

Sermon Outlines

The Tabernacle - The Brazen Altar

Readings:

- Ex. 27:1-5
- Lev. 1:16
- 2 Kings 12:9

These notes are for a series of meetings lasting about 10 day to two weeks and as such are a springboard for development.

Avenues to Consider The Tabernacle or The Altar

Avenues of Study	
Comparatively	<p>The distinctions between the Altar of Burnt offering and the golden altar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Brazen Altar-----Golden Altar b) Animals offered-----Incense offered c) Place of judgment executed-----Place of intercession d) Christ on the cross-----Christ in Heaven e) His finished work-----His unfinished work f) His work in the past-----His work in the present
Descriptively	<p>The names of the altar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Brasen Altar (Ex. 38:30) b) Altar of burnt offering (Ex. 30:28) c) Altar of the burnt offering (Ex. 40:6) d) Altar of the Lord (Lev. 17:6) e) Altar of the God of Israel (Ezra 3:2) f) Altar of the house of your God (Ezra 7:17) g) Altar of the Lord thy God (Deut. 12:27) h) Altar of the Lord our God (Josh. 22:19) i) The table of the Lord (Mal. 1:7)
Constructively	<p>The materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <u>Wood</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) To pierce, the piercing of Christ (Psa. 22:16; Zech. 12:10; Jn. 19:34, 37; Rev. 1:7) ii) To lash or scourge (Matt. 20:19; Mk. 10:34; Lk. 18:33); Pilate scourged Jesus (Matt. 27:26; Mk. 15:15; Jn. 19:1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. These sufferings were all inflicted by the hand of man, how low He came: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The sadistic cruelty of man before He died (b) The ignominy of man after He died. iii) A feminine word - the submissiveness of Christ to God, a man who took man's true place in the government of God, irrespective of how maligned He was. iv) The different teaching of the wood depending on context, that is, the furnishings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Altar - the only man who could provide acceptability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) In perpetuity (b) In perfection 2. Incense altar - the wood is the only man fitted to be our high priest. b) <u>Brass - copper</u>- the unyielding character of Christ and doggedness to finish the work.

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Avenues of Study	
Christologically	See Endnote 1
Theologically	1) The kindness of God in providing this meeting place (Ex. 29:42-43), as well as the Mercy Seat (Ex. 25:21-22). 2) The unchanging character of God concerning the sins of His people. God wanted His people to draw near, but they must learn the moral distance between God and themselves, they did not have an “in” with God where sin was overlooked. 3) The fulness of perfection God has found in Christ, and brilliance of being able to focus on the perfections of Christ so that even when I am sinning, I am still acceptable, for my acceptability is not based on my perfections, but on Christ’s.
Dispensationally	“We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle” (Heb. 13:10)
Devotionally	Jehoiada put a box for the money “beside the altar, on the right side” (2 Kgs. 12:9) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The sacrifice was killed on the North / right side (Lev. 1:11) b) The relationship between the sacrifice of the Lord and our giving <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 1 Cor. 11 - Lord’s Supper - 1 Cor. 16 - The collection ii) 2 Cor. 8-9 - The collection - ch. 9:15 - The sacrifice c) Our giving must be of the character of the sacrifice d) Our giving will demonstrate our appreciation of the sacrifice (that is giving as we are able). A person of small means can have a large appreciation but not able to give much. But a wealthy person who gives \$10.00 has a low appreciation of Calvary.
Revelatory	Everything in the Tabernacle was a reflection of things in Heaven: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The souls under the altar (Rev. 6:9) b) The fire of the altar (Rev. 8:3-5), the judgment of God because they had rejected the Sacrifice of the Lord.
Positionally	1) The placement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Outside was Egypt, the world in its delights of natural appetites b) But all these people were redeemed and delivered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Passover was God’s last voice to the unsaved and first voice to the redeemed. ii) The need to get further into spiritual truths. c) By Christ, come into His court, living in the curtailing righteousness of Christ and God, and in accordance with the Gate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The size, God wants me to get a big appreciation of Christ. d) For saints to get a big appreciation of the work of Christ

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Avenues of Study	
Practically	<p>1) How could one be proud and when there is seen such humbling (as portrayed by the wood), endured willingly for the glory of God and my blessing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) In Corinth they sat at the Lord's supper and pride reeked from them, they had never seen the humiliation of the Lord. (Heb. 12:2) b) In Philippians the two sisters were in conflict, pride reeked from them, they had never seen the humiliation of the Lord. (Phil. 2:6-8) c) The church at Laodicea, "need of nothing", pride reeked from them, they had never seen the humiliation of the Lord (the faithful Witness) (Rev. 3:14; 1:5). <p>2) He bore our eternal death, and vanquished physical death. This the altar gives comfort knowing death is not the end of the road but the stepping stone to eternal bliss.</p> <p>3) The horns of the altar. The man slayer could lay hold on them but they did not assure life, Joab died holding them (1 Kgs. 2:28-34). Adonijah held the horns and was permitted to live (1 Kgs. 1:50-53). What a stressful situation to be in, unsure, not so with us (Heb. 6:18). We have fled for refuge and are secure.</p>
Evangelistically	<p>An application not the interpretation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The measurements always indicate restriction or limitations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Sufficiency big for what was needed - propitiation for the whole world, salvation is available for all - no limited atonement but the gospel is limited. ii) Salvation is limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Humanity, for there is no salvation for angels (Heb. 2:16) 2. To those who hear and understand the gospel (Matt. 13:15) 3. To those who are alive on the earth (Lk. 16:26) 4. To those who will accept the gospel (Rom. 3:22) 5. To those who respond when the Spirit of God is enlightening or striving (Jn. 16:8)

Endnote 1

A "meditation" which can help lead to worship. There are many more ways:

Lord's death as a:	What were the Lord's qualifications?	Why did I need such a work?	What are my moral obligations?
Justifying Work	He must be just	I am unjust / unrighteous, bias	To live a life in conformity to Christ
Reconciling Work	He must be in harmony with God	I am at enmity against God	To live as one reconciled to God and separate from the world
Peace Offering	He must never have known the interruption of sin	I am by nature an enemy	To live in such a way that I know the peace with God and peace of God as a reality

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**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.
John 16:13**

Rowan Jennings, Abbotsford, British Columbia