



A FRESH LOOK

NEW TESTAMENT CONCEPTS OF WORSHIP AND ASSEMBLY

WORSHIP IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

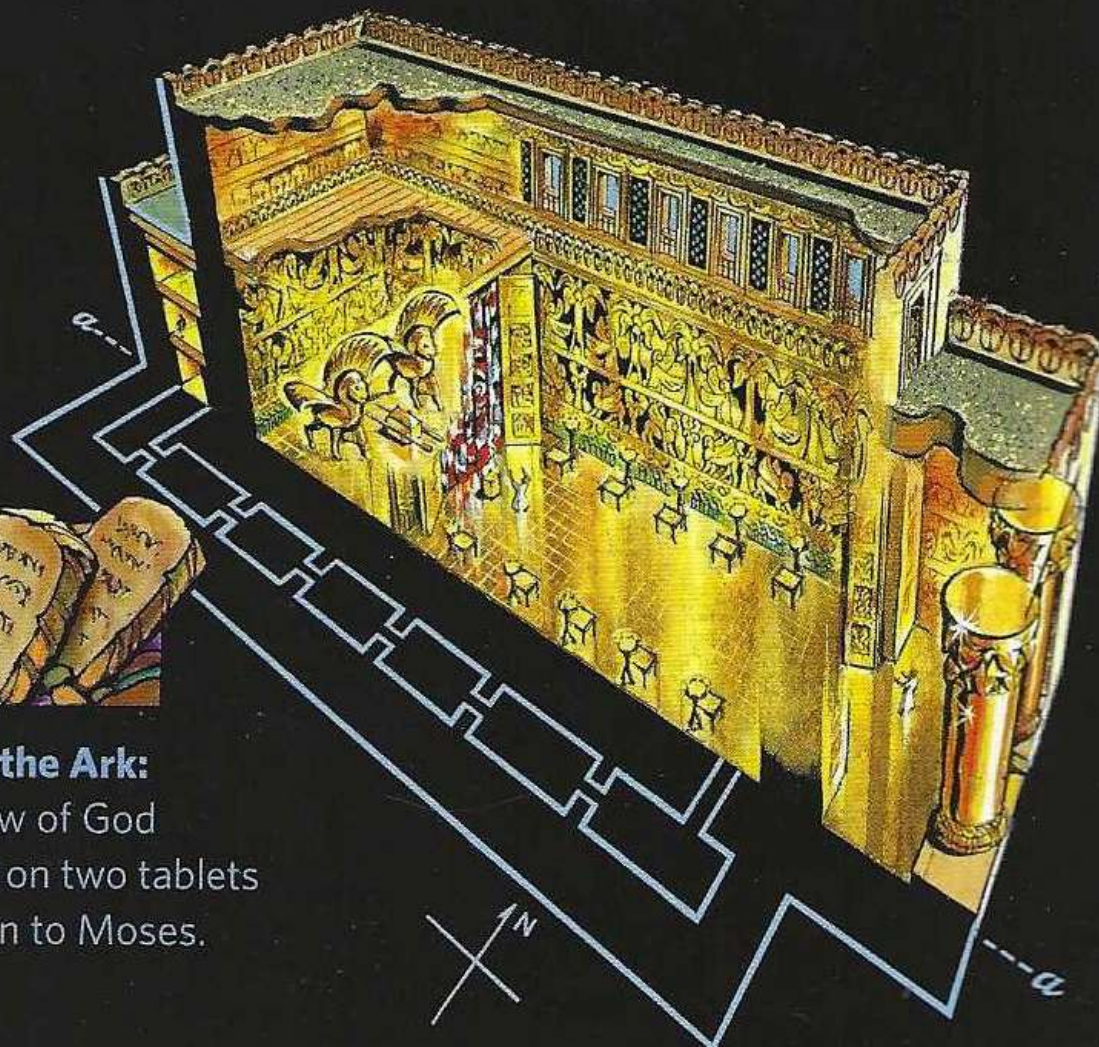
- Hebrews 9:1-10

¹ Now even the first covenant had regulations for **worship** (*latreuo*). and an earthly place of holiness. ² For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence. It is called the Holy Place. ³ Behind the second curtain was a second section called the Most Holy Place, ⁴ having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant. ⁵ Above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

WORSHIP IN THE OLD TESTAMENT



Inside the Ark:
The Law of God
carved on two tablets
as given to Moses.



