

Lesson Two: The Only Way to God (The Fence and the Gate)

Text: Exodus 27:9-19 "And thou shalt make the court of the tabernacle: for the south side southward there shall be hangings for the court of fine twined linen of an hundred cubits long for one side: 10 And the twenty pillars thereof and their twenty sockets shall be of brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets shall be of silver. 11 And likewise for the north side in length there shall be hangings of an hundred cubits long, and his twenty pillars and their twenty sockets of brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver. 12 And for the breadth of the court on the west side shall be hangings of fifty cubits: their pillars ten, and their sockets ten. 13 And the breadth of the court on the east side eastward shall be fifty cubits. 14 The hangings of one side of the gate shall be fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three. 15 And on the other side shall be hangings fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three. 16 And for the gate of the court shall be an hanging of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework: and their pillars shall be four, and their sockets four. 17 All the pillars round about the court shall be filleted with silver; their hooks shall be of silver, and their sockets of brass. 18 The length of the court shall be an hundred cubits, and the breadth fifty every where, and the height five cubits of fine twined linen, and their sockets of brass. 19 All the vessels of the tabernacle in all the service thereof, and all the pins thereof, and all the pins of the court, shall be of brass."

I. The Fence -

A. The Materials -

1. Chapters (or caps) 2. Hooks 3. Post 4. Socket (or base) 5. Fine Twined Linen =

B. The Measurements = Exodus 27:9-13 "And thou shalt make the court of the tabernacle: for the south side southward there shall be hangings for the court of fine twined linen of an hundred cubits long for one side: 10 And the twenty pillars thereof and their twenty sockets shall be of brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets shall be of silver. 11 And likewise for the north side in length there shall be hangings of an hundred cubits long, and his twenty pillars and their twenty sockets of brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver. 12 And for the breadth of the court on the west side shall be hangings of fifty cubits: their pillars ten, and their sockets ten. 13 And the breadth of the court on the east side eastward shall be fifty cubits. 18 The length of the court shall be an hundred cubits, and the breadth fifty every where, and the height five cubits of fine twined linen, and their sockets of brass."

100X50X5 Cubits - 1 cubit = 18" Therefore - 150' x 75' x 7'6"

Length - 100 cubits = 20 Pillars & 20 Sockets Width (breadth) -50 cubits 10 Pillars & 10 Sockets

Height - 5 cubits Fine Twisted Linen

C. The Meaning =

1. The Fence - Isaiah 59:2 "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."

2. The Shining White Linen - Revelation 3:3-4 "Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. 4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy."

Revelation 19:8 "And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean."

Romans 10:1-3 "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. 2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God."

II. The Gate - Exodus 27:14-16 "The hangings of one side of the gate shall be fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three. 15 And on the other side shall be hangings fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three. 16 And for the gate of the court shall be an hanging of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework: and their pillars shall be four, and their sockets four."

A. The Measurements - 20 Cubits = 30'

2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

Revelation 22:17 "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

B. The Materials - Exodus 27:16 "And for the gate of the court shall be an hanging of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework: and their pillars shall be four, and their sockets four." John 10:9 "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture." John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

1. Four Colors –

a. Blue - Heavenly Godly Nature (Grace and Truth) - "Behold your God" (Isaiah 40:9), pointing to John's gospel, where doubting Thomas eventually says to Jesus "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28).

b. Purple - His Royalty - *Purple* signifies kingship: "Behold your King" (Zechariah 9:9), pointing to Matthew's gospel, where Jesus, the descendant of King David (Matthew 1:1), declares after rising from the dead: "All authority in heaven and on earth is given to Me" (Matthew 28:18).

c. Scarlet - His Suffering - *Red* signifies blood: "Behold My servant" (Isaiah 52:13 & 53:5), pointing to Mark's gospel, where Jesus says He "came to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).

d. White - His Sinlessness - *White* signifies purity and a right humanity: "Behold the man" (Zechariah 6:12), pointing to Luke's gospel, where Pilate says of Jesus "Behold, I have found not one fault in this man" (Luke 23:4,14).

These four colors are woven together to become the complete Door, just as the four gospels combine to give a complete picture of Jesus. Jesus Christ is pure and righteous, kingly and godly, and this is *how* He as a man can be our ransom, the Door for us to enter into God's presence in the Tabernacle. Jesus said "I am the Door; if any man enters through Me he shall be saved" (John 10:9) and "I am the way, the truth and the life; no man comes to [God] the Father except through Me" (John 14:6).

This claim by Jesus is unique and exclusive, but just look at Jesus' life and His conduct: He was surrounded by all kinds of people with all sorts of histories and conditions and motives, yet Simon Peter (one of His closest disciples) could later say of Him "He did no sin, neither was there any deceit found in His mouth" (I Peter 2:22). Peter had seen Jesus in all sorts of situations with all manner of people (from religious leaders to the lowest prostitutes, publicans and tax collectors), yet he wrote "we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of that One's majesty" (II Peter 1:16).

Spend time to look at the Door. Read the gospel accounts of Jesus and discover for yourself His character, His compassion, His diligence, His teaching, His power. If you are not sure where to begin, you could start with Mark's gospel. I did.

The Door of the Outer Court is the only way in, inviting and attractive. The Door speaks of both the compassion and the kingliness of Jesus, His nature as both God and a genuine man, Son of God and son of man, woven together as a beautiful tapestry of "the appearing to man of the kindness and love of our Saviour God" (Titus 3:4). Jesus said "I am the Door; if any man enters through Me he shall be saved" (John 10:9). Do take a good look at the Door; then enter in through the Door. Once you are inside the Tabernacle, you will discover so much about what Jesus meant by "be saved" and how this can come about in your experience, beginning at the Burnt Offering Altar and the Laver.