

The Secret Place of יהוה (YAHUAH)

יהוה (Yahuah) opens the Treasures of His Secret Place to whom he Chooses, so that he might share information that will lead to greater Wisdom, and Understanding. The Secret Place of The Most High is that Place of which יהוה (Yahuah) will choose to use whomever he will to accomplish his purpose, and will choose which one of us will recognize and understand, then answer the call.

Each one of us has a “Secret Place” in יהוה (Yahuah); let this be clearly understood. The issue will be whether you will choose to enter into that Place that is found in his Shalum (Peace), Love, and Joy, wherein one will receive of his Love, Mercy, and unmerited favor (grace).

Jeremiah 13:17 “But, if you will NOT hear it [The Word of יהוה (Yahuah)], my soul shall weep in Secret Places for your pride; and my eyes shall weep sore, and run down with tears, because יהוה (Yahuah)’s flock is carried away captive.”

Jeremiah says, “When you refuse to listen to, and do, the Word of יהוה (Yahuah), I will most assuredly weep when you enter into your “Secret Place” before your Aluahym in prayer, because you are prideful, refusing to honor יהוה (Yahuah). I will cry for you, greatly, because you are blind and cannot see that יהוה (Yahuah) will send you away into captivity because of your many Sins.”

Can you see that Jeremiah is doing exactly that of which יהוה (Yahusha) will speak many centuries later? **Matthew 6:6** But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in “Secret” will reward you. Understand that when you PRAY, you actually enter into that “Secret Place”? This is why Prayer is always to be of genuine purpose and content **Matthew 6:7-8**.

“MY Face will I turn also from them, and they shall pollute MY Secret Place: for the robbers shall enter into it and defile it.” **Ezekiel 7:22**

“Now to him יהוה (Yahuah) that is of power to Establish you according to my message of the Mashyach, and just as my Good news declares about יהוה (Yahusha) HaMashyach, according to The Revelation of the Mystery, Which was kept secret since the World began.” **Romans 16:25**

What is this Secret of which this verse speaks? What is this Secret that Paul declares, and יהוה (Yahusha) taught, while he was with us upon this Earth? In order to find the answer to this question, let us turn to **Colossians 1:26** the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his chosen believers.

As we begin, we see that there is something referred to as a “true Believer in יהוה (Yahusha) HaMashyach. “To whom יהוה (Yahuah) would make known what is the riches of the esteem of this Mystery among the Gentiles: which is Mashyach in you, the Hope of esteem (glory):” **Colossians 1:27**

Here we have our answer to the question: יהוה (Yahusha) HaMashyach will come to Live within each Believer, which was never before done. It is a part of The new (renewed) Covenant, for יהוה (Yahusha), who is the Living Word of יהוה (Yahuah), which is to be written in the Hearts (Minds) of those that love יהוה (Yahuah), By Making it Real within the hearts i.e. within lives of the Believers.

Another word often rendered "Dwell" is shakhan or shakhen ("to settle down"), from which is derived the word Shekhynah (literally, "that which Dwells"), the light on the mercy-seat which symbolized the Divine presence (**Exodus 25:8**, etc.). In order to avoid appearing to localize the Divine Being,

wherever יהוה (Yahuah) is said to "dwell" in a place, He "causes His Shekhynah to Dwell (Abide)" there.

“WHAT IT MEANS TO DWELL IN THE ‘SECRET PLACE’ OF THE MOST HIGH”

Psalm 91:1 “He that Dwells in The Secret Place of the most High shall abide under the Shadow (Protection/Provision) of the almighty.”

We are to Dwell or Remain within the State or Condition of being within this Secret Place, and not merely to visit it from time to time. We are NOT to be a stranger, or visitor to this Place, but be one who Lives there all day, every day, of one’s life. But, even before we consider Dwelling there, we must recognize that such a Place exists. We must first (1st) recognize that this Place is NOT a fantasy, or the figment of someone’s imagination, but is a Reality. Each Believer MUST approach it from this perspective, if we are to Know the TRUTH about this Place.

This place belongs to יהוה (Yahuah) Aluahym. All of this having been said, one is still left to wonder what this Place is; Where this Place is, and How to find this Place. We must begin the quest to know, and understand. Remember the words of **Matthew 7:7-8** Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

Seek יהוה (Yahuah) and His strength; Seek His presence continually. **1 Chronicles 16:11**

If My people, who are called by My name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek My presence, and turn from their wicked ways then I will hear from Shamyim (Heavens), and will forgive their Sin, and will heal their land. **2 Chronicles 7:14**

Believers are called to come "before the presence (face)" of יהוה (Yahuah). We are encouraged to "seek His Presence (face)". Yet many have no idea what this means.

The concept of being before the face of יהוה (Yahuah) actually refers to being in His very presence - to encountering him "face-to-face", so to speak.

