

The Cherubim



Class 2- In the tabernacle



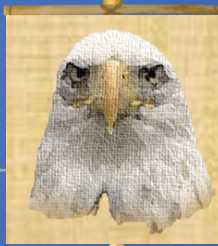
The cherubim primarily reveal the
outworking of God's purpose
through Christ

The outworking of God's purpose through Christ revealed in the cherubim

Garden in Eden	Tabernacle	Solomon's Temple	Seraphim	Living creatures	Future Temple	One like son of man	Throne in heaven
Gen. 3	Ex. 25,26	1 Kings 6,7 2 Chron 3	Isa. 6	Ezek. 1,10	Ezek. 41	Rev 1	Rev. 4,5
Material	Material	Material	Visionary	Visionary	Visionary	Visionary	Visionary
'I am <i>the way</i> , the truth and the life' John 14:6	Christ the <i>cherubim</i> Mt,Mk,Lk,Jn; Rom 3:25; Christ the <i>veil</i> Heb 10:20	Christ the <i>cherubim</i> Mt,Mk,Lk,Jn; Rom 3:25; Christ the <i>veil</i> Heb 10:20	Christ (and the saints) <i>in glory</i> John 12:41	Christ (and the saints) <i>in readiness for judgement</i>	Christ the <i>king</i> (lion cherub); Christ the <i>priest</i> (man cherub)	Christ <i>amid the ecclesias</i>	Christ <i>enthroned</i>

The cherubim in the encampment

Numbers 2



DAN



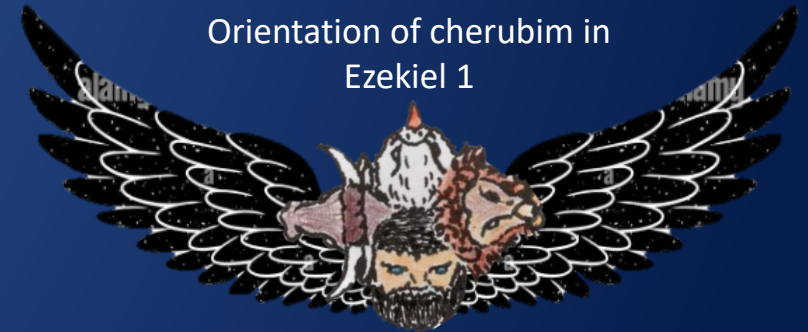
JUDAH



EPHRAIM



REUBEN



Orientation of cherubim in
Ezekiel 1

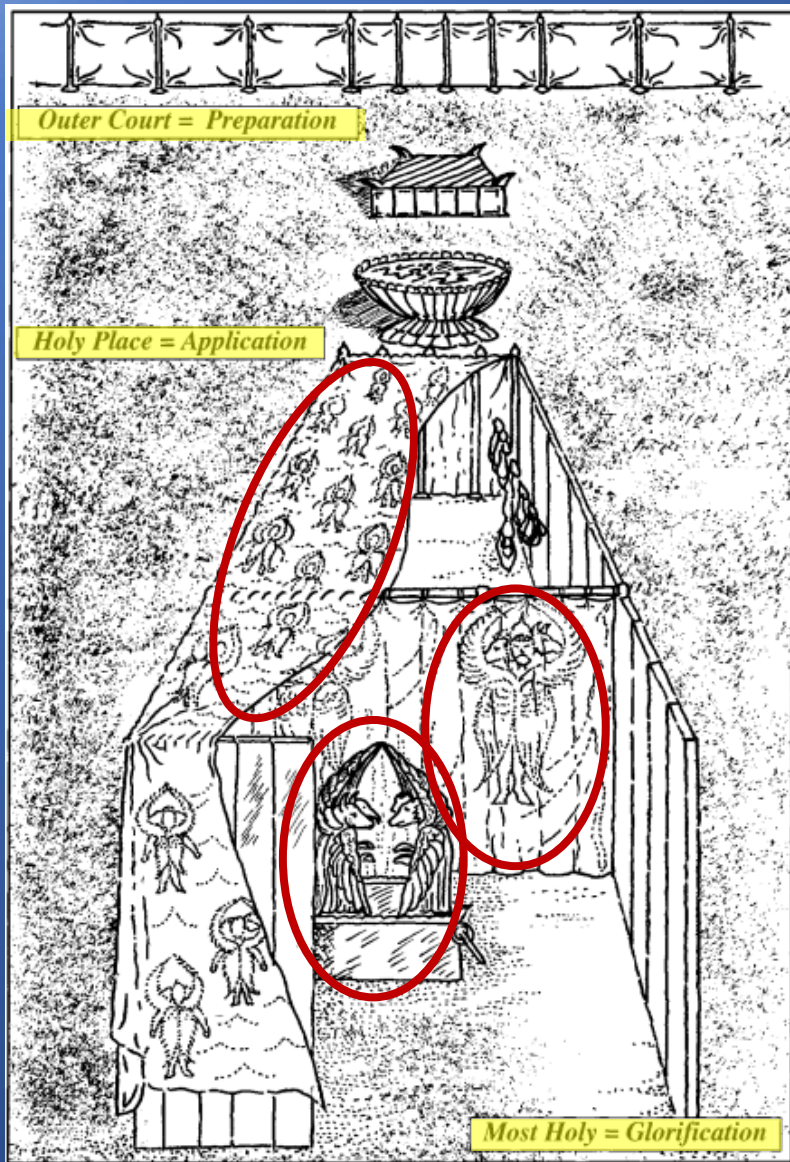
Jer. 23:5	King	Matthew	Lion
Zec. 6:12-13	Priest	Luke	Man
Zec. 3:8	Servant	Mark	Ox
Isa. 11:1-4	Judge	John	Eagle

