





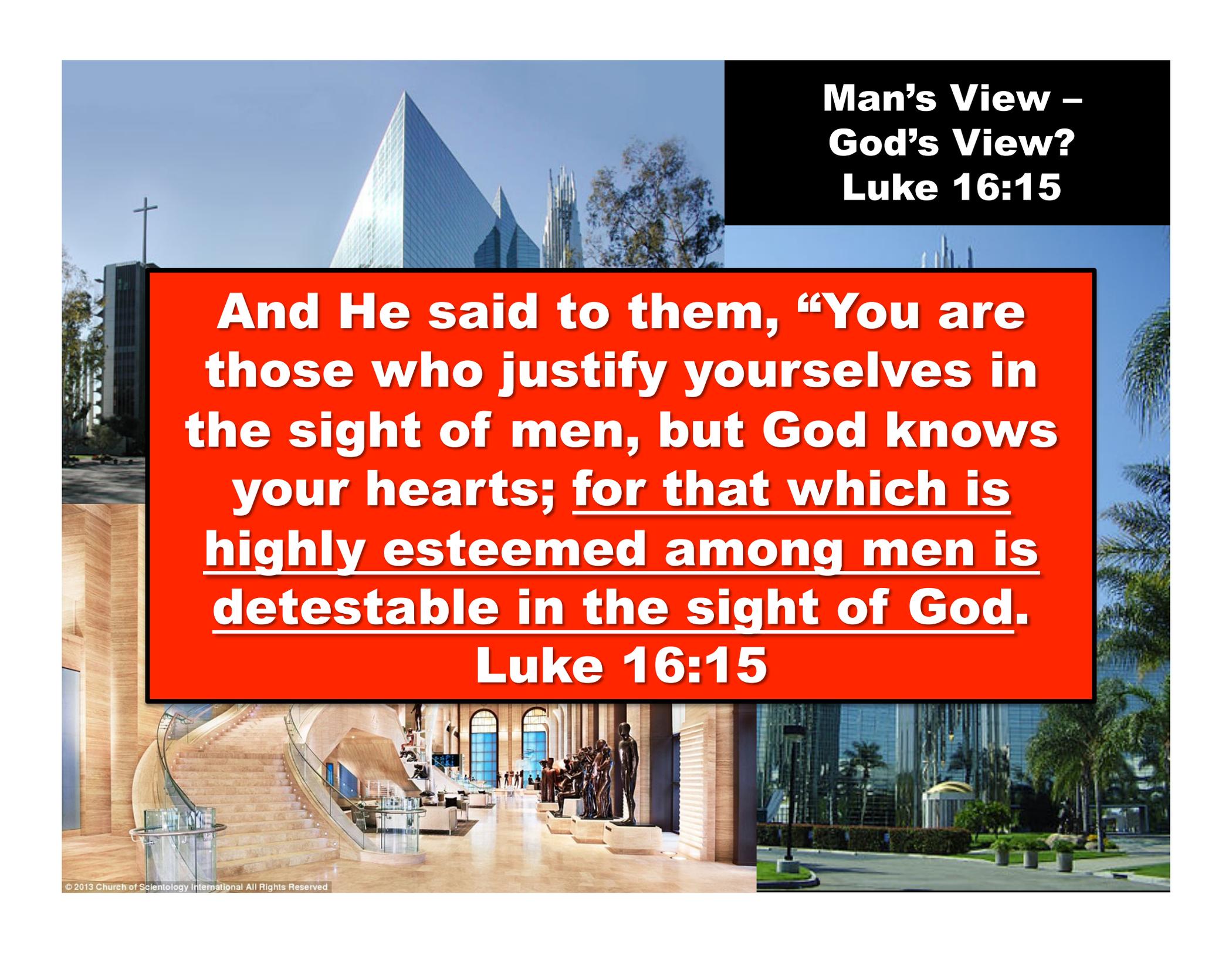
***NATURE
OF THE
CHURCH***

What Do We Mean When We Speak Of the Nature of the Church?

- 1. Character or Characteristics**
- 2. Identifying Features**
- 3. Where Do We Find the Description?**



1947 Chrysler Windsor



**Man's View –
God's View?
Luke 16:15**

And He said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God.”

