



# THE TABERNACLE

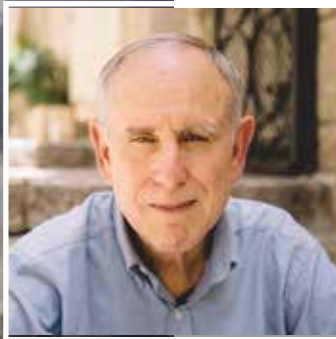
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The Tabernacle: A Portrait of  
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## THE TABERNACLE:

# A PORTRAIT OF REDEMPTION



FROM THE  
PRESIDENT,  
MITCH GLASER

Dear Friend in the Messiah,  
Shalom in His grace.

Let me tell you how excited I am about a new Bible teaching project we have been working on these past several months! We are partnering with a wonderful Christian production company to create a **virtual three-dimensional model and tour of the Tabernacle**, which was the “portable Temple” where God dwelt during the Israelites’ journeys on the way to the promised land. The Hebrew for “tabernacle” is *mishkan*, which means dwelling place.

In Exodus 25:1–27:19, Moses outlined the plan for the Tabernacle, which God revealed to him on Mount Sinai. In many ways, the Tabernacle is a biblical type that points to the person and work of Messiah Jesus. That is one reason why I believe it is crucial that we understand the Tabernacle! Within this incredible structure, we find the “spiritual essentials” we need to worship the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Once done, we hope our 3D model will help you experience the Tabernacle in a fresh and deeper way. You will find several images of the model in this newsletter.

Now, allow me to give you a “sneak peek” by examining the Tabernacle’s components and showing why they are important for anyone who wants to live for the Lord.

## THE ALTAR (מִזְבֵּיחַ)—*mizbeiach*

One of the major roles of the priests was to offer sacrifices to God on the altar (Exodus 27:1–8) in the Tabernacle (and eventually the Temple). One cannot underestimate the importance of the required sacrifices for atonement. We read in Leviticus 17:11, “*For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and*



*I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.”*

Yeshua was the lamb of God who offered Himself as a sacrifice, and His death atoned for the sins of Israel and the entire world (John 1:29). We are grateful for God’s sacrifice of His Son for our salvation. As followers of the Messiah, we also offer ourselves in sacrificial service, which is our spiritual duty (Romans 12:1–2).



## THE LAVER (פִּיּוֹר)—*kiyor*

The priests were commanded to cleanse themselves in the laver, or basin, before offering sacrifices (Exodus 30:17–20). This law teaches us a key lesson, as there must be **purity before we are able to worship**. The laver teaches us the importance of purity and cleansing in our spiritual lives. In fact, the cleansing that Israel and the world needs is not produced by bathing in water, but rather we are washed and purified through the blood of Jesus. The laver points to the perfect cleansing we experience by faith through His sacrifice for our sins.

I believe the Lord had the death of the Messiah Jesus in mind when the prophet wrote, *“In that day a fountain will be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for impurity”* (Zechariah 13:1).

This end-time cleansing will take place when the Jewish people turn to Him who was pierced (Zechariah 12:10). For those of us who already know the Lord, we understand God forgives and cleanses us each day as we confess our sins and re-experience the full power of His atoning blood (1 John 1:9).



## THE LAMPSTAND (מְנוֹרָה)—*menorah*

God instructed Israel to make a lampstand with six branches (Exodus 25:31–40). Light is an integral theme in the Bible and a key element of our walk with God. His light guides us. His word is a lamp to our feet and a light that keeps us from stumbling (Psalm 119:105). The Lord chose Israel to be a light to the nations, yet His Son Yeshua, Himself an Israelite, shines this light more brightly than any individual or nation.

He is the light of the world, as John wrote, *“I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life”* (John 8:12).

## THE ETERNAL LIGHT (נֵר תָּמִיד)—*ner tamid*

God told Israel to burn a lamp continually in the Tabernacle (Exodus 27:20–21). This eternal light points to God’s eternal, glorious, and holy character. God is unchanging in His attributes and nature. The ever-present light reminds us that the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob exists from everlasting to everlasting and that His Son shares the same nature. Therefore, Micah wrote that the Messiah’s *“goings forth are from long ago, from the days of eternity”* (Mic 5:2).