The cherubim – the place of God's glory



- ‘And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from **between the two cherubims** which are upon the ark of the testimony ...’ **Ex. 25:22**
- ‘And the LORD said unto Moses, Speak unto Aaron thy brother, that he come not at all times into the holy place within the vail before the mercy seat, which is upon the ark; that he die not: for I will appear **in the cloud** upon the mercy seat’ **Lev. 16:2**
- ‘And the **glory of the God of Israel** was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house’ **Ezek. 9:3**

The cherubim in the tabernacle



Moreover thou shalt make the tabernacle with ten **curtains** of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: with cherubims of cunning work shalt thou make them. **Exo 26:1**

And thou shalt make a **vail** of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made. **Exo 26:31**

The cherubim and The Way



‘The very focal point of the tabernacle, where I will meet with thee and I will commune with thee (Exodus 25:22), was the mercy-seat between the two Cherubim upon the ark of the testimony. The cherubic wings overshadowed the mercy-seat which was sprinkled with blood. So in the heart of the sanctuary stood the symbols of that which **kept the way of the tree of life**, and all the rich ideas surrounding these words show that, although it was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing, there was nevertheless a way into the Holiest of all’

Alfred Nicholls, ‘Cherubim and Seraphim: 2 – Keeping the way of the tree of life’, The Christadelphian, Volume 109 [1972], page 55

The contents of the ark



Obedience

'If ye love me, keep my commandments' **John 14:15**



Character

'I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread he shall live forever'. **John 6:51**



Election

'Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you'. **John 15:16**

Cherubim of glory



View looking from the north

God's purpose in an allegory



‘Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among men in whom he is well pleased’ Luke 2:14 (RV)

The typical house of prayer for all nations

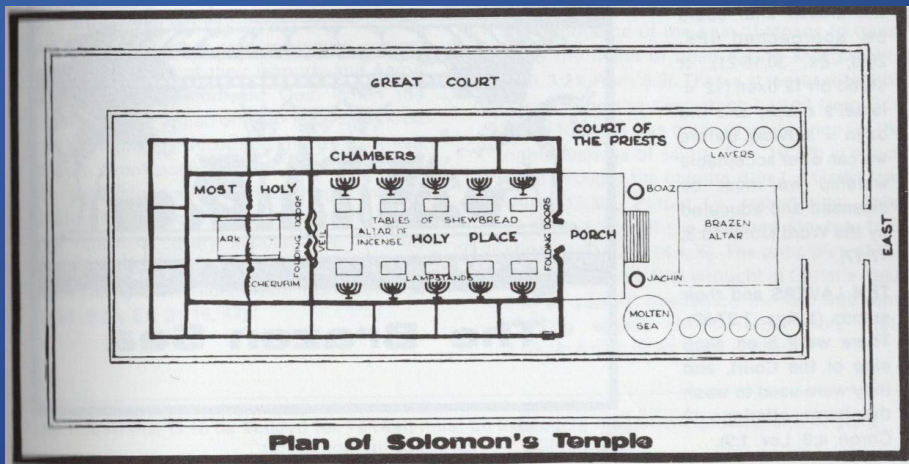


Outer court **10 lavers**
molten sea 10 cubits dia.