Luke 16:15

Reality & Perception...



“I Want To Know The Reality”

Francis “Smart” Banago

1 Thess. 2:13-14 (13) For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe. (14) For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that also endured the same sufferings at the hands of men as they did from the Jews,

1 Thess. 4:1, 8 (1) Finally then, brethren, we request you, by the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us instruction to walk and please God (just as you actually do walk and please God), **(8) So, he who rejects this is not rejecting man but God who has sent His Holy Spirit to you.**

2 Thess. 2:13-15 (13) But we should always give thanks for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by His Spirit and truth. (14) It was for this He called you through our gospel to gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. (15) So then, brethren, and hold to the traditions which you were taught, either by word of mouth or by letter from us.

2 Thess. 3:6, 9, 13-15 (6) Now we command you, brethren, by the Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which we have learned, not because we do not have the right to this, but because we desire to be as a model for you, so that you would follow our example. (13) Brethren, do not grow weary of doing good. (14) Therefore, as you read instruction in this letter, take special note of that man who does not associate with him, so that he will be put to shame. (15) Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

1 & 2 Thessalonians

✓ **You accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God**

✓ **Rejects this is not rejecting man but God**

✓ **By word of mouth or by letter from us**

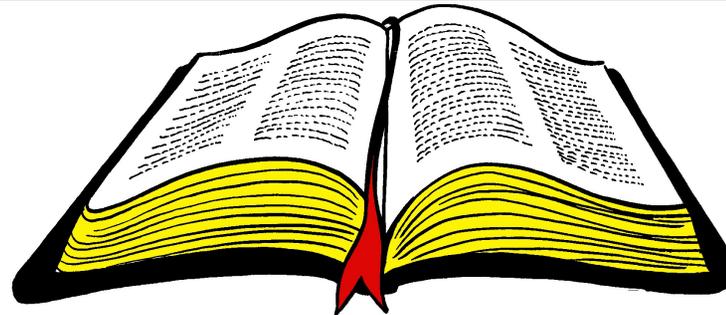
✓ **Traditions which you were taught**

✓ **Follow our example**

✓ **If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter**

**For this reason I have sent to you
Timothy, who is my beloved and
faithful child in the Lord, and he
will remind you of my ways
which are in Christ,
just as I teach everywhere
in every church.**

1 Corinthians 4:17





People Purchased By The Blood of Christ.

“Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.”

Acts 20:28





Eph. 5:26-27 Pure
2 Cor. 11:1-4
Revelation 19:7-9
Revelation 21:2-3, 9-10

The Church – The Bride of Christ

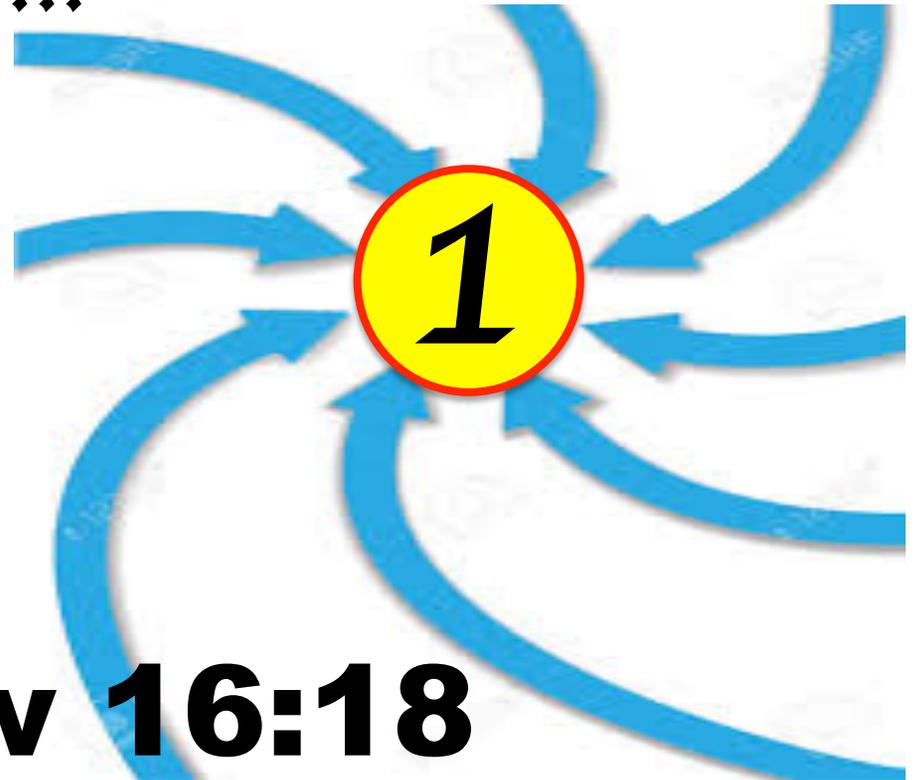
Two Questions?

