

# Hebrews

Jesus' Ministry is Superior because it occurs  
in a **Better** Sanctuary

***Hebrews 9:1-10***

The old tabernacle and its imperfect  
services

# The old tabernacle and its imperfect services

- ”Now even the first **covenant**”
  - The word covenant is NOT supplied in the original and in fact many early translations used the word **tabernacle** instead of **covenant**
  - The same noun is supplied in Hebrews 8:7 and here in 9:1 since it is obvious we are discussing covenants in chapters 8 & 9

# The old tabernacle and its imperfect services

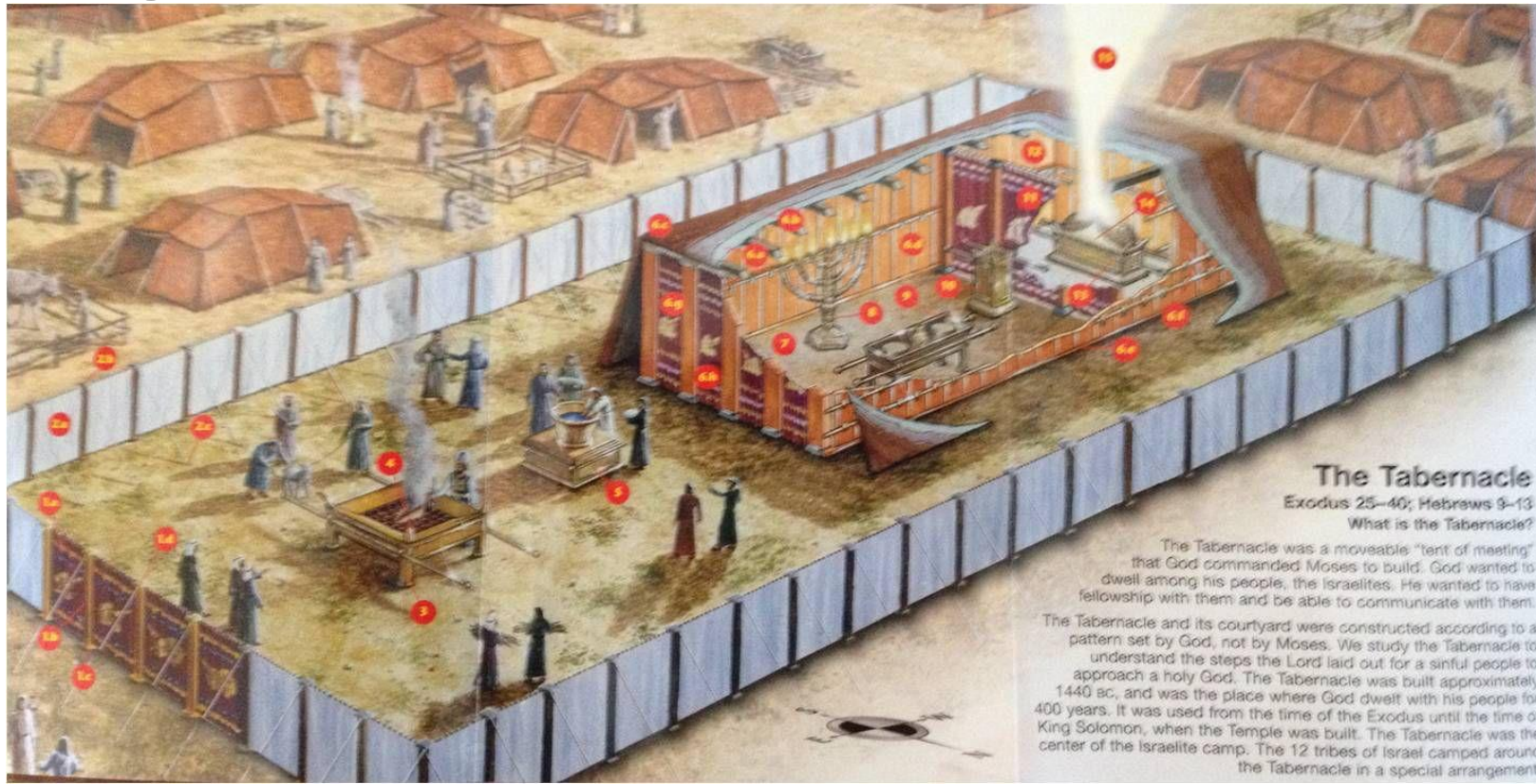
- “had regulations for divine worship”
  - Past tense – “had”
    - The new covenant has already been inaugurated – the first had no need for use anymore
  - The method of worship was completely organized by the Lord – it was not left up to human invention and did not just evolve – God gave **VERY SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS**

# The old tabernacle and its imperfect services

- “and the earthly sanctuary.”
  - The Lord also gave VERY SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS as to the entire structure of the tabernacle and its contents
    - It is called the earthly sanctuary because it was not intended to be permanent – it was material, temporal, perishable, made by human hands
    - The earthly tabernacle is nothing close to the quality of where Jesus now functions as our high priest and mediator

