

The background of the entire cover is a vibrant, multi-colored nebula or cosmic cloud. It features swirling patterns of orange, red, yellow, and blue, with numerous small, bright stars scattered throughout. The overall effect is one of a vast, awe-inspiring universe.

The **God** *head*

**Studies on the Father,
Son and Holy Spirit**

Lesson 8

The Father and Son In the Sanctuary

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The Father and Son In the Sanctuary



1. Where can we look to study and learn more about God's ways?

The Bible tells us that God's ways are known in the sanctuary:

Psalms 77:13 "Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?"

What does the sanctuary have to say about the Godhead? How many Beings do the sanctuary and its services reveal to us?

2. How many stages does the sanctuary service entail?

The sanctuary service entailed three stages, the courtyard, the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. We will look at the three stages independently to see what we can learn from them.

I. The Most Holy Place:

a. What lessons can we learn from the Most Holy Place in regards to the Godhead?

God gave strict instructions that only one being other than Himself is allowed to enter the Holy of Holies.

1. Jesus, our High Priest: Only the high priest was allowed to enter into the Most Holy Place (Hebrews 9:6, 7). Jesus is our heavenly High Priest (Hebrews 4:14; 5:10; 6:20)

2. God, the Father on the throne: God's presence dwelt on top of the mercy seat. (Exodus 25:21, 22; Psalms 80:1). God, the Father is the One sitting on the throne in the heavenly

sanctuary (Revelation 4:2; 5:1-6).

3. ***Jesus presents our prayers to the Father:*** Only one being, the high priest, was able to take the incense in the presence of God on the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16:11-13). The incense represents the prayers of the saints mingled with Christ's righteousness (Psalms 141:2, Revelation 5:8; 8:3). It is Christ who receives our prayers and presents them to His Father mingled with His merit and righteousness.

b. How many divine Beings does the Most Holy Place presents us with? And who are They?

A simple study of the Most Holy Place in the earthly sanctuary presents us with only two divine Beings, the Father and the Son, represented by the earthly high priest and God's presence on the throne.

II. The Holy Place:

a. What lessons can we learn from the earthly Holy Place in regards to the Godhead?

1. ***Jesus is our heavenly Priest/High Priest:*** The priests or the high priest who officiated in the first apartment is a symbol or type of Christ, our High Priest.

2. ***God's presence in the Holy Place:*** The Bible also tells us that in the earthly sanctuary God manifested His glory in both apartments.

Exodus 33:9-11 “And it came to pass, as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the LORD talked with Moses. And all the people saw the cloudy pillar stand at the tabernacle door: and all the people rose up and worshipped, every man in his tent door. And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.” (See also Exodus 29:42-44; 30:36; 40:34,

35; 1Kings 8:10, 11; 2 Chronicles 5:13, 14; 7:1, 2.)

In Exodus 33:9-11 we have the example of the presence of two living beings—Moses, the Mediator, and God. Of course we know that Moses represents Jesus, the only Mediator between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5). Hence this example points forward to the presence of both—Jesus, our Mediator and High Priest, and God, the Father in the first apartment of the heavenly sanctuary.

3. Table of Showbread: The Table of Showbread had two rows of bread on it, six in each row (Leviticus 24: 5, 6). These two rows represented the Father and the Son; here is why:

- **Two Crowns:** The Table of Showbread had two crowns or a double crown on it (Exodus 25:23- 25). Why two?
- **Jesus is the Bread:** The bread represents Jesus (John 6:51). But Jesus said “I and my Father are one” (John 10:30). Hence the bread could represent the Father as well. That is why God instructed the priest to place the bread in two stacks (not 1 or 3) representing the Father and the Son on a table which had two crowns (not 1 or 3).
- **Jesus shares the Father’s throne:** Revelation 3:21 tells us that Jesus shares His Father’s throne; hence there are two divine Beings on the throne.
- The Table of Shewbread with the two stacks on it is a fit representation of the Father and Son’s presence in the first apartment of the heavenly sanctuary during which Jesus fulfilled His ministration in the Holy Place.

b. How many divine Beings does the earthly Holy Place present us with? And who are They?

