

The Tabernacle and the Kingdom of God

God told Moses to have the children of Israel “...make Me a sanctuary [4720, *a holy place*]; that **I may dwell among them** [8432, *in the middle of*]. According to all that I show you, after the pattern [8403, *a model, a blueprint*] of the **tabernacle**, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall you make it” (Exodus 25:8-9).

The tabernacle complex is a model of the Kingdom of God. The various ceremonies and instruments used in the ceremonies are a revelation of the New Testament pattern of salvation. Each of God’s appointed times fits into the pattern of the tabernacle complex. The earthly tabernacle was a copy of the heavenly, “For Christ is not entered into holy places [39, *Most Holy Place*] made with hands, which are the figures [499, *copies*] of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us” (Hebrews 9:24).

It is the destiny of man to dwell with God in His tabernacle. “And I John saw the holy city New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven...And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the **tabernacle** of God is with men, and **He will dwell with them**, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be **no more death**, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away” (Revelation 21:1-4).

We will be using the pattern of the tabernacle as our guide throughout this series on God’s appointed times. By combining the appointed times with the tabernacle we will be gaining additional insight in our study of God’s plan. This will be an overview of the tabernacle complex, which will reveal a clear delineation between the Kingdom of God and the way of this world.

The Pattern of the Tabernacle

The tabernacle is laid out in the same pattern as the crucifixion site at Jerusalem. Jesus was crucified on the Mount of Olives,¹ which corresponds to the altar in the outer court. The temple, which corresponds to the tabernacle, is straight **west** of the Mount of Olives. In the valley between the temple mount and the Mount of Olives is the Brook Kidron, which corresponds to the bronze laver, which was filled with water for washing by the priests

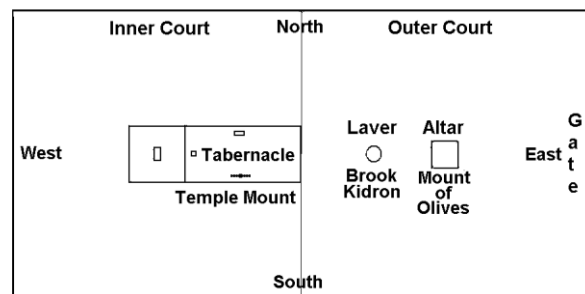


Figure 1

¹ There are various opinions presented about the exact place of Jesus’ crucifixion, but God’s blueprint reveals the exact pattern that it was to follow. If we don’t use the blueprint then everything just becomes a matter of conjecture, which is useless. What does matter is the truth. It is God’s word—not man’s opinions—that is truth.

(Exodus 30:18-21).

Jesus said, “Enter you in at the strait [4728, *narrow*] gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leads to **destruction**, and many there be which go in there: because strait is the gate, and narrow [2346, *pressure, compressed*] is the way, which leads to **life**, and few there be that find it” (Matthew 7:13, 14). The way that leads to life is not the easy way, for “[W]e must through much tribulation [2347, *pressure, affliction*] enter the Kingdom of God” (Acts 14:22). *Strong’s* 2346 is the root of 2347. The gate that Jesus spoke of is the gate on the east end of the courtyard, and it is the only entrance into the courtyard. “And the breadth of the court on the east side eastward shall be fifty cubits. The hangings of one side of the gate shall be fifteen cubits...And on the other side shall be hangings of fifteen cubits...And for the gate of the court shall be a hanging of twenty cubits...” (Exodus 27:13-16). The gate was approximately thirty feet wide, but to enter in you had to go between the hangings; therefore, it was a very narrow entrance into the courtyard.

The number 20 is that of a servant. Jacob served Laban twenty years (Genesis 31:38, 41). The Levites were to serve in their service in the tabernacle for twenty years (Numbers 4:3, 23, 30). We have ten digits on our hands that represent our works, and ten digits on our feet that represent the way in which we walk. “LORD, who shall abide in your **tabernacle**? Who shall dwell in your holy hill? He that **walks uprightly**, and **works righteousness**, and speaks the truth in his heart” (Psalm 15:1, 2).