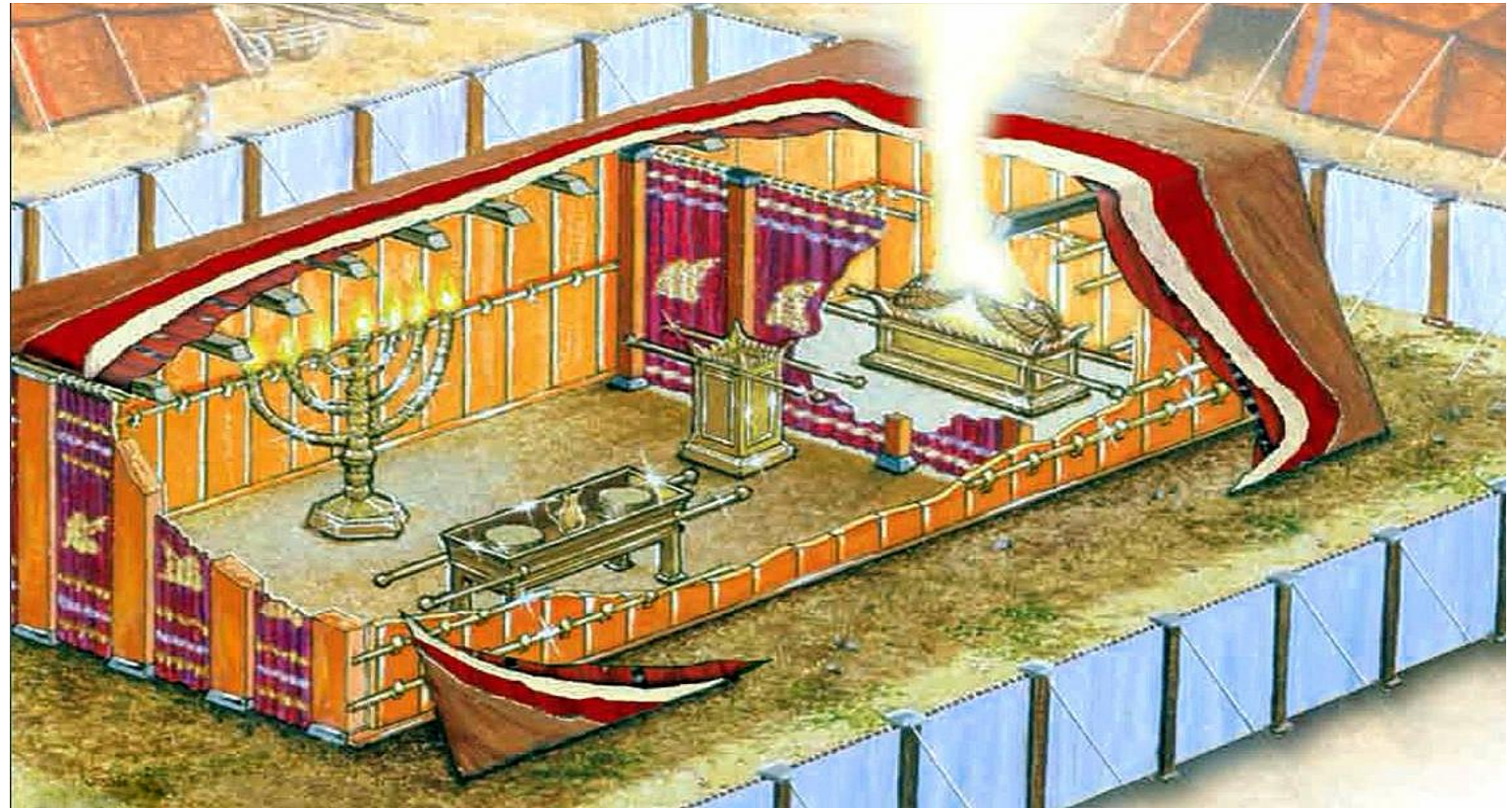
# The old tabernacle and its imperfect services

- Verses 2-5 give an overview of the tabernacle, its design, and its equipment



# The old tabernacle and its imperfect services

- Verses 2 and 3 discuss the smaller structure where the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies reside
  - Verses 3-5 detail the equipment inside the structure



# The old tabernacle and its imperfect services

- The equipment of the Holy Place all served very specific purposes
  - The lampstand – it gave the only light in the tent
  - The Table upon which the sacred bread was placed along with all of the ascribed gold dishes and vessels used by the priests.
  - The Alter of Incense (we will discuss the translation issue with this alter)

# The old tabernacle and its imperfect services

- The Most Holy Place housed items only the High priest could interact with
  - “Behind the second veil”
    - The room was divided by a veil making the second room a smaller cube of 15’x15’15’
    - In it was the Ark of the Covenant, with a golden jar of manna, Aaron’s rod which budded, and the tables of the covenant (stone tablets)
    - Above these were the cherubim of glory that looked down on the mercy seat



# The old tabernacle and its imperfect services

- Having given a good enough description of the tabernacle the writer proceeds to the priestly duties
  - Daily incense burning both in the morning and evening during prayer time and the lamps on the lampstand had their oil replenished morning and evening. Sacred bread was changed weekly
  - Yearly, on The Day of Atonement, the high priest would enter the Most Holy Place

# The old tabernacle and its imperfect services

- The Day of Atonement was a day in which blood was offered for the high priest himself and the people.
  - For sins committed in ***ignorance***
  - This was a lengthy ritual which required the high priest put his life at risk.
  - This Day DID NOT FORGIVE SINS

# The old tabernacle and its imperfect services

- “The Holy Spirit is signifying this...”
  - The Holy Spirit was teaching a lesson throughout the Mosaic Age – There was NO OPEN ACCESS to God – The way to the throneroom was barred for all men – even the high priest himself.
  - While the tabernacle stood, men had no direct access to God
  - The sacrifices and rituals COULD NOT remove SINS!!!

# Next week

- The heavenly tabernacle and the superior services of Jesus
  - Hebrews 9:11-28