## THE BREAD OF THE PRESENCE

(לֶחֶם פָּנִים)—*lechem panim*

In the ancient Middle East and even today, a meal is the ultimate expression of intimacy and friendship between individuals. The bread of the Presence refers to a meal we can share with God that speaks of this potential depth of intimacy and friendship with the King of kings. Israel was to always have bread on a table in the Tabernacle (Exodus 25:23–30; Leviticus 24:5–6).

Yeshua has made a way for us to enter into and enjoy this relationship with the Lord. **We are forgiven friends of the almighty and holy God of the universe through the sacrifice of Yeshua** (John 15:15). In Him, we are free to fellowship with God like friends sharing a meal. We also joyfully await the marriage supper of the Lamb when the Messiah will dine with His bride (Revelation 19:9).

The laver and the altar prepare our hearts for the beauty of this eternal fellowship with the Lord and Creator of all things.



## THE ALTAR OF INCENSE

(מִזְבֵּחַ הַקְּטֹרֶת)—*mizbach ha-ketoret*

Prayers of intercession were another special responsibility of the priests. God instructed them to continually burn incense in the Tabernacle (Exodus 30:1–10) to symbolize their prayers wafting between earth and heaven.

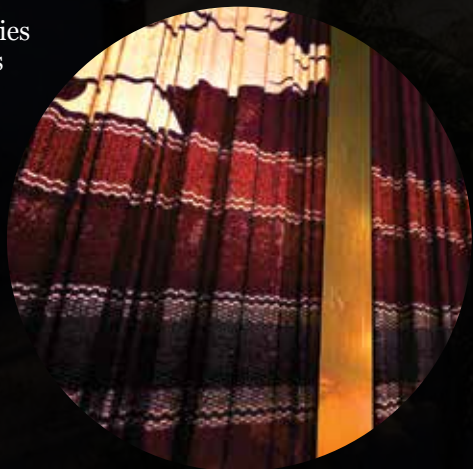
Prayer is, of course, critical to our spiritual life. It is the line of communication between us and the Lord. We may pray liturgically or spontaneously—with or without a formula. Just as the priests were to burn incense constantly, we are to pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17).



## THE DIVIDING VEIL (פָּרֹכֶת)—*parochet*

This veil was a curtain that divided the holy place and the Holy of Holies (Exodus 26:31–33). Once a year, the high priest entered the Holy of Holies to offer the Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) sacrifice (Leviticus 16).

The moment Yeshua died on Golgotha, the veil in the Temple was torn in two (Matthew 27:51) as a sign that all who believe now have access to the Holy of Holies through faith in the justifying work of Yeshua on the cross (Romans 5:1–2; Hebrews 10:19–20). One of the critical components of a healthy spiritual life is recognizing the access we have to God through the Messiah. Nothing can stand between us and God. We simply need to take advantage of this marvelous and privileged access to the presence of God, nurtured through prayer, reading Scripture, fellowship, meditation, and obedience for those cleansed by His atoning blood.





## THE ARK (אֲרוֹן)—*aron*

In Exodus 25:10–22, God told the Israelites how to build the ark. He commanded them to place several important items in the ark, including the two stone tablets on which God wrote the Ten Commandments (Deuteronomy 10:1–5), Aaron’s blooming rod (Numbers 17:1–11), and a pot of manna (Exodus 16:33–34). All these items testified to God’s faithfulness to the Jewish people. These reminders of God’s word, the miracle of His transforming power, and His provision were important, and they reminded the high priest of why his obligations to the rest of the nation were so critical.

Yeshua is represented by each of the three items within the ark. As to the manna, He said, *“I am the living bread that came down out of heaven”* (John 6:51). Aaron’s rod was a definitive symbol of God’s power, representing how Jesus was God on earth; *“I and the Father are one”* (John 10:30). Finally, the word of God, represented by the stone tablets, finds its greatest fulfillment in the Messiah, *“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth”* (John 1:14).