WORSHIP IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

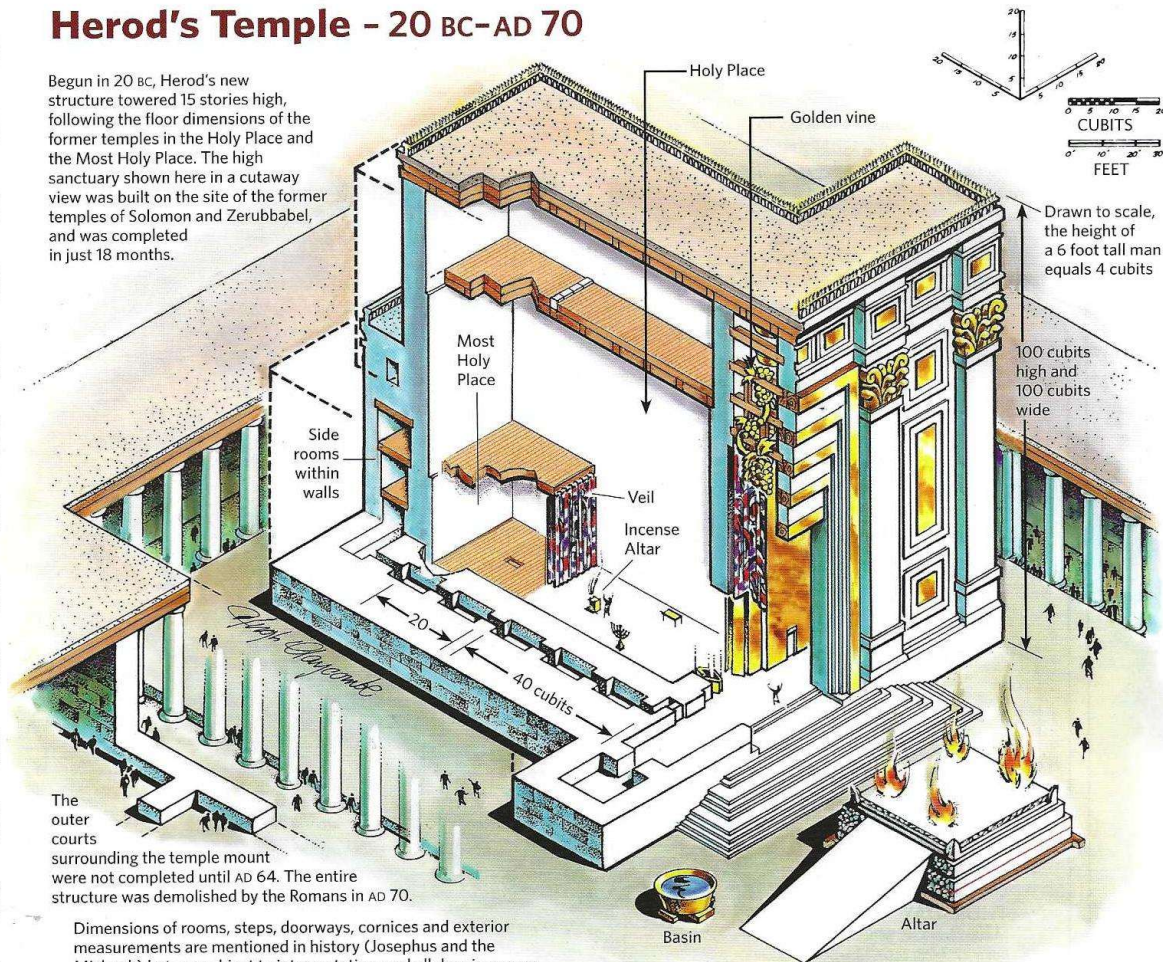
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⁶ These preparations having thus been made, the priests go regularly into the first section, performing the devine **worship** (*latreuo*), ⁷ but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the unintentional sins of the people. ⁸ By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the holy places is not yet opened as long as the first section is still standing ⁹ (which is **foreshadow** for the present age). According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper, (*latreuo*)¹⁰ but deal only with food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until the time of reformation.

WORSHIP IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Herod's Temple - 20 BC-AD 70

Begun in 20 BC, Herod's new structure towered 15 stories high, following the floor dimensions of the former temples in the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. The high sanctuary shown here in a cutaway view was built on the site of the former temples of Solomon and Zerubbabel, and was completed in just 18 months.

