

Leviticus 16:29–30 (NASB95) — 29 “This shall be a permanent statute for you: in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall humble your souls and not do any work, whether the native, or the alien who sojourns among you; **30** for it is on this day that **atonement shall be made for you to cleanse you; you will be clean from all your sins before the Lord.**

What the Shadow Could Not Do . . .

Hebrews 10:1–4 (NASB95) — 1 For *the Law*, since it *has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never*, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, *make perfect those who draw near.* **2** Otherwise, would they not have

ceased to be offered, *because the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have had consciousness of sins?* **4** But in those sacrifices there is *a reminder of sins year by year.* **4** For *it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.*

Hebrews 9:9 (NASB95) — **9** which is a symbol for the present time. Accordingly *both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make the worshiper perfect in conscience,*

Making Us Perfect in Conscience?

Hebrews 9:9 says that the gifts and sacrifices “cannot make.” In the original language the root word for “cannot make” is dunamis which is the word from which we get dynamite. Therefore, the gifts and sacrifices in the earthly sanctuary did not have enough dynamite power to make the person offering the gift perfect in conscience.

Now the word translated as perfect has two related concepts the first is complete, the second is mature. Putting these concepts together “the gifts and sacrifices” of the earthly sanctuary did not have enough explosive power to make us complete or mature. And this lack of completeness or maturity is in the area of conscience.

What Is Conscience?

suneidesis (συνείδησις, 4893), lit., “*a knowing with*” (sun, “with,” oida, “to know”), i.e., “*a co-knowledge (with oneself)*, the witness borne to one’s conduct by conscience, *that faculty by which we apprehend the will of God, as that which is designed to govern our lives*”;

1 Corinthians 2:11 (NASB95) — **11** For who among men *knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him?* Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

Note: Conscience is the sharing of the knowledge that we have with ourselves with another person. Therefore, our consciences are pricked, our consciences bother us when the knowledge of ourselves does not comport with the knowledge we share with others.

The First Sin

Genesis 3:6–7 (NASB95) — **6** When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate. **7** *Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.*

Who Are You Sharing Knowledge With?

Genesis 3:9–11 (NASB95) — **9** Then the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” **10** He said, “I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.” **11** And He said, “*Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?*”

God Pricks Adam and Eve's Conscience

Genesis 3:21 (NASB95) — **21** *The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.*

What Only His Blood Can Do . . .

Hebrews 9:13–14 (NASB95) — **13** For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled *sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh*, **14** how much more will *the blood of Christ*, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, *cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

Promise to Those Who Share Knowledge with . . .

Hebrews 9:15 (NASB95) — **15** For this reason *He is the mediator of a new covenant*, so that, *since a death has taken place* for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, *those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.*

The New Covenant Is to Share Knowledge with

Hebrews 10:16–18 (NASB95) — **16** “This is *the covenant* that I will make with them After those days, says the Lord: *I will put My laws upon their heart, And on their mind I will write them,*” He then says, **17** “And *their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.*” **18** Now *where there is forgiveness* of these things, there is *no longer any offering for sin.*

Jesus Died to Get Us Through the Judgment

Hebrews 9:27–28 (NASB95) — **27** And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and *after this comes judgment*, **28** so *Christ* also, having been *offered once to bear the sins of many*, will appear *a second time for salvation* without reference to sin, *to those who eagerly await Him.*

No Need to Fear the Judgment

1 John 4:17–18 (NASB95) — **17** By this, *love is perfected* with us, so that *we may have confidence in the day of judgment*; because as He is, so also are we in this world. **18** *There is no fear in love*; but perfect love casts out fear, because *fear involves punishment*, and *the one who fears is not perfected in love.*

Are You Sharing Knowledge with God that Removes the Fear of Judgment?