Station 1: The Overview

The History & Purpose of the Sanctuary

# Introduction

## Welcome

## About Me

* 1. First Name
  2. School & Grade (if applicable)

## What You Will Be Seeing

* 1. Full-scale model of the Mosaic Sanctuary
     1. Built according to the instructions given to Moses in the book of Exodus
     2. Built using an 18-inch cubit
  2. Five different stations

# Purpose of the Sanctuary

## Three aspects covered in the Courtyard, Holy Place, and Most Holy Place

## History: what the sanctuary was made of and how it was used in the past

## Timeline: how the sanctuary services form a timeline of earth’s history and how Jesus’ life, death, and ministry fulfill the timeline

## Application: how the sanctuary message applies to our lives today

[What takes place in one sanctuary takes place in all sanctuaries, including our body temples.]

## The Sin Problem

1. In the beginning… the story of Creation (Gen. 1-2). The world was perfect.
2. God created mankind in His image and dwelt with them face-to-face. (Gen. 1:27; 2; 3:8)
3. Once Adam and Eve sinned, humanity could no longer have face-to-face communion with God because sin separates us from Him. (Gen. 3:6; Isa. 59:2)

[It is like a wall so that we cannot see Him or talk to Him face-to-face.]

## Redemption from Sin

1. The sanctuary was built so that God could dwell with us and His presence could be with us (Exo. 25:8).
2. The sanctuary shows God’s remedy to the sin situation. He would send His own Son to redeem humanity (Gen. 3:15; John 3:16).
   1. In the sanctuary, three veils separate the sinner from God.
   2. Christ paved the way back to the Father so that we can be in communion with Him once again (John 14:6).

# Sanctuaries Mentioned in the Bible

## Heavenly Sanctuary

1. God has a sanctuary in heaven. (Ps. 102:19)
2. His own hands have established it. (Ex. 15:17)

[Even before Moses received the plans at Sinai, the Israelites knew that God had a sanctuary in heaven.]

1. We have a High Priest in heaven, in the sanctuary that the Lord pitched, and not man. Jesus is the High Priest of that tabernacle in heaven. (Heb. 8:1-2, 9:11)
2. The very first sanctuary was in heaven. This was the original, or blueprint, sanctuary.
3. Earthly temples are figures of the true sanctuary in heaven. (Heb. 9:23-24)

## Mosaic Tabernacle

1. First earthly sanctuary
2. Built when the Children of Israel were on their way to the Promised Land
3. Patterned after the sanctuary in heaven (Heb. 8:5)
4. God gave the patterns to Moses when he was on Mount Sinai (Ex. 20-25)
5. Built in six months (ending date: Ex. 40:17) (PP 349)
6. Portable tent-like structure
7. Could be taken down or set up in one day/a single day (Exodus 40:17, 36-37)
8. Day of Dedication
   1. Fire came down from heaven to the altar of sacrifice (Lev. 9:22-24)
      1. The fire consumed the offering that was there (Lev. 9:24)
      2. That fire was never to go out (Lev. 6:9, 12)
   2. The glory of God filled the Most Holy Place/temple (Ex. 40:34-35)
9. Lasted 487 years (I Kings 6:1, 38)

## Solomon’s Temple

1. Plans
   1. David saw that he was living in a beautiful palace, but God was living in a tent (II Sam. 7:2-3, I Chron. 17:1)
   2. Although David wanted to build a better house for God, God instead promised that David’s son Solomon would build the house for God (2 Sam. 7:13, I Chron. 17:11-12, II Chron. 28:11)
   3. God gave David the pattern for this temple (I Chron. 28:11-12, 19)
   4. David prepared the materials for it to be built (I Chron. 22:5)
   5. David encouraged his son Solomon in the building of the temple (I Chron. 28:20)
2. Construction
   1. It was in construction for seven years (I Kings 6:38)
   2. Built without the sound of a hammer on the site (I Kings 6:7, II Chron. 3:5).
   3. It was 2x as long, 2x as wide, and 3x as high as the Mosaic sanctuary.
3. Dedication
   1. Fire from heaven consumed the offerings made on the Altar of Sacrifice (II Chron. 7:1)
   2. God’s glory filled the sanctuary (II Chron. 5:13-14, 7:2, I Kings 8:10-11)
4. Destruction
   1. Only lasted 372 years (historical fact)
   2. Solomon and the Israelites turned away from following God and went into idolatry (II Chron. 36, Jeremiah)
   3. God’s protection left the temple.
   4. The temple was plundered and destroyed by the Babylonians, and the Israelites were taken captive (Ezra 5:12, 2 Chron. 36:14-21, II Kings 24:10, 25:1-22)
   5. In Nebuchadnezzar’s final attack on Jerusalem the temple was burned by fire. (II Kings 25:9)

## Ezekiel’s Temple

1. While the Israelites were captive in Babylon, God gave the prophet Ezekiel a vision of a temple (Ez. 1:1-3, Ez. 40-48)
2. God told Ezekiel to show the children of Israel the pattern of the house that they might be ashamed of their iniquities and all that they had done. (Ez. 43:7-11)
3. The court of the temple was to be one-mile square
4. If this temple had been built, it was promised that God’s glory would have filled it. (Ezk. 43:4-5)
5. There is no record of this temple being built when the Israelites came out of captivity.
6. It seems to not have been built due to a lack of faith on the part of the people.

