

Week #:	56	Text:	(various)	Title:	Secrets of the Holy Place: 2 (D)
Songs:	Let It Rain (3:23)				
	Draw Me Close to You – Hillsong (4:02)				
	Sweet Sweet Spirit (2:20)				
	I Need You More – Lindell Cooley (5:03)				
Video:	Perry Stone – Secrets of the Holy Place #2				

Secrets of the Holy Place, by Perry Stone (begin DVD #2 at 01:00:55)

- Ark of the Covenant:
 - There were four ark's in the Bible:
 - Noah's Ark – Genesis 6:14
 - Moses' Ark of Bulrushes – Exodus 2:3
 - Ark of the Covenant – Exodus 25:10
 - Ark that stores the Torah Scrolls – this is directly behind where the speaker stands in the synagogue. Sometimes it's a box, other times it's carved into the wall. This is where the scrolls are stored.
 - Why is the ark called the Ark of the Covenant?
 - Because the tablets of the law (called in the Bible the tablets of the covenant) that God made that represented the covenant He made with Israel, were stored inside it.
 - It was a picture of God's throne.
 - It had to be carried by 4 priests – two on one end and two on the other, just like the throne of God spoken of in Ezekiel 1 is carried by four cherubim.
 - Dimensions:
 - 2.5 cubits long x 1.5 cubits wide x 1.5 cubits high (3.75' long x 2.25' wide x 27" high)
 - The lid is called the Mercy Seat
 - If you were to take the lid of it off, you would die (I Samuel 6:19).
 - The reason is that inside the ark was the law, and the law brought death (Romans 8:2). This is because if you have the law in the Ark, and you put the Mercy Seat between you and the law, you will live, because there's blood on the Mercy Seat.
 - If you lift the Mercy away from the Ark, all you have is the law, and the law can bring judgment to you if you disobeyed it.
 - When the men (I Samuel 6:19) looked in it, they moved the lid and dropped dead, because they took away the blood and the mercy. When you take away blood and mercy, you have judgment.
 - (According to the Temple Institute) The Ark of the Covenant was not just wood covered with gold. It was three boxes nested inside each other. The outer one was wood covered with gold. The next one in was wood. The inside one was a very thin gold box.
 - Gold is deity – the inside box
 - Wood is humanity – the middle box
 - And then the outer is wood covered with gold
 - Christ was with God (deity) became wood (humanity), and then as man and God (wood and gold) is our high priest in heaven. (Hebrews 7:24-25)
 - It's funny that this design (the three in one) would be a capacitor for electricity. (Leyden jar)
 - With this design, the static electricity in the air would build up on this ark that if you touched it with one hand it would knock you down. If you touched it with two hands, it would kill you.
 - II Samuel 5:6-7 tells of a man who was struck dead when he touched it with two hands
 - If it is a capacitor for electricity – how did they carry it?

- The staves of wood would ground out the electricity, as long as they are not removed. God said (Exodus 25:15) that the staves were to never be removed.
- Josephus says that one of the leaders in his day wanted to find the tomb of David and Solomon, and when they went in, there was electricity or fire or something that came out and killed all the men. It was so dangerous that they sealed it up and put a monument there. There was a group of men a few years ago who were on a search for holy relics and broke through that same area. They encountered the same electrical charge that almost killed them.
- The measurements:
 - The circumference of the end of the Ark is 1.25 l x 1.25 w – which = 6
 - The circumference of the top is 2.5 l x 1.5 w – which = 8
 - 6 is the number of man
 - 8 is the number of resurrection
- The Mercy Seat

Exodus 25:17-18

And thou shalt make a mercy seat of pure gold: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof. And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat.