There are numerous Scripture verses that speak about this, some rather indirectly. As you review them you'll note that some of the connotations are not pleasant ones. Your relationship with יהוה (Yahuah), whether you believe in Him or do not, seriously affects your experience when you are "before His face" - in His presence.

The Hebrew term that’s typically translated as “face” is strong's: 6440 paniym (paw-neem), which means: presence and before. Derives from panah, (paw-naw); a primitive root; to turn; by implication, to face, i.e. appear, look, behold, regard, (have) respect, to (re)turn.

In order to comprehend what Scripture intends, it’s important to understand what the Hebrews understood the face to represent. When one saw the face of another it meant they were “in the presence” of that person. It was not merely a matter of looking at their physical face. When they “faced” someone they entered into the full experience of the presence of that person.

This was especially true in one’s relationship with יהוה (Yahuah). What we fail to remember is that no one has ever seen the “face” of יהוה (Yahuah). The following Scripture passages verify this.

Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but My face shall not be seen.” **Exodus 33:23**

No man has seen יהוה (Yahuah) at any time. **John 1:18**

Therefore we must recognize that whenever Scripture talks about the “face of יהוה (Yahuah)” it is always referring to His presence. Since it represents His presence, to the Hebrew mind it also meant that His very nature, His character, and His authority were also “present”. For them, even the mention of His Name represented His actual “presence” with them. It was as if He was standing right in front of them. With these things in mind let us review what His Word says about His “face”, His presence.

Moreover He said, I am the Aluahym (God) of your father, the Aluahym (God) of Abraham, the Aluahym (God) of Yitshaq (Isaac), and the Aluahym (God) of Ya'aqob (Jacob). And Moshah (Moses) hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon יהוה (Yahuah). **Exodus 3:6**

And יהוה (Yahuah) spoke to Moshah (Moses) face to face (meaning presence to presence - a direct encounter), as a man speaks to his friend. **Exodus 33:11**

And יהוה (Yahuah) said to Moshah (Moses), I will do this thing also that you have spoken: for you have found favor in My sight, and I know you by Name. 18 And he said, I implore You, show me Your magnificence. 19 And He said, I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the Name of יהוה (Yahuah) before you; and will show favor to whom I will show favor, and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion. 20 But He said, "You can not see My face (literally): for there shall be no human being that can see Me, and live." 21 And יהוה (Yahuah) said, "Behold, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand upon a rock: 22 and it shall come to pass, while My magnificence passes by, that I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by: 23 and I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back parts: but My face (literally) shall not be seen." **Exodus 33:17**

And he was there with יהוה (Yahuah) forty (40) days and forty (40) nights. He neither ate bread, nor drank water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten (10) Commandments. 29 And it came to pass, when Moshah (Moses) came down from Mount Sinai with the two (2) tables of testimony in Moshah's (Moses') hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moshah (Moses) did not know that the skin of his face shone (to send out rays/glowed) while he talked with Him. 30 And when Aharon (Aaron) and all the children of Yisrael saw Moshah (Moses), behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come near him. **Exodus 34:28**

And I will set My presence against that man, and will cut him off from among his people; because he has given of his seed to Molech, to defile My sanctuary, and to profane My set apart Name. 4 And if the people of the land in any manner hide their eyes from the man, when he gives of his seed unto Molech, and do not kill him 5 then I will set My presence against that man, and against his family, and will cut him off, and all that go a whoring after him, to commit whoredom with Molech, from among their people. 6 And the being that turns after such as have mediums, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set My presence against that being and will cut him off from among his people. 7 Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be set apart: for I am יהוה (Yahuah), your Aluahym. 8 And you shall keep My statutes, and do them. I am יהוה (Yahuah), who sanctifies you. **Leviticus 20:3**

And יהוה (Yahuah) spoke to Moshah (Moses), saying, 23 Speak to Aharon (Aaron) and to his sons, saying, "In this manner you shall Barak (Bless) the children of Yasharal (Israel), saying to them, 24 יהוה (Yahuah) Barak (Bless) you and keep you. 25 יהוה (Yahuah) make His presence enlighten you, and show favor to you. 26 יהוה (Yahuah) lift up His presence over you, and give you total well-being.' 27 And they shall put My name upon the children of Yasharal (Israel); and I will Barak (Bless) them." **Numbers 6:22**

And Moshah (Moses) said to יהוה (Yahuah), "Then the Mitsrites (Egyptians) shall hear it, (for You brought up this people in Your might from among them;) 14 and they will tell it to the inhabitants

of this land: for they have heard that You, **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), are among this people, that You, **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), are seen "face to face" (a euphemism), and that Your cloud stands over them, and that You go before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night." **Numbers 14:13**