The Church – The Bride of Christ

Whose name does “His bride” wear?

How many brides does the Lamb have?

Answer...



Matthew 16:18

Is The Church Perfect?

Yes

Eph 5:26-27
Eph. 3:8-12

No

Revelation 2-3
1 Corinthians 5



Are You Connected and Engaged With His Church?

Attendance

Giving

Singing

Teaching

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Encouraging Brethren

Reaching Out To The Lost



**Local Church
Church at...**



Proverbs 27:10 “Do not forsake your own friend or your father’s friend, And do not go to your brother’s house in the day of your calamity. **Better is a neighbor who is near than a brother far away.””**

“Birds of a feather flock together...”

EXACTING
EXACTING

***GOD'S EXACTING
PLAN FOR HIS
TEMPLE - THE
CHURCH***

Does It Matter What The Temple Looks Like? What It Does? How It Does It?

Bride of Christ
Eph. 5:26-27

Temple
Eph. 2:19-22
1 Cor. 3:15-16

Kingdom
Rev. 5:9-10
Col. 1:13

Church
God's People
Acts 20:28

Household
1 Tim. 3:15

Priesthood
1 Pet. 2:5, 9

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Temple
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1 Cor. 3:15-16

Kingdom
Rev. 5:9-10
Col. 1:13

Priesthood
1 Pet. 2:5, 9

Behold
1 Tim. 3:15

(19) So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household (20) having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, (21) **in whom** the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, (22) **in whom** you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.**

Eph. 2:19-22

Temple...

(16) Do you not know that **you are a temple of God and that **the Spirit of God dwells in you?****

(17) If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.