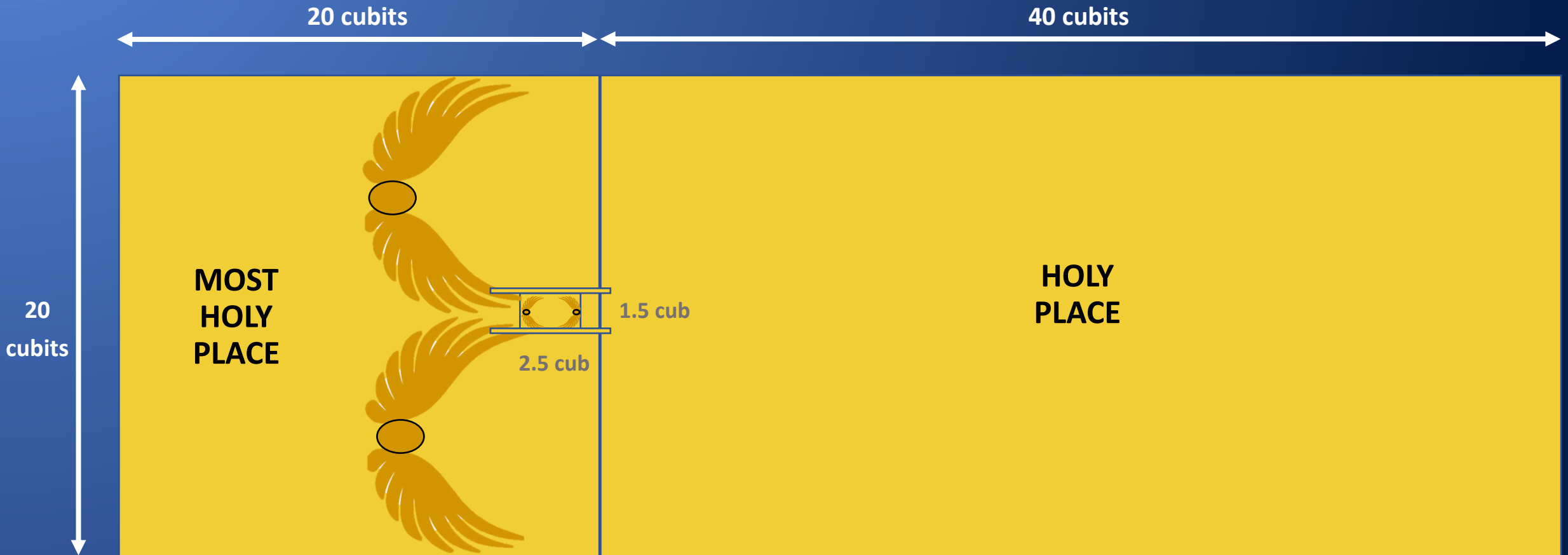
Porch **10 cubits wide**

Holy Place **10 tables of shewbread**
10 lampstands

Most Holy Place **Two cherubim each 10 cubits**
x 10 cubits



Plan view of Solomon's temple



Summary

- The cherubim in the encampment relate to our proclamation of the truth, the cherubim in the tabernacle relate to our service, and the cherubim in the prophets to our vision.
- The cherubic ensigns reminded Israel of THE WAY, and of the responsibility for them and us to be ambassadors for Christ.
- The cherubim of glory represent Christ victorious over sin.
- The ark represents the body of Christ, those who have identified with him by manifested the principles represented by the ark's contents.

Summary

- The cherubim was also the throne of God, for in Christ He achieved victory over sin. The crown around the top of the ark is a tribute to that victory.
- The cherubim atop the ark is an allegory of the two great themes of the Bible - God manifestation and human salvation.
- The faces of the cherubim were ever towards the blood sprinkled mercy seat. May we be ever mindful that we were not redeemed with corruptible things but the precious blood of Christ.