And Moshah (Moses) called all Yasharal (Israel), and said unto them, Hear, Yasharal (Israel), the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that you may learn them, and keep, and do them. 2 **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), our Aluahym, made a covenant with us in Horeb. 3 **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) made this covenant not with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day. 4 **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) talked with you "face to face" (a euphemism) in the mount, out of the midst of the fire, 5 (I stood between **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) and you at that time, to show you The Word of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah): for you were afraid by reason of the fire, and did not go up into the mount;) saying, 6 "I am **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), your Aluahym, who brought you out of the land of Mitsrayim (Egypt), from the house of bondage. 7 You shall have no other Aluahym (gods) before me (literally - in My presence). **Deuteronomy 5:1**

And **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) said to Moshah (Moses), "Behold, you shall sleep with your fathers; and this people will rise up, and go whoring after the Aluahym (gods) of the strangers of the land, where they go to be among them, and will forsake Me, and break My covenant which I have made with them. 17 Then My anger shall be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide My presence (face) from them, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall befall them; so that they will say in that day, Have not these evils come upon us because our Aluahym is not among us? 18 And I will surely hide My presence (face) in that day for all the evils which they shall have wrought, in that they have turned unto other Aluahym (gods). **Deuteronomy 31:16**

And when **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) saw it He despised them, because of the provoking of His sons, and of His daughters. 20 And He said, I will hide my presence from them. I will see what their end shall be, for they are a very perverse generation, children in whom is no Amunah (Faith). **Deuteronomy 32:19**

And when Gideon perceived that He was the Malach (Angel) of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), Gideon said, "Alas, **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) Aluahym, for I have seen The Malach (Angel) of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) face to face." 23 And **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) said unto him, "Shalum (Peace) to you; fear not: you shall not die." 24 Then Gideon built an altar there to **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), and called it **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) Shalum. **Judges 6:22**

And the king answered and said unto the man of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), "Intreat now the presence of **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), your Aluahym, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored to me again." **1 Kings 13:6**

Give thanks to **יְהוָה** (Yahuah). Call upon His Name. Make known His deeds among the people. 9 Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; talk of all His wondrous works. 10 Esteem in His set apart Name. Let the heart of them rejoice who seeks **יְהוָה** (Yahuah). 11 Seek **יְהוָה** (Yahuah) and His strength; seek His presence continually. 12 Remember His marvellous works that He has done, His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth; 13 you seed of Yasharal (Israel) His servant, you children of Ya'aqob (Jacob), His chosen ones. 14 He is **יְהוָה** (Yahuah), our Aluahym. His judgments are in all the earth." **1 Chronicles 16:8-14**

Acquaint yourself with Him now, and be at Shalum (Peace): thereby good shall come to you 22 Receive, I pray, the Turah (law) from His mouth, and lay up His words in your heart. 23 If you return to The Almighty, you shall be built up. You shall put away iniquity far from your tabernacles. 24 Then shall you lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks. 25 Yes, The Almighty

shall be your defense, and you shall have plenty of silver. 26 For then shall you have your delight in the Almighty, and shall lift up your face unto יהוה (Yahuah). 27 You shall make your prayer to Him, and He shall hear you, and you shall pay your vows. 28 You shall also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto you: and the light shall shine upon your ways. **Job 22:21**

He shall pray to יהוה (Yahuah), and He will be favorable to him: and he shall see His presence (face) with joy: for He will render unto man His just action. **Job 33:28**

I will declare Your Name to my brothers: in the midst of the congregation will I praise You. 23 You who fear יהוה (Yahuah), praise Him; all you the seed of Ya'acob (Jacob), honor Him; and fear Him, all of you, the seed of Yasharal (Israel). 24 For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither has He hidden his presence (face) from him; but when he cried unto Him, He heard. 25 My praise shall be of You in the great congregation: I will pay my vows before those who fear Him. **Psalms 22:22**

Who shall ascend into the hill of יהוה (Yahuah), or who shall stand in His Kadush (Holy) place? 4 He that has clean hands, and a pure heart; who has not lifted up his being unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. 5 He shall receive the Barakah (Blessing) from יהוה (Yahuah), and justice from the Aluahym of his Salvation. 6 This is the generation of them that seek Him, that seek Your presence (face). **Psalms 24:3**

Hear, יהוה (Yahuah), when I cry with my voice. Have compassion also on me, and answer me. 8 When You said, "Seek my presence (face), my heart said to You, "Your presence (face) יהוה (Yahuah), will I seek." 9 Hide not Your presence (face) far from me; put not your servant away in anger: You have been my help; leave me not nor forsake me, Aluahym of my Salvation. **Psalms 27:7**

Make Your presence (Face) to shine upon Your servant: Save me for Your compassion's sake. 17 Let me not be ashamed, יהוה (Yahuah); for I have called upon You. **Psalms 31:16**

The eyes of יהוה (Yahuah) are upon the Righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry. 16 The presence of יהוה (Yahuah) is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth. 17 The Righteous cry, and יהוה (Yahuah) hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. 18 יהוה (Yahuah) is near to those who are of a broken heart; and Saves the crushed in ruch (spirit). **Psalms 34:15**

