

- The world's largest visual aid in the world's largest visual aid (Exodus/Old Testament)
  - A Simple Picture – making abstract ideas clear
  - An Important Picture – more space devoted to it than 37 creation account
  - A Theological Picture – What does it tell me about God and salvation?
  - An Anticipatory Picture – Looks forward to a closer God, even more visible

### 1. A Place for God

- God takes initiative (v8) and gives precise instructions—not our own ideas
- God gives one place of sacrifice, one way to come to him
  - a) **God is with us**
    - The God who rescues (ch 1-13) and rules (14-24) also resides with his people
    - No longer will he be distant and occasionally make himself known. He has come to stay, even among a sinful people.
  - b) **God is like us**
    - He chooses to come and live in a tent with a fireplace like his people
    - He is a God who humbles himself to be like his people.
    - Anticipates Matthew 1:22, John 1:14, Eph 2:22, 1 Cor 6:19, Rev 21:3
    - Anticipates Christ – a hidden glory.

### 2. A Picture of God

- Balances previous point – God is also unlike us in many ways.
  - a) **God is King**
    - 1 ton gold, 3.5 silver, 2.25 bronze. €15 million. Ark of Covenant = Throne.
  - b) **God is Holy**
    - Increasing circles of holiness from edge of camp in. Courtyard ⇒ Holy Place ⇒ Most Holy Place
    - But holiest place hidden from sight – no-one can approach – Cherubim guard the way.
  - c) **God is Forgiving**
    - Only approach is by sacrifice and washing
    - A substitute is needed. Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness – Hebrews 9:22
    - Points forward to a High Priest offering a sacrifice that opens up the way – Hebrews 9:6-14
  - d) **God is Glorious**
    - The richness of the materials, the symmetry combine to make the Most Holy Place a glorious space. A perfect cube of glory.
    - Heaven pictured as a cube (Rev 21:16) – because it is the true and better Most Holy Place where we get to be in God's glorious presence forever.

### Notices

Thanksgiving Collection - Our end of year way of thanking God for all his goodness to us in the year past. This year our giving will be divided between:

The Relief Committee for work in Africa (Horn of Africa and Zambia)  
Christian Institute (supporting Christian standards in society)  
Mission to Italy (helping publish Christian books in Italian)

Sunday	Evening meeting at Day Centre	8pm
Tuesday	Tabernacle DVD @ Mark & Judith's	8pm

### Camp Reunions

Camp reunion forms available for the young people - Reunions in Jan & Feb.

### Spring Conference

3-5th Feb Topic: Mission in the Footsteps of Jesus. Speaker: Rev John Nicholls, Chief Executive, London City Mission. Venue: Glenada Christian Conference Centre, Newcastle. *Application forms available*

### Castlewellan Holiday Conference

*Forms available for this summer holiday conference - must be in by Saturday 15th February*

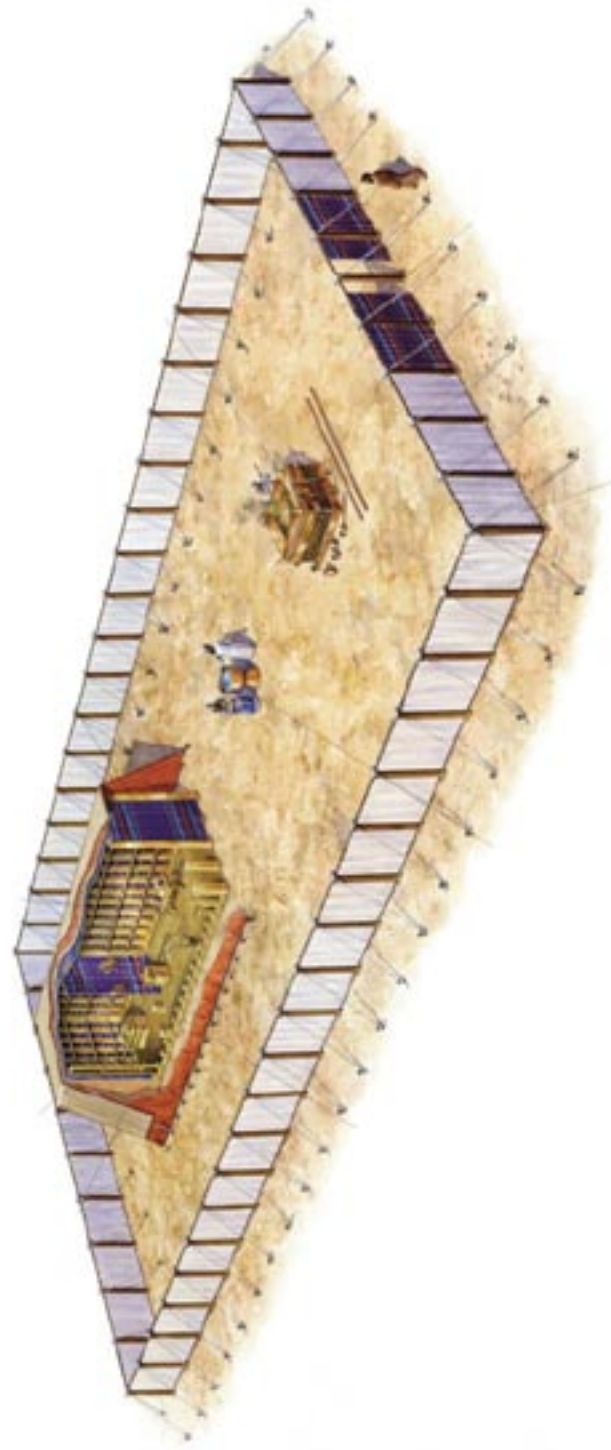


## Christianity Explored

A 6-week course designed to let you find out the facts about Jesus, and to find answers to your questions the Bible and Christianity.

