

The Holy of Holies is a copy and shadow of Heaven

The Copy and Shadow: It was a perfect cube (Ex 26)

- The Tabernacle Version: Exodus 26:16-22 “Ten cubits *shall be* the length of each board and one and a half cubits the width of each board...²² “For the rear of the tabernacle, to the west, you shall make six boards.”
- The Temple Version: 1 Kings 6:20 The inner sanctuary *was* twenty cubits in length, twenty cubits in width, and twenty cubits in height, and he overlaid it with pure gold. He also overlaid the altar with cedar.



The Reality: Heaven is the perfect dimension of God's people.

- Rev 21:16 The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia in length, and as wide and high as it is long.
- The number 12,000 cubed sends the message that heaven is the perfect dimension of the people of God.
- Revelation 7:9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches *were* in their hands;
- John 14:2 “In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.



The Copy and Shadow: The Holy Place was walled-in with gold.

- Exod 26:29 "And you shall overlay the boards with gold and make their rings of gold {as} holders for the bars; and you shall overlay the bars with gold.”
- Gold was the finest of material available, which is why everything in the tent of meeting was made of it.

The Reality: Heaven will be brilliant for those who enter.

- Rev 21:18 “The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass.”
- Revelation 21:21 “...And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.”
- Note: Gold was the most precious commodity of the day. It was being used figuratively to communicate the intrinsic qualities of value for heaven.
- Heaven is and will be brilliant for those who inherit salvation.

The Copy and Shadow: The High Priest approached the Holy Place through the veil.

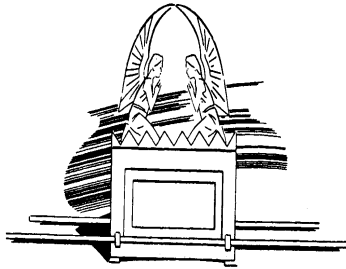
- Heb 9:3 And behind the second veil, there was a tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies,

- Leviticus 16:12 “He shall take a firepan full of coals of fire from upon the altar before the LORD and two handfuls of finely ground sweet incense, and bring *it* inside the veil.

The Reality: Heaven is approached through the broken body of Jesus

- Heb 10:19-20 Since therefore, brethren, we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh,
- Matthew 27:50-51 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. ⁵¹ And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth shook and the rocks were split.

F) The Ark of the Covenant (Ex 25:10-22)



Exodus 25:10-22 “They shall construct an ark of acacia wood two and a half cubits long, and one and a half cubits wide, and one and a half cubits high. 11 “You shall overlay it with pure gold, inside and out you shall overlay it, and you shall make a gold molding around it. 12 “You shall cast four gold rings for it and fasten them on its four feet, and two rings shall be on one side of it and two rings on the other side of it. 13 “You shall make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. 14 “You shall put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to carry the ark with them. 15 “The poles shall remain in the rings of the ark; they shall not be removed from it. 16 “You shall put into the ark the testimony which I shall give you. 17 “You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold, two and a half cubits long and one and a half cubits wide. 18 “You shall make two cherubim of gold, make them of hammered work at the two ends of the mercy seat. 19 “Make one cherub at one end and one cherub at the other end; you shall make the cherubim *of one piece* with the mercy seat at its two ends. 20 “The cherubim shall have *their* wings spread upward, covering the mercy seat with their wings and facing one another; the faces of the cherubim are to be *turned* toward the mercy seat. 21 “You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the testimony which I will give to you. 22 “There I will meet with you; and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony, I will speak to you about all that I will give you in commandment for the sons of Israel.



The Ark of the Covenant

- It was made of acacia wood and overlaid with gold both in and out.
- It was a box roughly 3 1/2 feet long, 2 feet wide, and 2 feet high.

- It was fastened on the bottom with four rings, two on each side, and two poles going through for carrying
- Mounted on the top was a mercy seat of two cherubim, both facing each other.
- It was placed in the Holy Place behind the veil and was the place where God would meet with the children of Israel.