- In Hebrew the Mercy Seat is called kaporet, and it comes from the word *kafar* which is ***to pitch***.
- In Noah's Ark (Genesis 6:14) it says the pitched the ark within and without with pitch. One word here means a tarry substance. The second word used here is the word for atone. They atoned the ark by using pitch to protect it or cover it.
- In the New Testament it uses the word ***propitiation*** (I John 2:2; 4:10), saying Christ is the propitiation for our sins. That word literally means ***our mercy seat***.
- The Cherubim:
 - On the Mercy Seat were two cherubim that faced each other (Exodus 25:20)
 - The cherubim's wings were lifted up covering the seat (Exodus 25:20)
 - Their faces looked down at the Mercy Seat, because they didn't look up at God when He came down to talk (Exodus 25:22).
- God told Moses that He would come down and commune with them above the Mercy Seat.
 - The word commune in Hebrew is *dabar*, which means to speak or to hear the voice of God.

Side-note: DBR are the Hebrew letters, and they are also the root letters for the word desert (MDBR). The picture in this is that you go to the desert to hear from God. God draws us to Him more during the hard times in our lives, because it is in the difficulties that we are more attuned to listening for His voice.

Numbers 7:89

Now when Moses went into the tabernacle of meeting to speak with Him, he heard the voice of One speaking to him from above the mercy seat that *was* on the ark of the Testimony, from between the two cherubim; thus He spoke to him.

- There is some dispute as to what the cherubim actually looked like – it might have resembled what we see in some Egyptian drawings rather than what we see pictured usually.

- Normally they wouldn't have put a face on anything. The faces of these cherubim looked down, so it is highly likely that they didn't have faces. This is because of idolatry. It was forbidden by God that they worship any creature or any animal.
- One rabbi says that he believes two wings were held up and two were down, forming an actual seat, where God would come and sit and talk with Moses.
- The first time you will ever hear God's voice is when He extends mercy to you! (This is the drawing God does on a sinner's heart to bring them to Him.)
- The Ark of the Covenant was holy before God.
- Inside the Ark of the Covenant were three things:

Hebrews 9:4

...and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which *were* the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant;

- Manna
 - Manna resembled a coriander seed. It was small and white, and had an oily and honey taste to it.
 - You could take the manna and beat it, then use that to bake with it in many fashions.
- Tablets of the law
 - They were written on both sides.
 - God wrote with the finger of His hand on the first ones (Exodus 31:18). Tradition says that it was sapphire that He wrote them on. The heat of His finger melted the stone to produce sapphire where it was written.

Exodus 24: 10

and they saw the God of Israel. And *there was* under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in *its* clarity.

- According to tradition, you could see the letters by looking through it – which would tend to back up that the letters formed sapphire where God wrote.
- Aaron's rod
 - We picture a rod to be about 6 feet tall. They may have cut the bottom of it to fit it into the Ark, but we don't know.
 - When they wanted to know who the priests were to be, they laid the rods from each tribe, and Aaron's rod bloomed with almonds (Numbers 17:2-10).
 - The three growth processes of an almond tree is also represented in the menorah.
 - How do you know when you have the baptism of the Holy Spirit? When you get fruit!
- Why were these three things in the Ark of the Covenant?
 - The Ark is a picture of Christ himself. These three things are inside the Ark.
 - They represent the three blessings God gives every believer:
 - Manna:
 - John 6:51 Jesus said:
 - I am the living bread which came down from heaven...
 - Represents your salvation. The first thing you do when you come to know Christ is to partake of Christ, you eat of the manna.

- Matthew 4:4 says that man can't live by bread alone. You can make it to heaven by just the manna – if you accept Jesus you will make it to heaven, but to live you have to go a step further and get into the word of God.
- The tablets:
 - Represents sanctification and separation
 - The law separated the people from their sin, their flesh, their self. It gave them a moral structure with which to live by.
- Aaron's rod:
 - This is the rod that Aaron did the miracles with.
 - When Moses went to Egypt, he did not use his rod for the first few miracles (Exodus 7 & 8).
 - Aaron was willing to stand with Moses during the most difficult time when they were trying to get the people freed. Thus, he was chosen as the priest.
 - This miracle rod represents the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Once you get the baptism you are able to produce fruit.
- So the Ark of the Covenant held three things: your salvation, your sanctification, and your baptism in the Holy Spirit.