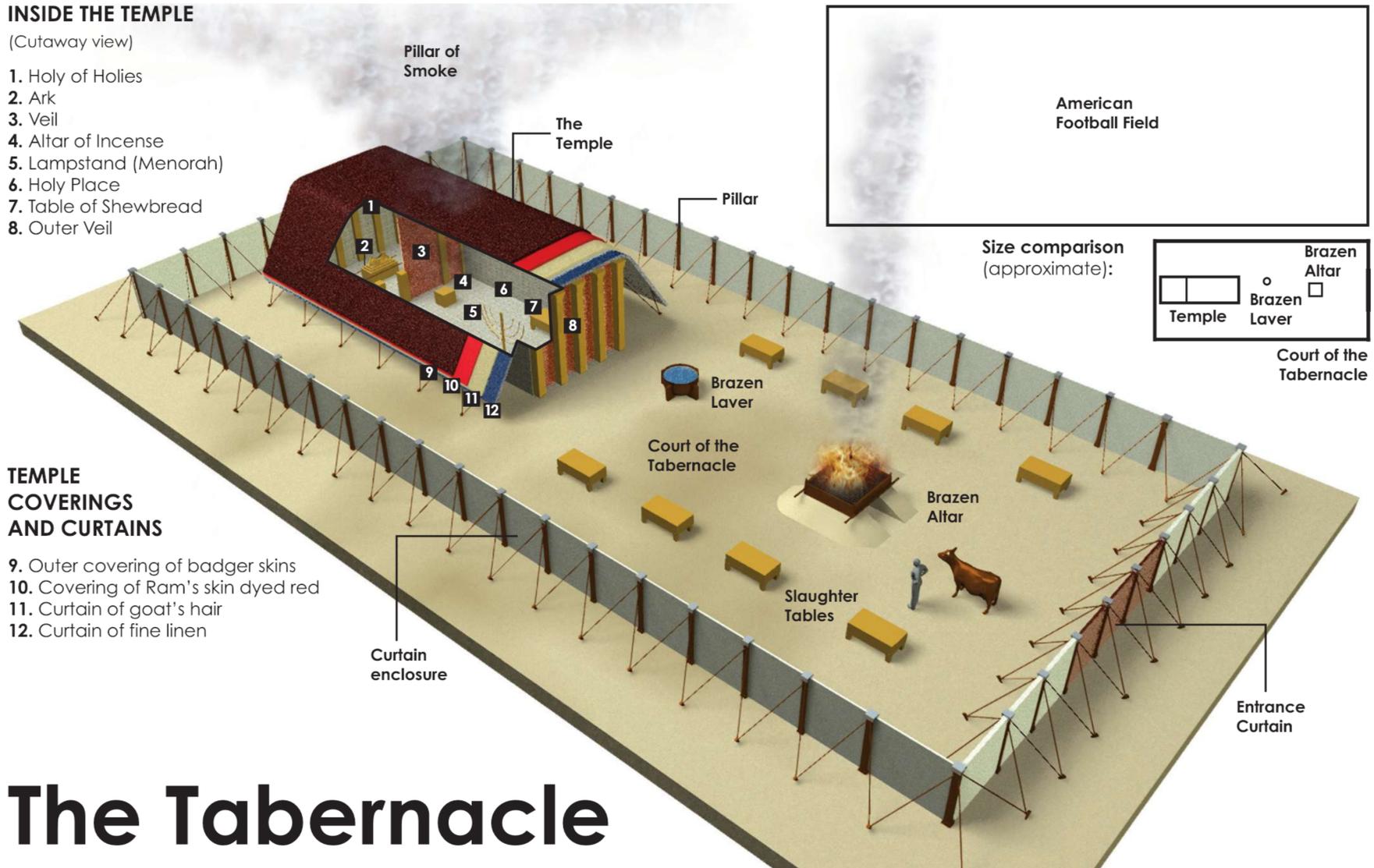
1 Cor. 3:16-17

**Eph. 2:19-22
1 Cor. 3:15-16**

INSIDE THE TEMPLE

(Cutaway view)

1. Holy of Holies
2. Ark
3. Veil
4. Altar of Incense
5. Lampstand (Menorah)
6. Holy Place
7. Table of Shewbread
8. Outer Veil