## Zerubbabel’s Temple

1. Built by Zerubbabel, after they returned to Jerusalem (Ezra 1-6)
2. Not structurally as beautiful as Solomon’s Temple
   1. Many of the ancient men who had seen Solomon’s temple wept at the sight of the foundation of this temple because it paled in comparison (Ezra 3:10-12)
3. Lasted until it was destroyed by the Romans in A.D. 70 (historical fact)
4. Was later referred to as Herod’s Temple, as (500 years later) King Herod refurbished it to gain the favor of the Jews (Historical fact)
5. Day of Dedication (Ezra 6:16-18)
   1. There is no record of fire coming down from heaven
   2. There is no record of God’s glory filling the sanctuary
6. God had promised that He would fill this temple with glory. (Haggai 2:7-9)
7. That glory was Jesus Himself (Haggai 2:7; John 1:14). Jesus came to this temple…
   1. …At His dedication (Luke 2:21-24)
   2. …At 12 years old, for the feast of Passover (Luke 2:41-42)
   3. …When He cast the money-changers out of the temple (John 2:13-17)

## Spiritual Temples

1. Jesus as a Temple
   1. The Jews asked Jesus for a sign to prove His authority (John 2:18)
   2. Jesus told them that if they destroyed this temple, in three days He would raise it up (John 2:19)
   3. The Jews were confused. The temple had been 46 years in rebuilding. (John 2:20)
   4. Jesus was referring to his body as a temple (John 2:21)
2. Us as Temples
   1. Individually
      1. If Jesus was a sanctuary and we are made in His image, then we are temples too.
      2. We are temples to God and the glory of the Holy Spirit is to fill us.
         1. Our bodies are temples for God, the Father (I Cor. 3:16)
         2. Our bodies are temples for Jesus, the Son (II Cor. 13:5)
         3. Our bodies are temples for the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 6:19)
      3. Just as God gave the Israelites specific instructions on the making of and care of the sanctuary, He gives us specific instructions on how to care for the temples He has given us, that we can be places for Him to dwell.
      4. We must take care of our body temples or we will be destroyed, because the Spirit of God dwells in us and we are holy temples. (I Cor. 3:17)
   2. Collectively
      1. God’s people collectively make a temple
      2. We are like lively (living) stones, built up together into a spiritual house, Christ being our chief cornerstone (I Peter 2:5-6)
      3. We are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets (Eph. 2:20)
      4. In Acts chapter two we see God filling a group of His people collectively with His Spirit. (Acts 2:1-4)
         1. Fire came down.
         2. Holy Spirit filled the room.

## God Almighty and the Lamb

1. John had a vision of the New Jerusalem descending to earth. (Rev. 21)
2. At that time, there will be no more sin. (Rev. 21:1, 4, 27)
3. God and man will be united again. (Rev. 21:3)
4. John saw no temple in the New Jerusalem because “the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.” (Rev. 21:22)
5. By this time there is no more need for the actual building because God is with us, and that was the original purpose: God dwelling with His people here on earth.

# Days of Moses

## Our Powerful God

1. God sent Moses to bring the children of Israel out of Egypt. (Ex. 3:10)
2. Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites leave. (Ex. 5:2)
3. God sent plagues to Egypt against the Egyptian gods. (Ex. 8-11)
4. God is more powerful than all other gods

## Our Victorious God

1. The Israelites crossed the Red Sea. (Ex. 14)
2. God closed the waters of the Sea over the pursuing Egyptian army and destroyed them. (Ex. 14:30-31)
3. God has power over our enemies.

## Our Sustaining God

1. God provided for the physical needs of the children of Israel.
   1. Manna (Ex. 16:15)
   2. Water from the rock (Ex. 17:3-6)
2. God led His people with a pillar of cloud by day/ fire by night. (Ex. 13:22, 40:38)

## Our Holy God

1. God gave Moses the plans for the sanctuary. (Ex. 25)
2. God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. (Ex. 31:18)
   1. Ten Commandments broken (Ex. 32:19)
   2. God gives the Ten Commandments again (Ex. 34:1)
   3. Written with His own finger