יהוה (Yahuah) show favor to us, and Barak (Bless) us; and cause His presence (face) to shine upon us; Selah. 2 that Your way may be known upon earth, Your Saving health among all nations. **Psalms 67:1**

Hear me, יהוה (Yahuah), for Your kindness is good. Turn to me according to the multitude of Your compassion's. 17 And hide not Your presence (Face) from Your servant, for I am in trouble. Hear me speedily. **Psalms 69:16**

Give ear, O Shepherd of Yasharal (Israel), You who leads Yoseph like a flock; You who dwells between the cherubim, shine forth. 2 Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh stir up Your strength, and come and save us. 3 Turn us again, יהוה (Yahuah), and cause Your presence (face) to shine, and we shall be delivered. 4 יהוה (Yahuah), יהוה (Yahuah) of Assemblies, how long will You be angry against the prayer of Your people? 5 You feed them with the bread of tears; and give them tears to drink in great measure. 6 You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves. 7 restore us יהוה (Yahuah) of Hosts, and cause Your presence (face) to shine; and we shall be delivered. **Psalms 80:1**

O give thanks to יהוה (Yahuah); call upon His Name: make known His deeds among the people. 2 Sing to Him; sing psalms to Him: talk of all His wondrous works. 3 make your boasts in His set apart (Kadosh) Name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek יהוה (Yahuah). 4 Seek יהוה (Yahuah), and His strength. Seek His presence (face) always. **Psalms 105:1**

Make Your presence (face) to shine upon Your servant, and teach me Your statutes. **Psalms 119:135**

Behold, יהוה (Yahuah)'s hand is not shortened so that it cannot save; nor is His ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 2 But your iniquities have separated you from your Aluahym, and your Sins have hid His presence (face) from you so that He will not hear. 3 For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue has muttered perverseness. 4 None calls for justice, nor any pleads for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity. **Isaiah 59:1**

And there is none that calls upon Your Name, that stirs up himself to take hold of You: for You have hid Your presence (face) from us, and have consumed us, because of our iniquities. **Isaiah 64:7**

יהושע (Yahusha) answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **John 14:6**

"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day. **John 6:44**

The presence of יהוה (Yahuah) is an awesome thing to encounter. If He grants you access into His presence it is typically for the purpose of Barakah (Blessing) you. You have a role to play in which experience you have. It's all based on whether or not you choose willingly to believe in Him and repent (turn from your sinful life) and live according to his Commandments and his Sabbath's that you are allowed entrance into his Presence.

יהוה (Yahuah)'s Order of entering into his Presence

Worship is important because it's the "key" to Kadushah (Holiness) and allows us to enter יהוה (Yahuah)'s presence and is the secret to true joy, happiness and his Shalum. What else could be more important? Without being Kadush (Holy), we cannot worship. Without being worshipers, we'll not be able to enter His presence; without His presence, we'll have no joy; and, without joy, **Nehemiah 8:10** tells us, we'll have no strength ("the joy of יהוה (Yahuah) is our strength." יהוה (Yahuah) you make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. **Psalms 16:11**

I'm convinced that without these things, we won't be able to withstand the trials that יהוה (Yahuah) allows in our lives. Worship truly is the most important thing a Chosen believer can learn to do.

Worship is the reason we were created in the first (1st) place. **Revelation 4:11** tells us that יהוה (Yahuah) created us "for His pleasure." He yearns for our fellowship and our love. Therefore, our true relationship with Him is shown forth in our worship and praise.

Surrender is Key

So, worship flows from love. We worship what we love. The word used in Scripture for the verb "to love" in Hebrew is Ahabah and in the Greek Agapao, which means "to totally give ourselves over to something" - to surrender all to it. יהוה (Yahuah) desires that we give back to Him the life that He granted us in the first (1st) place. In other words, total relinquishment is a choice that we make out of our own free will and out of our love for Him.

Love for יהוה (Yahuah), then, is not just an emotional feeling, but a complete surrender of ourselves, heart, mind and soul. We have “put off” our Sin and self, then we have “put on” Mashyach (Messiah). On the other hand, when we don’t know how to love יהוה (Yahuah), how to completely surrender our lives to Him, we’ll not be able to truly worship Him. Love comes before worship. In summary, we can only worship יהוה (Yahuah) to the degree that we love Him and to the degree to which we are surrendered, cleansed and Kadush.

The Temple is a key

Speaking of being surrendered, cleansed and Kadush, let’s turn back for just a moment, to the cleansing ceremony that יהוה (Yahuah) ordained for the priests of Solomon’s Temple.

When I first (1st) began to explore the intricacies of this fascinating temple - the Kadush (Holy) of Kadushah (Holies), the Kadush (Holy) Place, and the Inner and Outer Courts – I saw many parallels between the temple’s blueprint and the interior architecture of man (i.e., spirit, heart, soul and body). I was fascinated by these similarities. Were they just a coincidence or rather יהוה (Yahuah)’s clues to something much deeper.