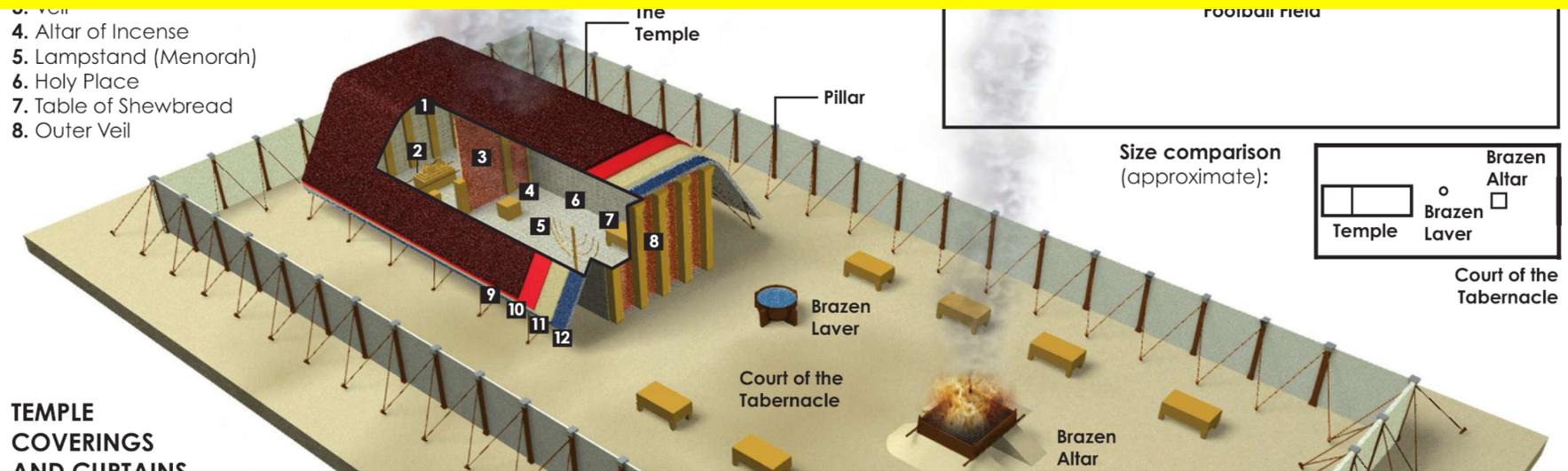
TEMPLE COVERINGS AND CURTAINS

9. Outer covering of badger skins
10. Covering of Ram's skin dyed red
11. Curtain of goat's hair
12. Curtain of fine linen

The Tabernacle

Did It Matter How The Tabernacle and Contents Were Made?

Did It Matter How The Tabernacle and Contents Were Made?



(9) “According to all that I am going to show you, as the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furniture, just so you shall construct it. (40) “See that you make them after the pattern for them, which was shown to you on the mountain.”