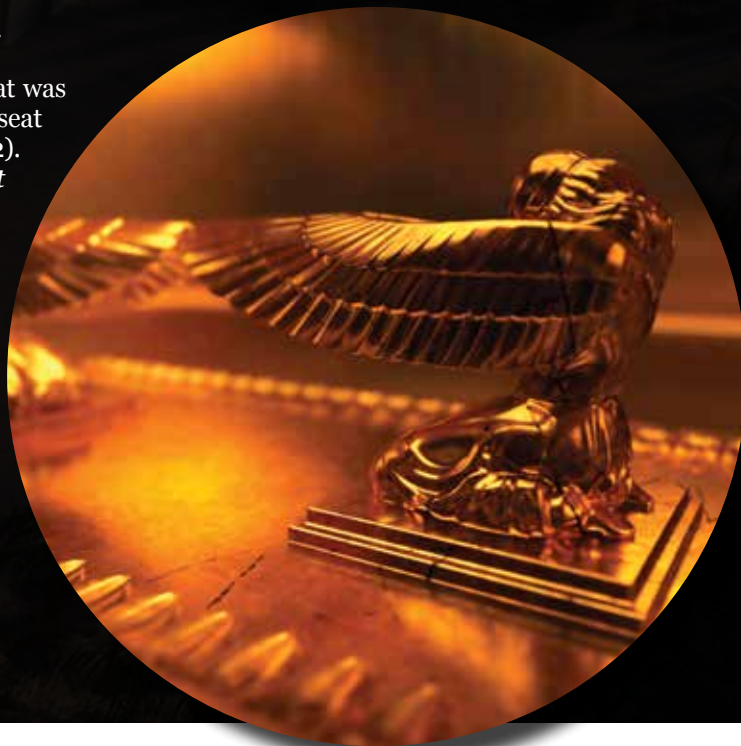


## THE MERCY SEAT (כַּפֹּרֶת)—*kaporet*

The mercy seat is the piece of Tabernacle furniture that was most significant for the ancient Israelites. The mercy seat covered the ark in the Holy of Holies (Exodus 25:17–22). One might think of the mercy seat as **atonement central**. It was where the high priest sprinkled blood when he entered the Holy of Holies once a year to seek atonement for the whole nation of Israel (Leviticus 16:14–15).

**Yeshua died once for all, for all humanity,** and His one sacrifice suffices for all time (Hebrews 9:11–14). His blood fully cleanses all who believe. Yet, that is not the end of His work as our perfect High Priest, as Jesus continually intercedes for us in heaven. As the author of Hebrews wrote, *“Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them”* (Heb 7:25).

He is our everlasting High Priest!



## IN CONCLUSION

As you can see, the Tabernacle gives us much to consider as this mobile Temple reveals so many of the essential building blocks that shape our spiritual lives. The Tabernacle pointed to Jesus our Messiah who fulfills every intricate feature of the Tabernacle. The shadows match the substance. I hope this brief guide to the Tabernacle encourages you to more deeply appreciate the atonement Jesus made for us.

Thanks to Him and Him alone, we can draw near to the Lord each and every moment of our lives!

United in His magnificent work of redemption,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mitch".

Mitch

## Micah 4:1-3

# God's Future Reign in Israel

**M**icah 4:1–3 describes God's reign in Jerusalem as a mountain to which all nations will stream in the last days. Micah's wording in this passage is virtually identical to Isaiah 2:2–4. So, naturally, scholars ask, "Who copied from whom?" Or, they posit that maybe both prophets used the same older source for their information. But I like how Harry Ironside, Bible teacher, pastor, and author, responded to the debate of who borrowed from whom. "We are not dealing with men's literature but with God's inspired Word. The apostle wrote, *'The testimony of two men is true'* (John 8:17), and God has given the same promise of millennial blessing through both Micah and Isaiah, that everyone may know that neither wrote from himself but as he was moved by the Holy Spirit. It should be no surprise that He chose to use the same language on each occasion."<sup>1</sup>

Micah 4 begins by referring to a future time: "*And it will come about in the last days.*" The phrase "the last days" refers to the eschatological future, usually the Tribulation period or the millennium. Micah continues, "*That the mountain of the house of the Lord will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, and the peoples will stream to it.*" "The mountain of the house of the Lord" usually refers to Mount Zion, where the First and Second Temples (the Lord's house) stood and, according to the prophet Ezekiel, will stand again. Micah writes that, in the future, Mount Zion will become "the chief of the mountains," rising above all other hills in its importance.

