

Questions / Answers

1. Why did God give laws to the Israelites?
To show them how He wanted them to live and to make them His great nation on the earth.
2. What did the 10 commandments teach the Israelites?
How to love and obey God. How to behave towards each other.
3. What was the name of the special tent where the Israelites worshipped God?
The Tabernacle.
4. What was the first room in the Tabernacle called?
The Holy Place.
5. Who was allowed to go into the Holy Place?
The priests.
6. What 3 things were in the Holy Place?
The lampstand, the table with bread, the altar of incense.
7. What was the second room in the Tabernacle called?
The Most Holy Place.
8. Who was allowed to go into the Most Holy Place?
Only the High Priest.
9. When was the High Priest allowed to go in and what did he do?
Once a year on the Day of Atonement. He asked God to forgive the sins of the people.
10. What was in the Most Holy Place?
The Ark.

Memory verses

Learn the 10 commandments

Discussion

Describe the Tabernacle and all the things that were in it. What was each thing used for? What lessons can we learn from this today?

Writing

Write out the ten commandments. Which commandments do you think are the hardest to keep today?

CBM Senior Lessons

Lesson 16 God's laws



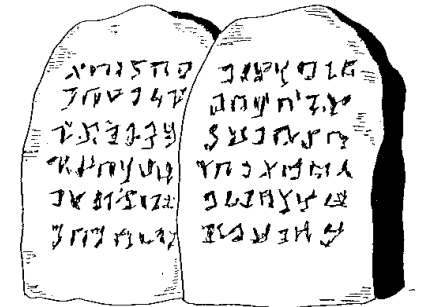
READING Exodus 20:1 –17

LESSON

The Israelites had been slaves in Egypt. They had obeyed their task masters. They had no laws of their own. Now they were a nation. They needed laws to teach them to live together as a community. God gave them laws to make them His great nation on earth. If they kept God's laws they would show to all people that they loved God and obeyed Him.

The nation of Israel camped at the bottom of Mount Sinai. God reminded Moses that the nation of Israel was His special people. God had chosen them to be His people when he had promised Abraham that His descendants would become a great nation. God promised that if the nation of Israel loved and obeyed Him, then God would look after them and lead them to the Promised Land of Canaan. The nation of Israel promised that they would love and obey God.

Moses went up mount Sinai and stayed there for 40 days. God gave Moses a set of laws which the Israelites must obey. God said that the Israelites would be His own special people. These laws are called the 10 commandments. These 10 laws or commandments were carved on two stones.



The 10 commandments showed the Israelites how God wanted them to live. The first few commandments taught them how to love and obey God. The other commandments taught them how to behave towards each other. The Israelites promised to keep God's laws. God promised to care for them if they kept His laws.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. God is the only God. You must not worship idols.
2. You must not make any idols.
3. You must not use God's name in a bad way.
4. You must rest one day a week on the Sabbath day.
5. You must respect and care for your parents.
6. You must not murder.
7. You must not have sexual relations outside marriage.
8. You must not steal.
9. You must not tell lies or accuse others falsely.
10. You must not envy what other people have.

God told Moses how the people should worship Him. God wanted them to make a special place to worship Him. This was a special tent called the *tabernacle*. The tabernacle was to be in the middle of the camp. The people collected all the things the Egyptians had given them when they left Egypt: gold, silver, jewels and linen cloth. These things were used to make the tabernacle. God told them exactly how to make the tabernacle.

The tabernacle was inside a courtyard. The wall of the courtyard was made of white linen. There was one door into the courtyard. Inside there was a big, bronze bowl where the priests washed. There was a bronze altar where sacrifices were offered. The tabernacle taught lessons to the people. They learned that God told them how to worship Him and only that way was right. The Tabernacle was in the centre of the camp. They needed to put God into the centre of their lives.

The tabernacle was a tent in the middle of the courtyard. It had two rooms: the first room was called the Holy Place and the second room was called the Most Holy Place. All the furniture in the tabernacle was made of gold.

Lessons for us

*There is only one way to salvation—through Jesus.
We need to be washed by baptism
God should be the centre of our lives.*

Only the priests were allowed to go into the Holy Place. In the Holy Place there was a lampstand, a table and an altar of incense.

The golden lampstand had 7 branches. It was always kept alight. This showed that the light of God's salvation is always burning brightly. On the golden table were 12 round, flat loaves of bread. Fresh loaves were brought each week. The 12 loaves (one for each tribe of Israel) showed that the 12 tribes of Israel were always close to God's presence. Incense was burned on the golden altar of incense every morning and evening. Incense gives a very sweet smell when it is burned. The incense showed the prayers of the people. Their prayers should rise as a sweet smell to God every day.

Lessons for us

The lampstand — the light of the Gospel should shine in our hearts

The bread — we should read God's Word, the bread of life, to help us to stay close to God

The incense — our prayers should rise as a sweet smell to God every day

The Most Holy Place was so holy that only the High Priest (the most important priest) was allowed to enter. He was only allowed to go in once every year. The High Priest went into the Most Holy Place on the Day of Atonement to ask God to forgive the people's sins.

The golden Ark was kept in the Most Holy Place. This is where God dwelt. The ark was very holy. The Ark was where the presence of God dwelt. The Ark was a wooden box covered with gold. It had two golden cherubim on the lid. The lid between the cherubim was called the Mercy Seat. This was where the mercy and love of God dwelt. Inside the Ark were kept the stones with the 10 commandments written on them and a pot of manna. No-one was allowed to touch the Ark - or they would die. The Ark was carried on two poles by four priests when it was moved.

Moses' brother, Aaron, and his sons would be priests. They would teach the Israelites about God. God explained that the Israelites must offer sacrifices of animals. They learned that their sins could only be forgiven by killing an animal. Remember when Adam sinned in the Garden of Eden, that the punishment was death. So when anyone sinned the punishment was death. But God was kind and He forgave the people when they killed an animal to show that they were sorry.

Lesson for us

Jesus died and rose again so that God will forgive our sins when we repent.