With over 52 chapters in the Tanakh (Old Testament) mentioning this temple and its ceremonies, I figured there must be something very important here. As we proceed with this comparison, you judge for yourself. See if it validates to you the finger prints of יהוה (Yahuah) and the divine connection between the architecture of man and Solomon’s temple.

I’m convinced there are important principles that we can learn from studying Solomon’s Temple and the ceremonies יהוה (Yahuah) ordained for worship. יהוה (Yahuah) tells us that everything in Scripture, from the smallest detail to the greatest, is there for our learning. (**Romans 15:4**) In other words, He has given us many visual word pictures in Scripture to help us understand His ways a little more clearly. Solomon’s Temple is definitely one of these.

The Priest’s Worship Service

So how did the priests in this temple worship יהוה (Yahuah)? What was their order of service like?

After the Levites opened the Outer Court gate for the people, they began to sing and praise יהוה (Yahuah). Then, the priests entered the Inner Court and immediately went to the Lavers of Bronze where they washed their hands and feet. After that they approached the Brazen Altar, where they sacrificed their animals in order to purge the Sins of the people. Next, they immersed themselves bodily in the Molten Sea. And, finally, they took a censer full of hot coals from the Brazen Altar, went back into the Kadush (Holy) Place where they changed their clothes, took some incense and sprinkled it over the coals at the Golden Incense Altar where יהוה (Yahuah) promised to “meet with them.”

Exodus 25:22

Approaching the Golden Altar of Incense, they took off their shoes, prostrated (Bowed down) themselves and worshiped יהוה (Yahuah) in the “Beauty of Kadushah (Holiness).”

“Give unto יהוה (Yahuah) the Esteem (glory) due unto His Name; bring an offering, and come before Him; worship יהוה (Yahuah) in the beauty (slendour) of Kadushah (Holiness).” **1**

Chronicles 16:29

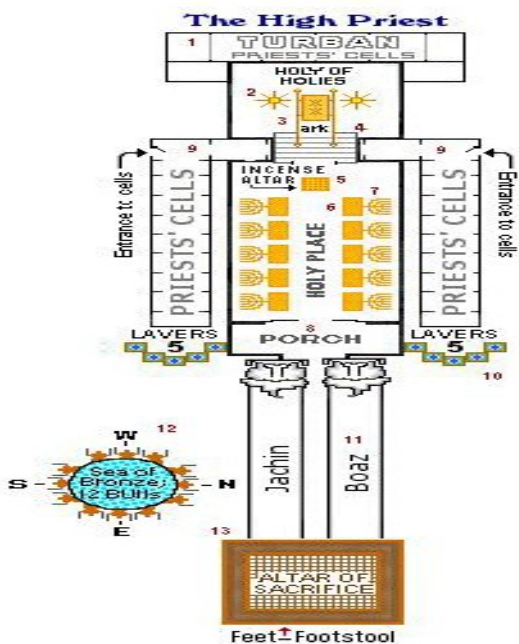
“Give unto יהוה (Yahuah) the Esteem (glory) due unto His Name; worship יהוה (Yahuah) in the beauty (slendour) of Kodushah (Holiness).” **Psalms 29:2**

“Oh, worship יהוה (Yahuah) in the beauty (slendour) of Kadushah (Holiness); fear before Him,

all the earth.” (Psalm 96:9)

Upon leaving the Kadush (Holy) Place, the priests then shared of the fullness of **אֱלֹהֵינוּ** (Yahuah) (or the anointing) that they had received at the Golden Altar by addressing all the people who had gathered in the courtyard. One (1) of the passages they recited was **Numbers 6:24-26**

“**אֱלֹהֵינוּ** (Yahuah) Barak (Bless) you, and Guard (keep) you; **אֱלֹהֵינוּ** (Yahuah) make His face shine upon you, and show favor (be gracious) unto you; **אֱלֹהֵינוּ** (Yahuah) lift up His face (countenance) upon you, and give you Shalum (Peace).” Thus they shall put my Name on the Children of Yasharal (Israel) and I myself shall Barach (Bless) them. They repeated this entire ceremony twice (2) a day, once in the morning and once at night. Now, let’s explore each of these areas and each of these ceremonies in a little more detail.



The Two (2) Pillars

The Yachin pillar (meaning Yah establishes) is King Solomon, and the Boaz pillar (meaning strength) is King David.

The Outer Court

All of Yasharal (Israel) had access to the Outer Courts and, thus, could freely come in and out. Whereas, only the priests could enter into the Kadush (Holy) sanctuary.

The first (1st) thing that occurred in the Outer Court was that the Shofar was sounded and the Levites opened the gates for the people to enter. **Psalm 118:19-23** describes this scene: “Open to me the gates of Righteousness...” These are the gates that lead to the presence of **אֱלֹהֵינוּ** (Yahuah). Other Levite priests also began to sing with the people.

