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Assignment 7D

October 6, 2017, Bi108 Old Testament Literature, Professor Armstrong:

From the Book of Exodus:

The *tabernacle* consisted of two chambers—the Holy of Holies and the Holy Place.

In one paragraph each, describe the following and give the Scripture references.

1. The Holy of Holies: Exodus 26:33

The Holy of Holies, also known as the Most Holy Place, is the inner room of the Tabernacle (and also the Temple) in which was kept the Ark of the Covenant, the Mercy Seat, Cherubim, manna, Aaron's rod, and a copy of the 10 Commandments. It was the place where blood was sprinkled on the Mercy Seat (the lid on top of the Ark) as an atonement for the sins of Israel. The only people allowed to enter the Holy of Holies were the high priest. There was only one high priest at a time, and he could enter only once a year. The Holy of Holies measured 20 cubits by 20 cubits by 20 cubits. Therefore, it was a cube. It was the final room the high priest would enter after he passed the veil which separated the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place. The Holy of Holies is mentioned many times in the Bible.

2. The holy place: Exodus 25:8-9

The Holy Place was part of the tabernacle tent, a room where priests conducted rituals to honor God. When God gave Moses instructions on how to build the desert tabernacle, he ordered that

the tent be divided into two parts: a larger, outer chamber called the Holy Place, and an inner room called the Holy of Holies. The Holy Place measured 30 feet long, 15 feet wide, and 15 feet high. On the front of the tabernacle tent was a beautiful veil made of blue, purple, and scarlet yarn, hung from five golden pillars. Common worshipers did not enter the tabernacle tent, only priests. Once inside the Holy Place, the priests would see the table of showbread to their right, a golden lampstand to their left, and an altar of incense ahead, just in front of the veil separating the two chambers.

3. The table – Exodus 25:23-30

Thou shalt also make a table of shittim wood: two cubits shall be the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, and make thereto a crown of gold round about. And thou shalt make unto it a border of an hand breadth round about, and thou shalt make a golden crown to the border thereof round about. And thou shalt make for it four rings of gold, and put the rings in the four corners that are on the four feet thereof. Over against the border shall the rings be for places of the staves to bear the table. And thou shalt make the staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold, that the table may be borne with them. And thou shalt make the dishes thereof, and spoons thereof, and covers thereof, and bowls thereof, to cover

4. The lampstand: Exodus 25:31

The golden lampstand, or candlestick, stands to the left as one enters through the door of the tabernacle. It is made of pure gold, from one piece of metal, has no joints, and is carved with buds and flowers under each branch of it. It stands on a square base on the floor of the

tabernacle, with six branches, three on the one side and three on the other. The seven lamps are level at the top.

5. Altar of incense: Exodus 40:26

The altar of incense was made of gold covered acacia wood. It was a cubit wide (18 inches) a cubit deep (18 inches) and 2 cubits tall (36 inches) with horns on the four corners. In this case, there were to be two rings, one on opposite corners at the top moulding for inserting rods to carry this piece of furniture. It would have been too heavy to transport to be made of solid gold. This altar was to be placed in front of the curtain separating the hold place and the most holy place in the tabernacle. On this altar incense was to be burned.

6. Bronze basin: Exodus 30:18

The tabernacle altar was available to everyone, for the atonement of their sins, but the wash basin was only for the priests. They had to be ritually clean before they could perform any duties in the tabernacle of Moses, including altar duties. The priests had to use the wash basin to cleanse their hands and feet before they could do ministry in the tabernacle, implying both a purity of walk and a purity of deeds.

7. Altar for burned offerings Exod. 27:1-8

In the court before the tabernacle, where the people attended, was an altar, to which they must bring their sacrifices, and on which their priests must offer them to God. It was of wood overlaid with brass. A grate of brass was let into the hollow of the altar, about the middle of which the fire was kept, and the sacrifice burnt. It was made of net-work like a sieve, and hung hollow, that the ashes might fall through. This brazen altar was a type of Christ dying to make atonement for

our sins.