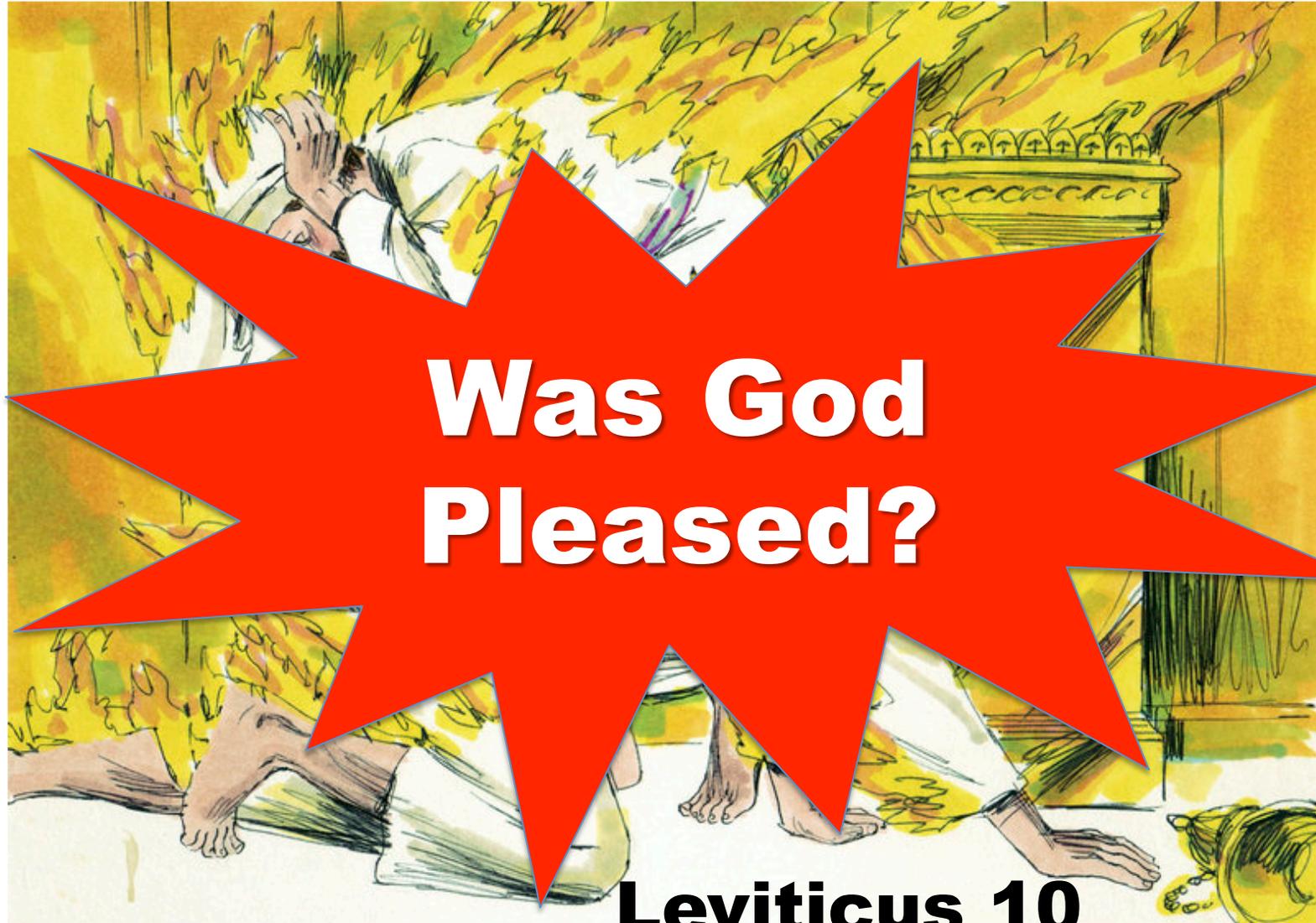
Exodus 25:9, 40

How Did Altering The Holy Things Of God Work Out For Uzzah?