Interestingly, some interpreters see this as referring to a future change in the physical topography of Jerusalem. Zechariah shows this geographical transformation more explicitly when he records the return of Jesus to earth. "*In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a vast valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south*" (Zech 14:4).

In Micah 4:2, the prophet tells us that many nations beyond the borders of Israel will stream to God's mountain: "*Many nations will come and say, 'Come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord and to the house of the God of Jacob, that He*

*may teach us about His ways and that we may walk in His paths.' For from Zion will go forth the law, even the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.*" Those nations will come to the Jerusalem of the millennial kingdom to learn the Lord's ways from the Israelites. This way, Israel will finally fulfill its function as a kingdom of priests (Exodus 19:6).

Consider the contrast with Micah chapter three, in which the prophet predicts the destruction of the Temple and the city of Jerusalem: "*Therefore, on account of you Zion will be plowed as a field, Jerusalem will become a heap of ruins, and the mountain of the temple will become high places of a forest*" (Mic 3:12). After predicting the destruction of the Temple and the city in Israel's immediate future, Micah predicts a return to glory far beyond what it had previously.

Can you imagine all the great capitals of the world and their leaders coming to Jerusalem to learn the ways of God? Of course, we are not yet in the last days when Jesus our Messiah will reign on the earth as King of kings and Lord of lords. But we look forward to His soon arrival and Israel's glorious future!



Looking from the Temple Mount to the Mount of Olives



Rich Freeman, DMin, serves as the vice president for Church Ministries and Conferences with Chosen People Ministries and lives in South Florida with his wife, Julia.

<sup>1</sup> H. A. Ironside, *The Minor Prophets, An Ironside Expository Commentary* (Kregel Academic, 2004), 159.



# MINISTRY NEWS BRIEFS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

## A SHORT CONVERSATION HAS ETERNAL REWARD

Adam\* is a Jewish believer who came to Messiah a few years ago while on the phone with one of our missionaries, and another of our missionaries has had a relationship with him throughout the pandemic by phone. A few weeks ago, Adam called our staff member and told him that just moments before the phone call, he had been playing Russian roulette when the Lord led him to call our missionary, who was able to help Adam refocus his thoughts on Christ, which helped make a big difference. The challenges Adam was facing were not going to suddenly resolve themselves, and he was holding himself to blame for every mistake he had ever made, and it was overwhelming him. Our staff reminded him that because of the finished work on the cross, Jesus made it possible to move forward from every mistake and every error.

Adam made a commitment to look ahead while learning from the mistakes he made, which is ultimately what we are all called to do. He told our missionary he would put the gun away and trust in Jesus, but Adam needs our prayers. We never know how just being a part of someone's life may have eternal consequences.

## “TAX COLLECTORS AND PROSTITUTES ARE ENTERING THE KINGDOM BEFORE YOU”

One of our missionary families runs a ministry to drug addicts and prostitutes in Tel Aviv, and this work has come to bear fruit in the Kingdom! One victory story is about Natan,\* who left the street about a year ago, checked into a discipleship center, became a believer, and was baptized! Please pray for him to continue growing in the Lord. Another story is about Miriam,\* who after many months of being touched by our staff's friendship, finally opened up and connected to our staff member who shared her own testimony and the gospel. While Miriam has yet to embrace Jesus, a real bond was formed between the two ladies, and the Lord is at work! We are often reminded how, in Jesus' ministry, it was the “tax collectors and prostitutes” who believed before some of the more respected and educated citizens (see Matthew 21:31-32). Please pray for Miriam's salvation.

## ISRAELI MISSIONARY SHARES THE GOSPEL WITH PALESTINIAN MAN ON FLIGHT

Recently, one of our Israeli missionaries was on a flight that ended up being a mess—it was delayed, rescheduled, and then in the middle of the flight, they changed the airport to a different destination! But God

had a plan for this flight. Beside our missionary was a man that looked very Middle Eastern. They started talking and joking about the flight. Sometime later the man asked our missionary where he was from, and when he said Israel, the man looked shocked. Our staff then asked him where he was from, and the man said he is Palestinian but lives in Boston. Since they had a couple hours of delays and wrong airports, our missionary had the opportunity to talk with the man about Israel, about the political conflicts, but most importantly about the gospel. He was curious why a Jewish guy living in Chicago is so passionate about Jesus. Closer to the end of the flight, the Palestinian man said he wanted to stay in contact with our missionary and to try to meet again someday. Please pray for this man, that the words our missionary shared will be in his heart, that the hate he feels toward the Jewish people will disappear, and that he will be able to see and receive God's story of reconciliation in the gospel.

