

LESSON TWO

THE COURT

TEXT: Exodus 27:9-15; 38:9-17; 40:33.

A. THE WALL:

A high linen wall surrounded the Tabernacle and formed what was known as the Court. This wall was to be five cubits in height and was hung on 60 Brass Pillars set in Sockets of Brass. The wall was approximately 150 feet long and 75 feet wide. The entrance faced the East.

The fine linen court wall completely hid from those outside a view of the dwelling place of God with His people. It was a dividing mark between God in the Tabernacle and Man on the outside. There was but one place where a man could look in or obtain entrance to the Court and that was through the door or gate at the east end. The only way a man can enter the Kingdom of God is through the Door, which is Jesus Christ. He alone is the Way of Entrance.

B. THE COURT ITSELF:

The Outer Court is the place where man began his approach to God. Man enters through the Gate and then approaches the Brazen Altar. This is the place of sacrifice where sin is dealt with. From that point man progresses to the Holiest of All where the very presence of God dwelt.

The Laver was also placed in the Court between the Brazen Altar and the door of the Tabernacle. The purpose of the Court was to prevent any wrongful approach to the place of God's presence. A sinner, in coming to God, must approach God according to the plan of God in the Scriptures. The Court itself was open to all Israelites to worship.

C. THE TWOFOLD PURPOSE OF THE COURT:

1. To those on the OUTSIDE, the wall acted as a barrier or a wall of separation. The white linen curtain, which represented righteousness, directed the sincere worshipper to the Gate Entrance.

2. To those on the INSIDE, the wall of curtains acted as a surrounding or shield from the outside world. All those inside found a place of protection and stability.

D. THE HANGINGS (CURTAINS) OF THE COURT:

As one approached the Tabernacle, all he could see was the hangings, representative of righteousness and holiness. This would stand out in strong contrast to the black goat hair tents of Israel.

The white linen speaks of Christ's righteousness (Jeremiah 33:15; 1 Timothy 2:5; 1 John 4:17; 1 Corinthians 1:30). The spotless purity of Christ is strongly evident here, agreeing with Scripture, which calls Jesus the "Righteous Branch" and "The Righteous of God."

The sinner is drawn to the kingdom entrance by the righteousness and holiness of God's people (Christ's righteousness in saints). Our own human righteousness is as filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). Sinners will not be drawn to a holy God by the example of an unholy people.

E. THE MEASUREMENT OF THE COURT:

The dimensions of the Court were 100 cubits by 50 cubits, which would equal 1500 square cubits. The number 1500 may be significant prophetically in that the approximate length of the Law Age was 1500 years.

F. TWO GREAT SPIRITUAL TRUTHS:

1. All the priests had to minister and experience the Outer Court before they could move any further into the sanctuary. If they had tried to by-pass the blood mess at the Altar or the watery cleansing, the judgment of God would have fallen. One needs purification and cleansing before he can receive the Holy Ghost.
2. All the sacrificial blood that was shed took place in the Outer Court. In a prophetic sense, all blood sacrifice took place during the Law dispensation, culminating in the sacrifice of Christ, the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. When Christ died on the cross, He fulfilled and abolished all animal sacrifices and obligations.

G. THE PILLARS: (Exodus 27:16-17)

Including the Pillars that were in the Gate, there were a total of sixty Pillars around the Court:

20 Pillars—Southside

20 Pillars—Northside

10 Pillars—Westside

10 Pillars—Eastside

60

The material of which the Pillars were made is not stated in the Bible. Perhaps they were of shittim wood overlaid with Brass, or perhaps solid Brass. At any rate, the Pillars speak to us of stability, uprightness, and solidarity in the work of God. Christians, as pillars, stand upright, holding up holiness and righteousness of God for all to see. The believer must measure up to the testimony he holds.

H. THE FILLETS: (Exodus 27:17)

The sixty Pillars were to be held and joined together with “fillets” or connecting rods of silver. Perhaps there were either cords of silver or silver connecting rods. These rods stabilized the Pillars and kept them perfectly aligned. The saints of God are held together by a common experience, redemption. It is the redemptive blood of Christ applied to sinful souls that make us blood relatives. The blood work is completed in the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

I. THE HOOKS: (Exodus 27:17)

The Hooks of silver were placed on the top of the Pillars and actually held up the hangings of curtains. The curtains were not allowed to fall on the ground. As the Hooks kept the linen from being defiled, so our standards of holiness keep us from succumbing to sin.

J. CHAPTERS OF SILVER: (Exodus 38:17).

Each Pillar was capped or crowned with a silver chapter. This was the “head” of the Pillar. Since these chapters were of silver, and silver represents redemption, they speak of the helmet of salvation (Ephesians 6:17).

CROWNS IN SCRIPTURE:

1. Crown of Life — James 1:12; Revelation 2:10; 3:11.
2. Soulwinner's Crown — Philippians 4:1.
3. Crown of Rejoicing — 1 Thessalonians 2:19.

4. Crown of Righteousness — 2 Timothy 4:8.
5. Crown of Glory — 1 Peter 5:4.

K. SOCKETS OF BRASS: (Exodus 27:17)

The 60 Pillars were upright in the Sockets of Brass. Brass was the most common metal in the Outer Court. Brass is significant of judgment against sin. It is only because the saint's sins have been judged that he can stand before a Holy God. Judgment begins at the house of God (1 Peter 4:17).

Jesus is spoken of as having feet of brass (Daniel 10:6; Revelation 1:15; 2:18). The church is spoken of as having hoofs (feet) of brass (Micah 4:11-13).

L. VESSELS OF THE TABERNACLE, PINS OF THE COURT: (Exodus 27:19)

These Pins were also made of Brass. The Pins were something like tent stakes. The Hebrew word can also be translated "nail." Cords were stretched from the Pillars to the Pins, helping to hold the curtains in place. The Pins find prophetic fulfillment in Jesus (Isaiah 22:20-25; Zechariah 10:3-4). Jesus was nailed to his Cross.

LESSON TWO

SELF HELP TEST

A. THE COURT WALL:

1. Height —
2. Length —
3. Width —
4. Material —

B. What does the material used in the Court Wall represent?

C. Identify the use of the following:

1. Pillars —
2. Hooks —
3. Chapiters —
4. Fillets —
5. Sockets —
6. Pins —