

# Study Three

## The Sanctuary Service—Fulfilled in Jesus!



**Read the following Bible story:**  
Exodus 25:8-9; 40:1-16 (The shadow of heavenly things)

**The Story’s lesson for us today:**  
The earthly sanctuary, its figures, as well as the offerings and services all pointed to God’s foreseen plan for

man’s redemption through the promise of his Son. In antitypical fashion, Jesus today fulfills both the sacrificial offering (once and for all) and the priestly ministrations of intercession on the sinner’s behalf before the heavenly throne and judgment seat of God.

**What Jesus said:** “But I [Jesus] say unto you, That in this place is one greater than the temple.” Matthew 12:6

**Study Note:** Look up the Bible texts to see how Jesus fulfills each emblem of the sanctuary.

**Figure:** *The Sanctuary* (Exodus 25:8-9)

**Type:** *Earthly tabernacle* (Exodus 29:43-44)

**Antitype:** *Heavenly tabernacle* (Hebrews 8:1-2; 9:11)

**Figure:** *Shewbread* (Exodus 25:23, 30)

**Type:** *Earthly ritual—consumed by the priests* (Exodus 29:32-33; Luke 6:4)

**Antitype:** *Jesus' broken body* (Luke 22:19; John 6:35)

**Figure:** *Burning Candlestick—anoined with pure oil* (Exodus 30:25-27)

**Type:** *Earthly ritual—anointing of priests with oil* (Exodus 29:5-9; 30:30)

**Antitype:** *Jesus' anointing with the Holy Spirit* (Isaiah 61:1-3; John 1:32-34; 8:12; Hebrews 1:8-9)

**Figure:** *Altar of Incense* (Exodus 30:1-3, 6-8)

**Type:** *Earthly ritual—priests' daily/yearly intercession* (Exodus 30:7-10)

**Antitype:** *Jesus' priestly intercession* (Romans 8:34; 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1; Revelation 8:3-4)

**Figure:** *Ark of the Covenant and Mercy Seat* (Exodus 25:10, 17)

**Type:** *God's earthly meeting place—throne & judgment seat* (Exodus 25:21-22)

**Antitype:** *God's heavenly throne & judgment seat* (Psalm 11:4-5; Isaiah 6:1-3; Ezekiel 1:26-28; Revelation 4:1-3)

**Figure:** *Tables of Testimony* (Exodus 31:18)

**Type:** *Man's disobedience to God's law* (Exodus 32:15-24; 1 John 3:4)

**Antitype:** *Jesus' perfect obedience to God's law* (2 Cor. 5:21; Hebrews 4:15)

**Figure:** *Laver—wash basin* (Exodus 30:18)

**Type:** *Earthly ritual—ceremonial cleansing of the priests* (Exodus 30:19-21; Leviticus 8:1-6)

**Antitype:** *Jesus' baptism—a symbol of purification and regeneration* (Matthew 3:13-17; Romans 6:3-4)

**Figure:** *Altar of Burnt Offering* (Exodus 38:1-2)

**Type:** *The offering of animal sacrifices* (Exodus 29:38-39, 42; Hebrews 10:3)

**Antitype:** *Jesus' offering of himself as the perfect sacrifice* (John 1:29, Hebrews 10:11-14)

**Figure:** *Ministering Priests* (Exodus 28:1)

**Type:** *Mortal, fallible men* (Hebrews 5:1-3; 7:23-24)

**Antitype:** *Jesus' perfect and immortal life* (Hebrews 4:14; 5:9-10; Revelation 1:18)

### **Study Commentary:**

The earthly sanctuary, patterned after the heavenly, along with its emblems and services, pointed forward to the coming redeemer and priestly mediator—Jesus Christ. Today, Jesus Christ, who died for all, stands in the presence of God on the sinner's behalf, and through the merits of his sacrificial blood and priestly ministration, cleanses all those who repent and turn away from their sins (1 John 1:9).

### **For further thought:**

“In patriarchal times the sacrificial offerings connected with divine worship constituted a perpetual reminder of the coming of a Saviour, and thus it was with the entire ritual of the sanctuary services throughout Isarel's history.

In the ministration of the tabernacle, and of the temple that afterward took its place, the people were taught each day, by means of types and shadows, the great truths relative to the advent of Christ as Redeemer, Priest, and King; and once each year [on the day of atonement] their minds were carried forward to the closing events of the great controversy between Christ and Satan, the final purification of the universe from sin and sinners.” Ellen White, *Prophets and Kings*, pp. 684-685

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