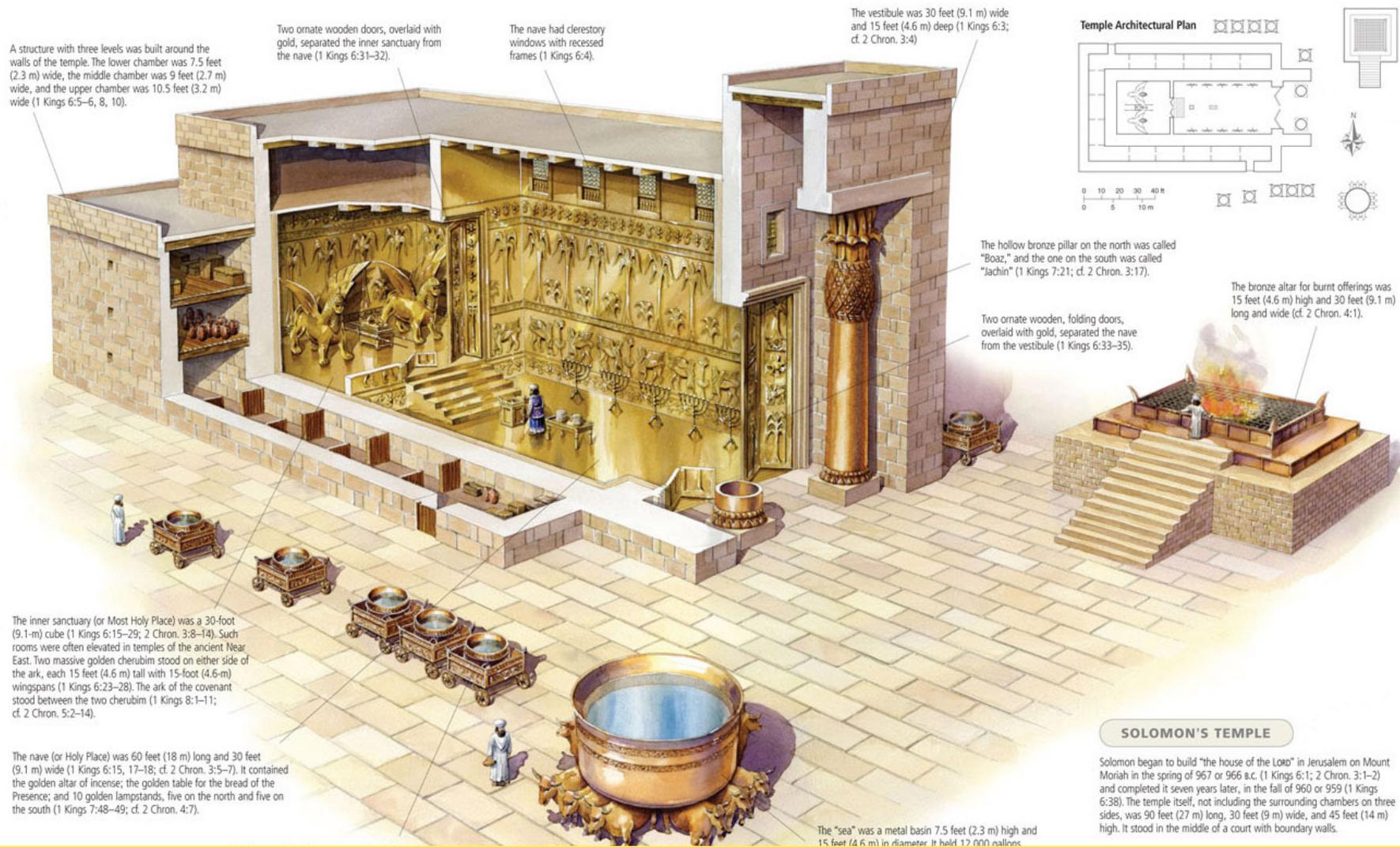
2 Samuel 6:1-9

How Did Altering The Holy Things Of God Work Out For Nadab & Abihu??



**Was God
Pleased?**

Leviticus 10

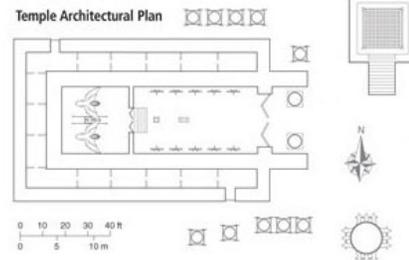


A structure with three levels was built around the walls of the temple. The lower chamber was 7.5 feet (2.3 m) wide, the middle chamber was 9 feet (2.7 m) wide, and the upper chamber was 10.5 feet (3.2 m) wide (1 Kings 6:5-6, 8, 10).

Two ornate wooden doors, overlaid with gold, separated the inner sanctuary from the nave (1 Kings 6:31-32).

The nave had clerestory windows with recessed frames (1 Kings 6:4).

The vestibule was 30 feet (9.1 m) wide and 15 feet (4.6 m) deep (1 Kings 6:3; cf. 2 Chron. 3:4)



The hollow bronze pillar on the north was called "Boaz," and the one on the south was called "Jachin" (1 Kings 7:21; cf. 2 Chron. 3:17).

Two ornate wooden, folding doors, overlaid with gold, separated the nave from the vestibule (1 Kings 6:33-35).

The bronze altar for burnt offerings was 15 feet (4.6 m) high and 30 feet (9.1 m) long and wide (cf. 2 Chron. 4:1).

The inner sanctuary (or Most Holy Place) was a 30-foot (9.1-m) cube (1 Kings 6:15-29; 2 Chron. 3:8-14). Such rooms were often elevated in temples of the ancient Near East. Two massive golden cherubim stood on either side of the ark, each 15 feet (4.6 m) tall with 15-foot (4.6-m) wingspans (1 Kings 6:23-28). The ark of the covenant stood between the two cherubim (1 Kings 8:1-11; cf. 2 Chron. 5:2-14).

The nave (or Holy Place) was 60 feet (18 m) long and 30 feet (9.1 m) wide (1 Kings 6:15, 17-18; cf. 2 Chron. 3:5-7). It contained the golden altar of incense; the golden table for the bread of the Presence; and 10 golden lampstands, five on the north and five on the south (1 Kings 7:48-49; cf. 2 Chron. 4:7).