John 14:16

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—

- In Solomon's time someone removed the rod and the manna, and in that time the only thing that was left in the Ark was the law (I Kings 8:9).
 - What does this mean?
 - They took the salvation out of the teaching of Jesus and they took the power of the Holy Spirit out of the teaching of Jesus. All they had left was the law, which leads to religion. We've got churches that have taken away the altar call for the sinners and for the power of the Holy Spirit to flow. If you want the fullness of blessing of God, and you want the fullness that's in the Ark of the Covenant, you need to be saved, you need to be set free, and you need to be baptized in the power of the Holy Ghost.
- There were two sets of the stone tablets of the law.
 - Moses came down the first time and he broke them because of their idol worship (Exodus 32).
 - Tradition says they were stored up, but there's nowhere God told him to take the broken law and put it up, because what could you do when you broke the law? You had to die. 3,000 of them died that day.
 - Moses made another set (Exodus 34).
 - This represents two covenants:
 - God knew His people would reject Christ (John 1:11).
 - The first Christian church was Jewish, but when the Gentiles began to be grafted in there was animosity there and it caused a rift.
 - God knew His people would reject the Word, so He made another set and gave it to us, knowing we would obey.
 - There was one group of people who never kept His covenant and who broke it. Their temple was destroyed in 70 A.D. and they've just been established as a nation in 1948.

- The Gentiles accepted that which would come in the Second Covenant. The second is a continuation of the First, which was rejected by some of God's people.
- The Horns:
 - The brass altar has four horns, and the Golden Altar of Incense has four horns.
 - Horns represent authority.
 - When an animal was placed upon the altar they often cut the horn off the animal before slaying the animal and they hung the horn on the corner of the altar. Certain animal's horns were used for shofars.
 - Why 4 horns?
 - There are 4 directions of the camp – north, south, east, and west.
 - There are four directions on earth – north, south, east, and west.
 - The Messiah's suffering would impact the entire world (John 3:16)
 - There were 4 animals offered that had horns.
 - The bull (ox)
 - The goat
 - The ram
 - The lamb
 - If you were to tie one of each animal, you would have one of each on the four horns.
 - The difference between the horns of those four animals is: you can cut the horn of a wild animal off and they won't feel anything. There's a little bit of nerves that run through, but not much. (The bull, goat, and ram horns could be cut off.)
 - A baby sheep's horns are so small that they grow the first 3 to 3 ½ years.
 - Jesus, the lamb of God, ministered for 3 ½ years.
 - If you cut the horn of a lamb, it is great pain because of the blood and the nerves that go into it.
 - David said: my horn shall be exalted

Psalms 92:10

But my horn You have exalted like a wild ox; I have been anointed with fresh oil.