A study of the earthly Holy Place proves the presence of only two Being, Jesus, the Mediator/Priest, and God, the Father. Again only two living Beings, not three.

c. What about the Holy Spirit? Is it present in the Holy Place?

In the Holy Place there are impersonal and inanimate elements that represent the Holy Spirit such as the oil used to light the candle stick. But the point is that nowhere do we see a third living being representing the Holy Spirit. The spirit is there, yes, but not like the Father and the Son. The oil is a symbol of the spirit, yet the oil is used in the Holy Place to produce light which is a symbol of Jesus (John 8:12, 9:5).

III. The courtyard:

a. What lessons can we learn from the courtyard in regards to the Godhead?

The service in the courtyard involved three living beings:

1. Jesus is the Sacrifice: The sacrifice, whether a lamb or a bullock, etc (Leviticus 4:3), represented Jesus, the Son of God (John 1:26,39).

2. We are the sinners: The sinner who slew the sacrifice with his own hands (Leviticus 4:4) represented the sinner who confesses his sins and offers up spiritual sacrifices (1Peter 2:5).

3. Jesus is the anointed Priest: The anointed priest took the blood into the sanctuary (Leviticus 4:5). This also represents Jesus our High Priest. (Hebrews 4:14; 5:10; 6:20)

b. How many divine Beings does the courtyard service present us with?

These were the only living beings that were involved in the courtyard service. We only see one divine Being.

c. What do the other priests represent?

Of course more than one priest officiated in the courtyard as well as in the Holy Place. These priests can represent one of two options:

1. a type of Christ

2. all the saints (The Bible calls the followers of Jesus a “royal

priesthood” (1Peter 2:9). They represent the people working in cooperation with Divinity.)

Regardless which one you believe to be the correct one, the point still stands, there is no living being representing the Holy Spirit.

d. What about the Holy Spirit, is it represented in the courtyard?
Again we see in the court yard some representations of the Holy Spirit but they are impersonal and inanimate unlike the representations for Jesus. For example:

1. fire on the altar of burnt offering—In Acts 2:3 we see the Spirit poured out in the appearance of cloven tongues of fire.
2. water in the laver—In the New Testament water has been used to represent the Spirit (see John 4:14; 7: 38, 39; Revelation 22:1).

But the point still stands, nowhere do we see the Spirit represented as a living being like the Father and the Son.

e. What is one of the roles of the high priest in the court- yard that relates to Jesus’ work on earth?

It is important to note that one of the roles or duties of the high priest was to teach the people (Ezekiel 44:23), which of course took place outside the tabernacle since none other than the priests could enter there in. In other words, the priest was not only to minister in the sanctuary before God, he was also to go out and teach the people.

The fascinating thing is that the priests were to change their garments before going out to the people. They had to put on a different garment (or outfit) than the one they wore in the presence of God.

Ezekiel 44:19 “And when they go forth into the utter court, even

into the utter court to the people, they shall put off their garments wherein they ministered, and lay them in the holy chambers, and they shall put on other garments; and they shall not sanctify the people with their garments.”

It is here where I believe the type gives us a very interesting and illuminating insight. One of the duties of Christ, our High Priest, is to teach the people outside the sanctuary. Not only that, but according to the type, He is to wear a different outfit, or He is to appear in “another form” different than while in the presence of God.

And that is exactly what Christ is doing. While Jesus ministers in the sanctuary above in His physical or bodily form, He is still—by His Spirit—the minister of the church on earth. (Galatians 4:6). Jesus Has promised to be with us always, and never leave us or forsake us (Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5). The Bible tells us that Jesus was with His followers “working with them” (Mark 16:20). As you can see, the earthly sanctuary presents us with only two divine Beings: the Father and the Son. There is no room for a third living being in the sanctuary. In addition to that, the sanctuary service teaches us that to fulfil the type, Jesus has to do what the priest did, namely: go out and teach the people, which He does through His own spirit, the Holy Spirit. The apostles understood that, hence Paul’s declaration that Jesus is the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:17, 1 Corinthians 8:6; also please refer to Lesson 7 for further information.)



NOTES

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