## REVIVALS AND BAPTISMS IN GERMANY

Our staff in Germany are experiencing a mini-revival at the moment! Some time ago, they had a scheduled baptism service for three people. However, when asked at the worship service a day earlier if there were others who had

accepted Jesus and wanted to be baptized, six more people professed their faith. So, unexpectedly, there were nine people going into the water. Among those baptized were people of different ages (from 18 through about 70), from different countries, Jewish and Gentiles, with German, Russian, Ukrainian, French, and Spanish languages represented. There was much joy and praise.

After that baptism service, several other people approached our staff member telling him that they believe in Yeshua. So they had another baptism service for them just four weeks later.

Lastly, during an evangelism training program in Berlin, there was an average of five people a day accepting Jesus as their Savior and praying in His name! Our staff person said, “I remember something similar in the 1990s. But nothing like this has happened here for the last two decades. Praise the Lord! A new beginning? New revival? I believe so!”



\*name changed



# THIS IS THE MOMENT TO MAXIMIZE YOUR MINISTRY TO JEWISH PEOPLE—AND MINIMIZE YOUR 2022 TAXES

You are sharing the good news about Messiah with Jewish people everywhere—plus, you are supporting Messianic congregations, providing aid to Ukrainian refugees and vulnerable elderly Holocaust victims, advocating for Israel, and fighting antisemitism. Together with Chosen People Ministries, you are blessing Israel and Jewish people. God promises in Genesis 12:3 you will be blessed for this!

One way we can bless you is with great advice about your year-end giving. This is the perfect season for maximizing your support of our ministry and minimizing your 2022 tax burden. Here are some good options for donating before December 31...

### A donation from your IRA

- If you are 70-1/2 or older, you can make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your Traditional IRA to qualified charities, like Chosen People Ministries, of any amount up to \$100,000 annually. A QCD avoids income tax on your distribution as long as you transfer it directly from your Traditional IRA to Chosen People Ministries. This is generally more tax advantageous than taking the IRA

distribution personally (taxable) and making a contribution to Chosen People Ministries.

- If you are age 72 or older, a QCD also counts toward your required minimum distribution.

### A donation of appreciated assets

Donate appreciated stock or assets (such as real estate, rental homes/property, condos, etc.) that you have held for more than a year, and you will:

- receive a tax deduction for the full fair-market value of the assets (up to 30% of your adjusted gross income), and
- most likely avoid capital gains tax—and thus have more to give

### A donation of cash

Any generous donation you give—when dated and postmarked or given online by midnight December 31—will apply toward this year's taxes.

Each of these options offers benefits for you and will certainly make a difference for the Jewish people who receive the good news—but for bigger impact, you will want to give by the December 31 deadline.



For answers to your questions regarding year-end giving options, contact Cindy Forbes at 212-223-2252, ext. 1208 or [cforbes@chosenpeople.com](mailto:cforbes@chosenpeople.com) today!

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*at Christmas!*

**FROM OUR HEART  
... TO YOUR MINISTRY!**

We understand that the upcoming Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas season is the busiest time on church calendars and for church workers, and one of the most exhausting times for pastors. We are here to help!

**Would your pastor like to be able to take off “sermon duty” one Sunday morning, evening, or weeknight during the holiday season this year—while simultaneously inviting the season to become more meaningful than ever?**

Our missionaries and speakers are here to serve you and your church with timely and inspiring messages:

- Advent through Jewish Eyes
- Without Hanukkah, There Would Be No Christmas
- Christmas through Jewish Eyes
- The Road to Bethlehem

Visit [chosenpeople.com/church-presentations](http://chosenpeople.com/church-presentations) or call 561-737-1431 to book your speaker today!



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A higher purpose.

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