The Ark was a Copy and Shadow of God's Throne.

The Copy and Shadow: The Ten Commandments were placed inside it.

- Exod 25:16 "And you shall put into the ark the testimony which I shall give you."
- In other words, God's righteousness and justice was most definitely in the Ark of the Covenant. They did not think of the Ark apart from the commandment of God.

The Reality: God's throne is where all righteousness and judgment emanate.

- Ps 97:2 Clouds and thick darkness surround Him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.
- Prov 16:12 It is an abomination for kings to commit wickedness, for a throne is established on righteousness.
- This is because God, the One who places all rulers and kings in power, basis His throne in righteousness.

The Copy and Shadow: A jar of manna was kept in the Ark of the Covenant as a reminder of provision.

- Exod 16:32-33 the reason they were to keep this manna "...that they may see the bread that I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you out of the land of Egypt." 33 And Moses said to Aaron, "Take a jar and put an omerful of manna in it, and place it before the LORD, to be kept throughout your generations."

The Reality: God's throne is in reality where all spiritual and material possessions emanate.

- Matthew 7:11 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!"
- Hebrews 11:6 "...for he who comes to God must believe that He is and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."
- James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

The Copy and Shadow: Aaron's staff was kept in the Ark to remind them of the authority of the priesthood.

- Num 17:10 But the LORD said to Moses, "Put back the rod of Aaron before the testimony to be kept as a sign against the rebels, that you may put an end to their grumblings against Me, so that they should not die."

The Reality: Christ alone is High Priest as ordained from God's throne.

- Heb 2:17 Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. That word for propitiation relates to atoning sacrifice of the priest.
- Hebrews 3:1-2 "...consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession; ² He was faithful to Him who appointed Him..."
- Heb 8:1 "Now the main point in what has been said {is this} we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens..."
- Jesus is our High Priest as ordained from the throne of God.

The Copy and Shadow: The Ark was the mercy seat of God.

- Exod 25:17 "And you shall make a mercy seat of pure gold, two and a half cubits long and one and a half cubits wide.
- The word for "mercy seat" is better rendered in the NIV as "atonement cover", for it was there they received atonement.
- It is where He resides and extends His mercies.

The Reality: Christ resides at the throne and extends his mercies.

- All Christians are saved through His tender mercies which are given from the throne.
- Titus 3:4-5 "But when the kindness of God our Saviour, and his love toward man, appeared, ⁵ not by works (done) in righteousness, which we did ourselves, but according to his mercy he saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,"
- Heb 4:16 "Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need."

The Copy and Shadow Around the Ark (the seat of God) we find Cherubim (guardians of God's glory).

- Exod 25:18 "And you shall make two cherubim of gold, make them of hammered work at the two ends of the mercy seat."
- Cherubim are the guardians of God's glory.

The Reality: There is nothing but glory around God's throne.

- Rev 4:8 And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, {is} the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come."
- The four living creatures are symbolic of all creation of God.
- Heb 1:6 "And when He again brings the first-born into the world, He says, "And let all the angels of God worship Him."

The Copy and Shadow: The Ark was kept in the Holy of Holies, the throne room of God.

- Exod 26:33 "And you shall hang up the veil under the clasps, and shall bring in the ark of the testimony there within the veil; and the veil shall serve for you as a partition between the holy place and the holy of holies."
- I King 8:6 "Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, into the inner sanctuary of the house, to the most holy place, under the wings of the cherubim."

The Reality: The throne of God is the Most Holy place of all.

- Heb 9:24 "For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a {mere} copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;"
- Jesus, who has all the power that comes from the throne, did so through heaven itself. In the first century, it was the thrill of all men to have God dwell in their presence. It meant that you had to be in the most holy place.
- John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

"The Lord is in His Holy Temple. Let all the earth be silent before Him."

(Hab 2:20)

Song #108

The Lord is in His holy temple:

Let all the earth keep silence before Him;

Keep silence, Keep silence

Keep silence before Him.