- You don't need to know anything about the Bible
- You won't be asked to read, pray or answer questions
- You will be given every opportunity to ask your own questions

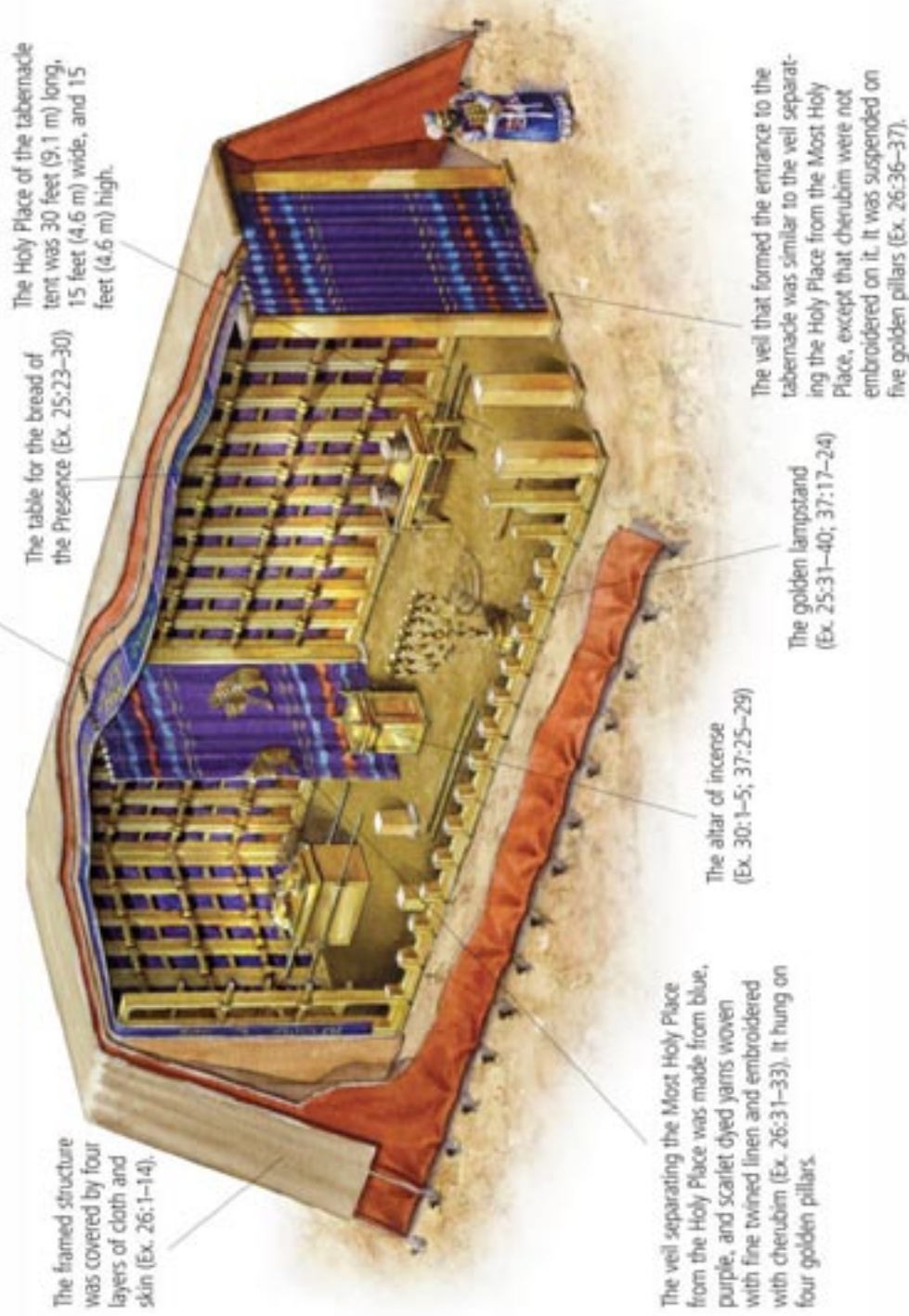
If you're interested in finding out more, or having one in your home for friends to come to - speak to Mark



## THE TABERNACLE TENT

The entire tent was 45 feet (13.7 m) long, 15 feet (4.6 m) wide, and 15 feet (4.6 m) high. It was a wooden skeletal structure, overlaid with gold, with no solid roof or front wall (Ex. 26:15–29). Five wooden bars (overlaid with gold) passed through rings attached to each frame (Ex. 26:26–30).

The Most Holy Place was a 15-foot (4.6-m) cube, containing only the ark of the covenant (Ex. 25:10–22; 37:1–9). It was here that Yahweh would descend to meet with his people in a cloud theophany (divine appearance). The high priest could enter only once a year, on the Day of Atonement (see note on Heb. 9:7).



The framed structure was covered by four layers of cloth and skin (Ex. 26:1–14).

The table for the bread of the Presence (Ex. 25:23–30)

The Holy Place of the tabernacle tent was 30 feet (9.1 m) long, 15 feet (4.6 m) wide, and 15 feet (4.6 m) high.

The veil separating the Most Holy Place from the Holy Place was made from blue, purple, and scarlet dyed yarns woven with fine twined linen and embroidered with cherubim (Ex. 26:31–33). It hung on four golden pillars.

The altar of incense (Ex. 30:1–5; 37:25–29)

The golden lampstand (Ex. 25:31–40; 37:17–24)

The veil that formed the entrance to the tabernacle was similar to the veil separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place, except that cherubim were not embroidered on it. It was suspended on five golden pillars (Ex. 26:36–37).