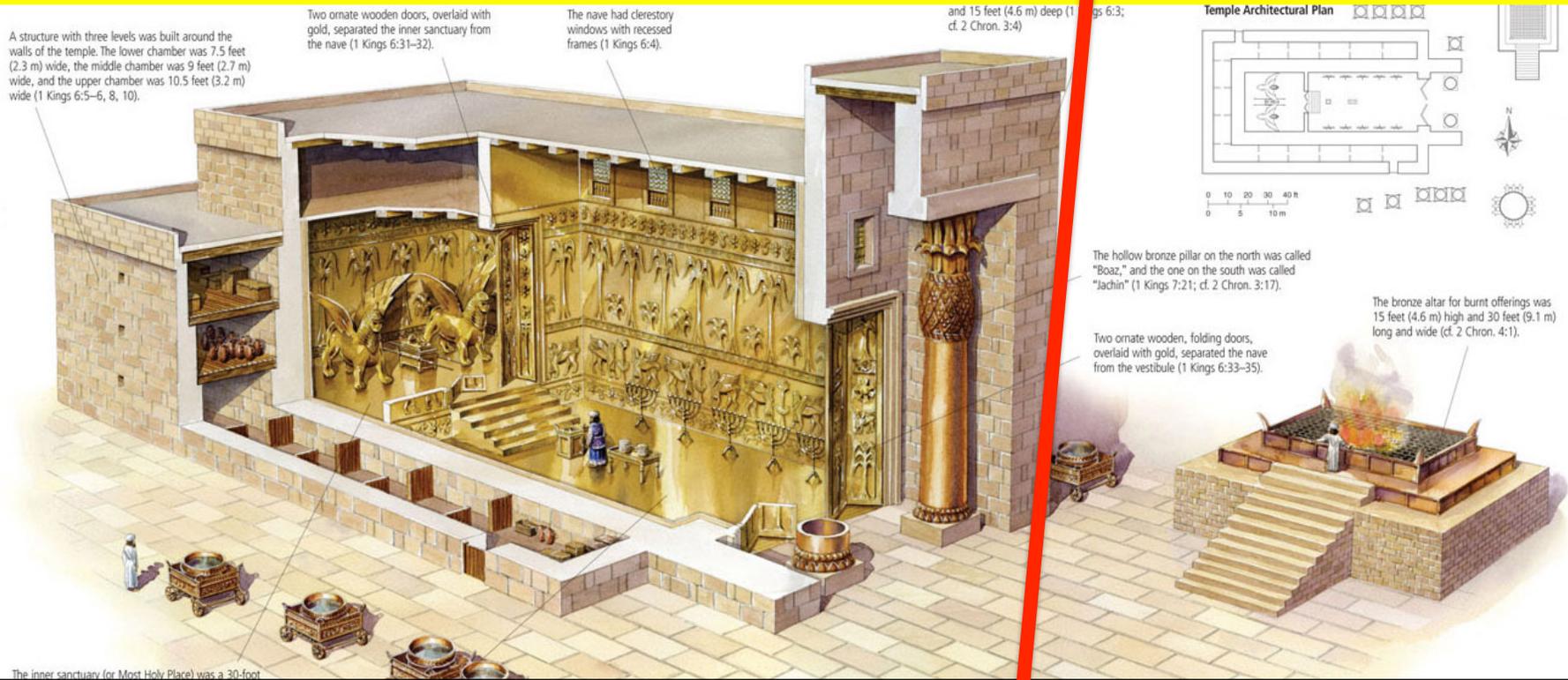
The "sea" was a metal basin 7.5 feet (2.3 m) high and 15 feet (4.6 m) in diameter. It held 12,000 gallons.

SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

Solomon began to build "the house of the LORD" in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah in the spring of 967 or 966 a.c. (1 Kings 6:1; 2 Chron. 3:1-2) and completed it seven years later, in the fall of 960 or 959 (1 Kings 6:38). The temple itself, not including the surrounding chambers on three sides, was 90 feet (27 m) long, 30 feet (9 m) wide, and 45 feet (14 m) high. It stood in the middle of a court with boundary walls.

Did It Matter How The Temple and Contents Were Made?

Did It Matter How The Temple and Contents Were Made?



“All this, said David, “the LORD made me understand in writing by His hand upon me, all the details of this pattern.”

1 Chronicles 28:19

“Now if He were on earth, He would not be a priest at all, since there are those who offer the gifts according to the Law; Who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses was warned by God when he was about to erect the tabernacle; for, “SEE,” He says, “THAT YOU MAKE all things ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN WHICH WAS SHOWN YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN.””

Hebrews 8:4-5

According To The Pattern

#1 Had A Purpose

#2 It Is The Lord's

**Neither A Completed Tabernacle
By The Pattern nor A Completed
Temple By The Pattern Were
Pleasing To God Unless The Faith
Driven Relationship To God Was
Also Intact.**

**Malachi 1-2
Isaiah 1:11-15
Jeremiah 7:12-15 Go To Shiloh**

Eph. 2:20-21 (20) having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, (21) in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord,



- 1. Does The “Cornerstone” Matter?**
- 2. Does The “Foundation” Matter?**
- 3. Does The “Whole Building” Being Fitted Together Matter?**
- 4. Does The “Temple” Matter?**

**To
Me?**

It Does To God... (vs. 22)