“O come, let us sing unto **אֱלֹהֵינוּ** (Yahuah): let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our Salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.” (**Psalm 95:1-2; Psalms 100:2 & 4; 118:19**)

The Levites were commissioned not only to guard all the temple gates, but also to sing a new song each

day. These songs were as important to the service as were the priestly duties themselves. Three (3) times during their song, they would pause while the priests sounded their shofars and all the people in the courtyard would fall down and prostrate themselves before יהוה (Yahuah). They did this both at the beginning and at the end of the service.

The Inner Court

The official priests - only those who were direct descendants of Aaron - would then enter the Inner Courtyard, wash their hands and feet at the Lavers of Bronze and await the time for the slaughtering of the sacrifices.

When the time arrived, the priests moved to the Brazen Altar where they sacrificed their offerings in order to symbolically remove the Sins of the people in order that they could be reconciled to יהוה (Yahuah). Finally, the priests bathed in the Molten Sea by complete bodily immersion as a symbol that יהוה (Yahuah) had, indeed, washed away their Sins. Thus, the Inner Court was known as the cleansing and atoning area.

King David relates to the Bronze Altar (mizbeach, meaning o slay, slaughter), for it is here that sin – the true enemy – is slain, i.e., expiated through blood letting. The altar David made after he sinned was the basis for the Temple's Bronze Altar, **2 Samuel 24:18**, and the site (Mount Moriah) where the Temple was afterwards built, **2 Chronicles 3:1**. King Solomon must have remade the Bronze Altar from the bronze gotten at Tibbath (**1 Chronicles 18:8**) a name meaning a place of slaughtering. Tibbath means slay, slaughter or butcher and may even refer to a cook as one who butchers animals for food. However, the root meaning itself refers to the slaughtering of animals or men. In **2 Samuel 8:8** Tibbath is rendered as Betah* Tibbath was derived from the name Tebah (thus, Betah), a nephew of Abraham listed in **Genesis 22:24**.

Solomon himself relates to the Sea of Bronze whose water symbolizes the Ruch (Spirit) of יהוה (Yahuah) that makes plants (i.e., people) grow – become established, flourish and develop in יהוה (Yahuah). And this also is why people are likened to fruit trees and plants, a king's garden through which יהוה (Yahuah) walks, **Genesis 3:8**.

2 Chronicles 4:19-20 **19** So Solomon made all the vessels that were in the house of יהוה (Yahuah): the golden altar, the tables for the bread of the Presence, **20** the lampstands and their lamps of pure gold to burn before the inner sanctuary, as prescribed;

2 Chronicles 33:16 He also restored the altar of יהוה (Yahuah) and offered on it sacrifices of Shalum (Peace) offerings and of thanksgiving, and he commanded Yahudah (Judah) to serve יהוה (Yahuah), the Aluahym (God) of Yasharal (Israel).

The Qadosh (Holy) Place

Fire, incense, tapestry and gold all led the priest higher and higher up to the Qadosh (Holy) Place and the Incense Altar where he worshiped יהוה (Yahuah). Following the offering of the sacrifices in the Inner Court, one (1) of the priests gathered some hot coals in a brass carrier from the Brazen Altar and carried them into the Qadosh (Holy) Place, where he promptly changed his clothes. Once he had “put off” his dirty clothes and “put on” his clean ones, he picked up the hot coals and placed them on the Incense Altar. Another priest stood by, holding the incense. A third (3rd) priest took the incense in the palms of his hands and after the first two (2) left, scattered the incense over the hot coals. The fire and the smoke from the incense rose up toward the ceiling, spread out and filled the entire sanctuary **1 Kings 8:10-11**. The last priest then prostrated himself on the ground. While all this was going on, the other priests came to the Qadosh (Holy) Place to witness the offering of incense and they too prostrated themselves.

Upon leaving the temple sanctuary, the head priest stood upon the steps facing the congregation in the Outer Court. The rest of the priests joined him there and they all extended their hands towards Shamyim (Heavens) and called upon the Name of יהוה (Yahuah). The head priest then Baruk (Blessed) the people and recited Scriptures. At this reading, the rest of the priests and all the people again fell on their faces and worshiped יהוה (Yahuah).

Holy of Hollies

Entrance to this sacred room was strictly forbidden with one exception. One person, the high priest, would enter the room once a year on the Day of Atonement. What did he do once he was inside?