Luke 1:69

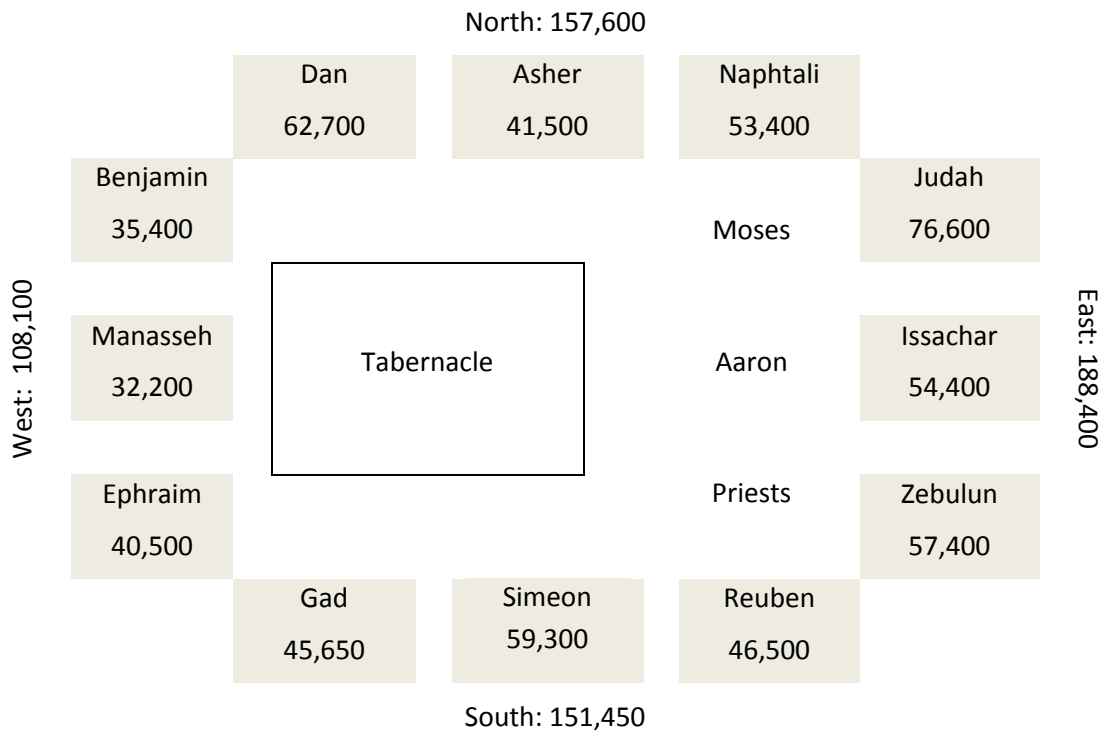
And has raised up a horn of salvation for us In the house of His servant David,

- The anointing oil was put in a horn. Samuel took a horn and filled it with oil when he anointed David (I Samuel 15:13).
- Furniture with crowns:
 - The Ark of the Covenant had a crown design that came up above the Mercy Seat all around it.
 - The Golden Altar of Incense had a crown.
 - The Table of Shewbread had a crown.
 - Why did they have crowns?
 - You put the blood on the top of the Mercy Seat and you wanted it to remain on the Mercy Seat and not drip on the floor. Dripping on the floor would represent trampling the blood of Jesus under your feet, which is a sin (Hebrews 10:29).
 - On the Golden Altar of Incense, the crown (rim) kept the incense from falling to the ground. God doesn't want our words falling to the ground. He doesn't want half your prayers answered, He wants all your prayers answered.

- On the Table of Shewbread, the crown was there so that not one crumb from that bread would fall to the ground to be trampled underneath the feet of the priests.
- The blood was not to be trampled under your feet. The incense was not to be trampled under your feet. The bread was not to be trampled under your feet.
- When the woman came to Jesus and he said he couldn't give the children's bread to the dog. She said that even a crumb would heal her son. One crumb is all she asked for and a crumb is what she got. One little crumb of bread can get somebody saved, and
- God says Do not take My Word and mock it or trample it. Do not trample the blood of My Son. Do not take the incense of prayer and treat it lightly. Do you know who you are approaching when you approach God almighty? You are approaching Him, therefore let nothing fall to the ground.

- The Camp:

- There were 12 tribes, but really 13 with Levi. Levi does not have a reckoning with the property of the other tribes when the 12 tribes divided the land up into land grants.
- Joseph was one man, but his sons Ephraim and Manasseh were part of the tribal encampment.



- Total of 605,550 men of war that came out of Egypt, plus women and children.
- If you were to come from the east into this Tabernacle, you had to pass the sons of Issachar, that the Bible said were men of understanding that knew the times; you had to pass the tribe of Judah who were the praisers; and you had to pass Moses and Aaron who are the priests and the leaders (I Chronicles 12:32; II Chronicles 20:20-22).
- To get into God's presence it takes people of understanding teaching you before you get there to know what to do, it takes worship, entering His gate with thanksgiving, and it takes leaders to instruct you to do it. That's the New Testament pattern.