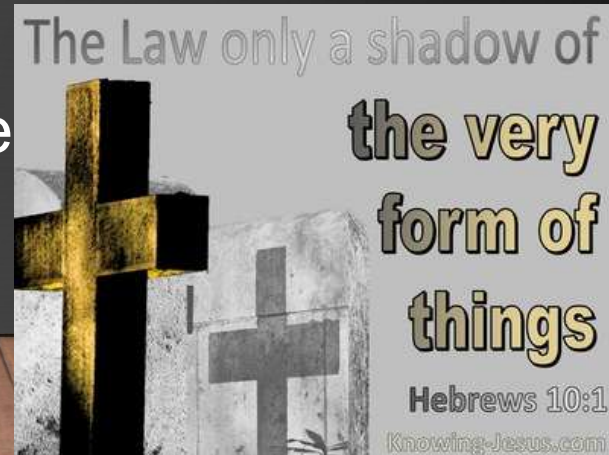


Dimensions of rooms, steps, doorways, cornices and exterior measurements are mentioned in history (Josephus and the Mishnah) but are subject to interpretation, and all drawings vary.

WORSHIP IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- Hebrews 10:1-4

¹ For since the law has but a **shadow** of the good things to come instead of the **true form** of these **realities**, it can never, by the same **sacrifices** that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. ² Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers (*latreuo*), having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? ³ But in these **sacrifices** there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.



WORSHIP IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- Where is the temple in the New Testament?
 - 1 Cor. 3:16 - Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?
 - 6:19-20 - Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.
- Why is the body (both us individually and the collective church) the temple?



You also, as living stones, are being built up into a spiritual house for a holy priesthood

WORSHIP IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- Where is the temple in the New Testament? **We are the temple.**
- Why is the body (both us individually and the collective church) the temple? **The Holy Spirits dwells in us.**
- Who are the priests that offer the sacrifices?
 - 1 Peter 2:5 - you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.



You also, as living stones, are being built up into a spiritual house for a holy priesthood

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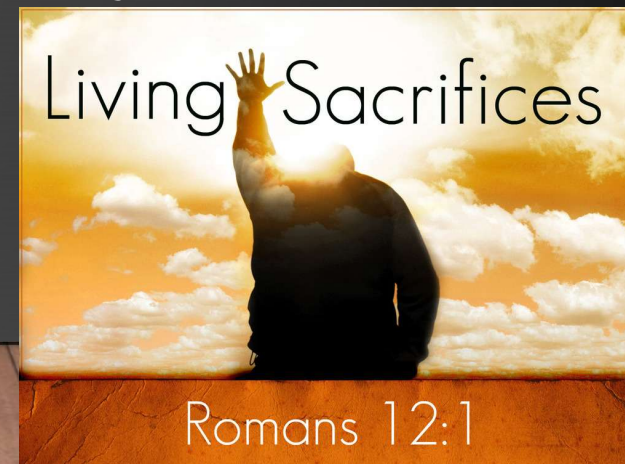
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- Why is the body (both us individually and the collective church) the temple? **The Holy Spirits dwells in us.**
- Who are the priests that offer the sacrifices?
 - 1 Peter 2:9 - 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.



You also, as living stones, are being built up into a spiritual house for a holy priesthood

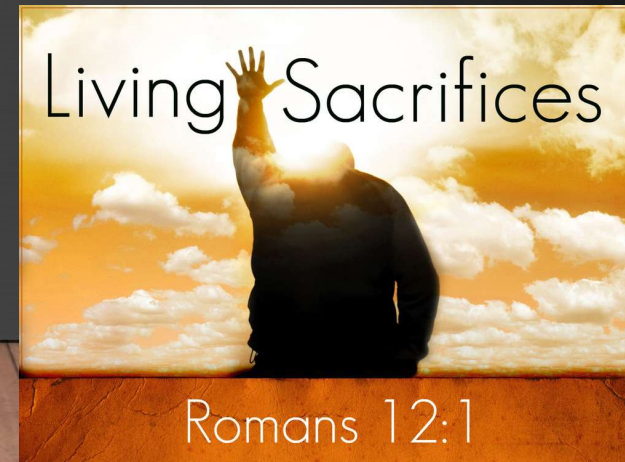
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- Where is the temple in the New Testament? **We are the temple.**
- Why is the body (both us individually and the collective church) the temple? **The Holy Spirits dwells in us.**
- Who are the priests that offer the sacrifices? **We are the priests.**
- What are the sacrifices?
 - Rom. 12:1 - I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a **living sacrifice**, holy and acceptable to God, which is your **spiritual worship** (*latreuo*).