You shall make a curtain of blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and of fine twisted linen; it shall be made with cherubim skillfully worked into it. You shall hang it on four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold, which have hooks of gold and rest on four bases of silver. You shall hang the curtain under the clasps, and bring the ark of the covenant in there, within the curtain; and the curtain shall separate for you the Qadush (holy) place from the Holy of Qadushah (Holies). You shall put the mercy seat on the ark of the covenant in the Qadush (Holy) of Qadushah (Holies). **Exodus 26:33**

Interestingly, the phrase “Holy of Holies” is not the only term used for this inner sanctum in Scripture. More commonly, the Bible calls this space the Devir (דביר), which is usually translated as “Inner Sanctuary” for example:

The inner sanctuary he prepared in the innermost part of the house, to set there the ark of the covenant of יהוה (Yahuah). The interior of the inner sanctuary was twenty cubits long, twenty cubits wide, and twenty cubits high; he overlaid it with pure gold. He also overlaid the altar with cedar. Solomon overlaid the inside of the house with pure gold, then he drew chains of gold across, in front of the inner sanctuary, and overlaid it with gold. Next he overlaid the whole house with gold, in order that the whole house might be perfect; even the whole altar that belonged to the inner sanctuary he overlaid with gold. **1 Kings 6:19-22**

But a more accurate translation would be the “inner speechuary” or the “speech shrine”. This is because the word devir comes from the root דבר DBR which means “to speak”. It is here that the high priest spoke directly to יהוה (Yahuah). This happened once a year on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

Bonus Temple Scripture

Matthew 4:1-25 Then יהושע (Yahusha) was led up by the Ruch (Spirit) into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty (40) days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of יהוה (Yahuah), command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of יהוה (Yahuah).”” Then the devil took him to the Kadush (holy) city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ... Pinnacle: a little wing, (**Matthew 4:5; Luke 4:9**). On the southern side (Right Side) of the temple court was a range of porches or cloisters forming three arcades.

How Does All of This Apply to Us?

Again, the question: Does this Hebrew Tanakh (Old Testament), Old Covenant temple service have anything at all to do with us, Brit Hadashah (New Testament), New Covenant believers? In other words, can we apply what we have learned here to our own daily devotional times? Yes, it seems we can.

I do not mean to imply that there's some sort of ritual or ceremony that we must do in order to work

our way towards יהוה (Yahuah). That's not what I am saying at all. However, I do believe that by this service, יהוה (Yahuah) has given us a "set of guidelines" and that by following these suggestions not only will our devotional times be acceptable to Him, but also they will become an incredible Barakah (Blessing) to us. The most important thing we can do is allow the Ruch Qadush the freedom to direct us. Because, of course, only He knows the "perfect" way for us to worship.

Again, יהוה (Yahuah) made the rules; we must simply carry them out. However, in order to carry them out, we must first (1st) understand what they are.

Let's briefly explore what the Word of יהוה (Yahuah) has to say about worshiping and see if there is any connection to Solomon's Temple and its priests. A couple of obvious Scriptural connections are: **1 Corinthians 3:16** and **2 Corinthians 6:16**, which both tell us that "we are the temple of יהוה (Yahuah)" and that the "Ruch (Spirit) of יהוה (Yahuah) dwells in us," just as He did in Solomon's Temple. Paul is making an analogy or a word picture here by saying that our body is a temple and the Ruch Qadush dwells in us. Remember that in the Tanakh (Old Testament) the Ruch Qadush dwelt in the Qadush (Holy) of Qadushah (Holies) of Solomon's Temple.

Scripture tells us that now יהוה (Yahuah)'s Ruch (Spirit) dwells in "temples not made with hands" - i.e., us. **Acts 17:24**

1 Peter 2:9 also tells us that: "[We] are...a royal priesthood...that should show forth the praises of Him who has called [us] out of darkness into His marvelous light." And verse 5 of that same chapter says, "...[We] also, ...a Qadush (holy) priesthood, [should] offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to יהוה (Yahuah) by יהושע (Yahusha) HaMashyach (The Messiah)." And, **Revelation 1:6** which says, "יהושע (Yahusha) HaMashyach (The Messiah) has made us kings and priests unto יהוה (Yahuah)..." And, **Revelation 5:10** which says, "He has made us kings and priests that we should reign upon the earth." And, finally, **Hebrews 10:19-24** and **Revelation 5:8** talk about Believers having "boldness to enter the Qadush place and worship."

Psalm 27:4 validates all of the above: "One (1) thing have I desired of יהוה (Yahuah), that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of יהוה (Yahuah) all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of יהוה (Yahuah), and to inquire in His temple."

Thus, there seems to be a valid Scriptural comparison between the true worshipers of יהוה (Yahuah) who "worship יהוה (Yahuah) in Ruch (spirit) and truth," (**John 4:23**), and the priests of Solomon's Temple who worshiped יהוה (Yahuah) "in the beauty of Qadushah (Holiness)" at the Incense Altar. Again, the latter was under the Tanakh (Old Covenant) without Mashyach (Messiah), and the former, under the New Covenant with Mashyach (Messiah). But, the comparison is there and Scripture seems to suggest that it is important.