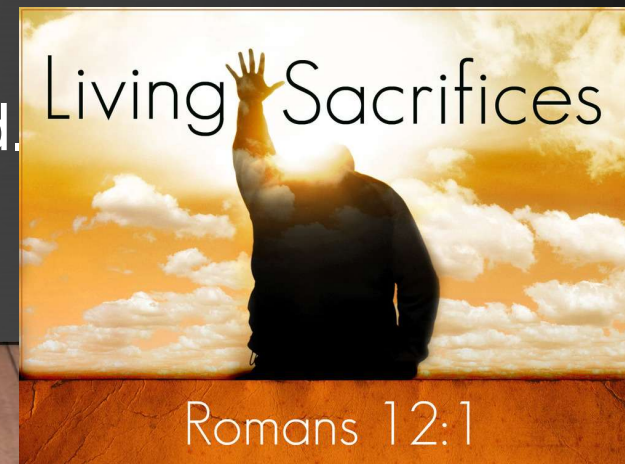
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- What are the sacrifices?
 - Heb. 13:16) - Do not neglect to **do good** and to **share** what you have, for such **sacrifices** are pleasing to God.



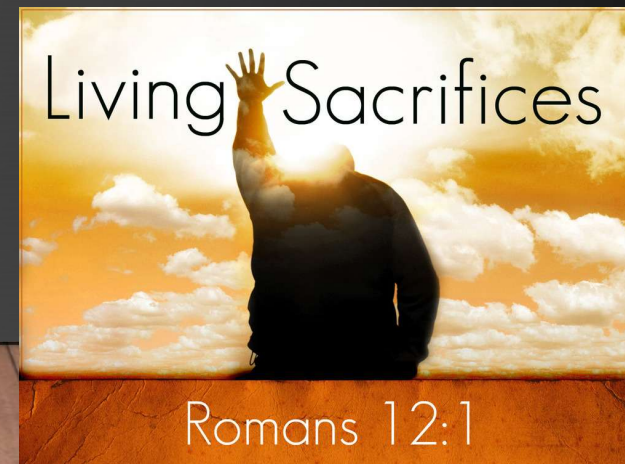
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- What are the sacrifices? **The way you live and good deeds.**
- **When is the worship performed?** Rom. 12:1
 - 1 Cor. 10:31 - So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.



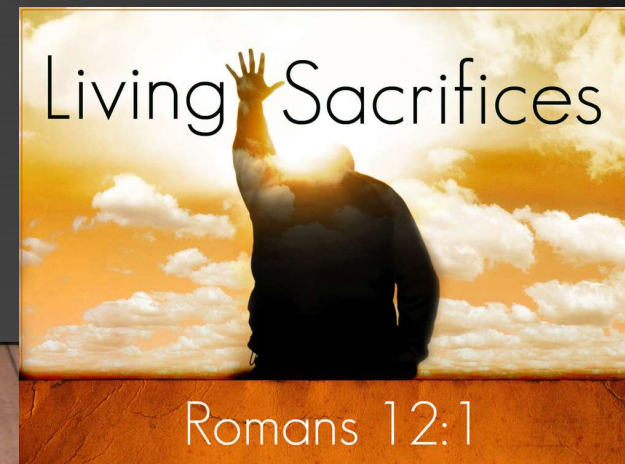
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- What are the sacrifices? **The way you live and good deeds.**
- **When is the worship performed?** Rom. 12:1
 - Col. 3:17 - And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.



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- What are the sacrifices? **The way you live and good deeds.**
- When is the worship performed? **All the time.**
- What does it mean to worship in the Spirit and in Truth?
- **Jesus said the change was to be from:
Physical Symbolism to Spiritual Reality**



Living Sacrifices

Romans 12:1

WORSHIP IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

- Have we historically associated worship more with the Sunday assembly?
 - Why?
- Have we historically placed a higher importance on what we do when we assemble than what we do in everyday living?
- From where did we inherit an elevated view of corporate worship?
- What phrases do we use that helps perpetuate an elevated view of corporate worship?
- What can we do to help move to a more balanced emphasis?