Out of the same mouth comes praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. **James 3:10**

Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in יהוה (Yahuah), I will be joyful in יהוה (Yahuah) my Savior. **Habakkuk 3:17-18**

Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in יהוה (Yahuah), for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my Aluahym. **Psalm 42:11**

It is written: 'As surely as I live,' says יהושע (Yahusha), 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge יהוה (Yahuah).' **Romans 14:11**

יְהוָה (Yahuah) is Ruch (spirit), and his worshipers must worship in the Ruch (Spirit) and in truth. **John 4:24**

You, יְהוָה (Yahuah), are my Aluahym, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. **Psalms 63:1**

There is no one Qadush (holy) like יְהוָה (Yahuah); there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our Aluahym. **1 Samuel 2:2**

Sing to יְהוָה (Yahuah), sing in praise of his Name, extol him who rides on the clouds; rejoice before him — his Name is יְהוָה (Yahuah). A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is Aluahym in his Qadush (Holy) dwelling. **Psalms 68:4-5**

Let them shout for joy and rejoice, who favor my vindication; And let them say continually, "יְהוָה (Yahuah) be magnified, Who delights in the prosperity of His servant." **Psalms 35:27**

Shout joyfully to יְהוָה (Yahuah), all the earth; Sing out the splendour of His Name; Make His praise esteemed. **Psalms 66:1-2**

Shout for joy to יְהוָה (Yahuah), all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; **Psalms 98:4**

For giving grateful praise. Shout for joy to יְהוָה (Yahuah), all the earth. **Psalms 100:1**

Thus all Yasharal (Israel) brought up the ark of the covenant of יְהוָה (Yahuah) with shouting, and with sound of the horn, with Shofars, with loud-sounding cymbals, with harps and lyres. **1 Chronicles 15:28**

Moreover, they made an oath to יְהוָה (Yahuah) with a loud voice, with shouting, with Shofars and with horns. **2 Chronicles 15:14**

O' clap your hands, all peoples; Shout to יְהוָה (Yahuah) with the voice of joy. **Psalms 47:1**

They sang, praising and giving thanks to יְהוָה (Yahuah), saying, "For He is good, for His loving kindness is upon Yasharal (Israel) forever." And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised יְהוָה (Yahuah) because the foundation of the house of יְהוָה (Yahuah) was laid. **Ezra 3:11**

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in Shofar, O daughter of Yerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with Salvation, Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey **Zechariah 9:9**

Sing to Him a new song; Play skillfully with a shout of joy. **Psalms 33:3**

Sing for joy to יְהוָה (Yahuah) our strength; Shout joyfully to the Aluahym (God) of Yaacob (Jacob). **Psalms 81:1**

O come, let us sing for joy to יְהוָה (Yahuah), Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our Salvation **Psalms 95:1**

But let all who take refuge in You be glad, Let them ever sing for joy; And may You shelter them, That those who love Your Name may exult in You. **Psalms 5:11**

יְהוָה (Yahuah), you are my Aluahym; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago. **Isaiah 25:1**

So David and all the house of Yisrael were bringing up the ark of יְהוָה (Yahuah) with shouting and the sound of the Shofar. **2 Samuel 6:15**

Praise יהוה (Yahuah), my Soul; all my inmost being, praise his Qadush (holy) Name. **Psalm 103:1**

My mouth is filled with your praise, declaring your splendor all day long. **Psalm 71:8**

Give praise to יהוה (Yahuah), proclaim his Name; make known among the nations what he has done. **Psalm 105:1**

I say to יהוה (Yahuah), “You are my Master; apart from you I have no good thing.” **Psalm 16:2**

I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue. **Psalm 66:17**

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. **Jeremiah 29:12**

יהוה (Yahuah) intended that they would seek Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us. **Acts 17:27**

Draw near to יהוה (Yahuah), and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. **James 4:8**

For I know the plans I have for you, declares יהוה (Yahuah), plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. **Jeremiah 29:13**

But from there you will seek יהוה (Yahuah) your Aluahym and you will find him, if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul. 30 When you are in tribulation, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, you will return to יהוה (Yahuah) your Aluahym and obey his voice. 31 For יהוה (Yahuah) your Aluahym is a merciful Aluahym. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them. **Deuteronomy 4:29-31**

I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me. **Proverbs 8:17**

יהוה (Yahuah) is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. **Lamentations 3:25**

And those who know your Name put their trust in you, for you, O יהוה (Yahuah), have not forsaken those who seek you. **Psalm 9:10**

Seek יהוה (Yahuah) and his strength; seek his presence continually! **Psalm 105:4**

The more we seek him, the more we find him waiting for us. May the presence of יהוה (Yahuah) be crystallized in our consciousness. יהוה (Yahuah)'s Name signifies His presence, so let us awake and rise up in awareness to the esteem of יהוה (Yahuah) through his only begotten son, יהושע (Yahusha) HaMashiach and begin to praise, honor and esteem his Qadush (Set Apart Name). HalluYahuah, Barach his Qadush (Set Apart) Name today and forevermore! HalluYAH! Shalum