Hebrew letters are also numbers. The number 15 in Hebrew is ך. It is *Strong’s* 3050, Yah, a contraction of 3068, Yehovah, the Eternal.² In English Bibles it is usually translated as “LORD.” The gate is for those who have repented and have chosen to serve the Eternal. “Know you not, that to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants you are to whom you obey; whether of sin to death, or of obedience to righteousness?” (Romans 6:16). The gate could be called the “gate of repentance,” or the “gate of the servants of the Eternal.”

The direction of travel through the courtyard to the **door** of the tabernacle is from east to west. The tabernacle complex, and its instruments, ceremonies, offerings, etc., is a revelation of the New Testament pattern of salvation. Jesus said, “I am the **door**: by Me if any man enter in, **he shall be saved...**” (John 10:9). **There is no other way that leads to eternal life in the Kingdom of God than that which is revealed by the blueprint of the tabernacle!**

What is the Kingdom of God?

“Christianity” claims that Jesus Christ came and did away with His Father’s law, but Jesus said, “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill [4137, *to do, to perfect*]. For verily I say to you, Till heaven and earth pass [3928, *to pass away, be removed*], one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass [3928] from the law, till all be fulfilled” (Matthew 5:17, 18). Heaven and earth have not passed away; therefore the law of the Eternal God remains.

A Christian’s citizenship is in heaven. “For our conversation [4175, *citizenship*] is in heaven; from where also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ” (Philippians 3:20). *Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament* defines 4175 as: “*the constitution of a*

² The Jews, in order to avoid profaning the sacred name through common usage, changed the number from the Biblical number of ך (15) to ך (Tet) = 9, and ך (Vav) = 6.

commonwealth, form of government and the laws by which it is administered, a state, commonwealth.”

God’s law defines His kingdom. “...You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, You shall not covet; and any other commandment is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Love works no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law” (Romans 13:9, 10). Love is not just some nebulous feel good feeling. **Love is defined by God’s law**, and the Kingdom of God is founded on love.

A kingdom contains four basic components: The governing authority, territory, subjects, and laws by which the kingdom operates. We are going to overlay the Ten Commandments on the pattern of the tabernacle, and we will see that they fit the pattern perfectly, and contain the four elements of a kingdom. We will place a number in the pattern of the tabernacle according to the number of commandments that pertain to it.

The Governing Authority

- I. I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage (Exodus 20:2)

This is the most important of the Ten Commandments, but it is left off of most versions of the Ten Commandments. The first commandment establishes who the Promulgator of the law is. **Law must have an authority behind it; otherwise, it has no power.** “For the LORD is our Judge, the LORD is our Lawgiver, the LORD is our King; He will save us” (Isaiah 33:22). The Eternal is our Judge. In order to make judgments, there must be laws to base those judgments on. “There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy ...” (James 4:12). The Eternal is our Savior, which the first commandment makes plain.

As King, God is the power and authority that has established the law. No man or church has the authority to change God’s law. “You shall not **add** to the word which I command you, neither shall you **diminish aught** from it, that you may keep [8104, *watch, guard, preserve*] the commandments of the LORD your God...” (Deuteronomy 4:2).

It is our responsibility to guard the Word that God has given us to make sure that it isn’t polluted by the teachings of men. We must “...earnestly contend [1864, *to contend earnestly in defense*] for the faith [4102, *belief, conviction*] which was once [530, *once forever*] delivered [3860, *handed over*] **to the saints** [40, *those consecrated, sanctified, set apart*]” (Jude 1:3).

This commandment also establishes that it is the Eternal God who has brought us out of the house of bondage of sin and death. “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). Sin “... is the transgression of the law” (1 John. 3:4). The “... wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom. 6:23). If we are not redeemed from our sins, then the remaining commandments are meaningless, **because we are still dead in our sins, and without hope of salvation.**

- II. Thou shalt have no other gods before Me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and

keep My commandments (Exodus 20:3-6).

The second commandment is usually incorrectly broken into two parts, to become the first and second commandments. That mistake leads to two commandments that cover the same subject of idolatry, instead of one, as it should be. By doing so, the first commandment is left off entirely. Before you can keep the second commandment, you must know who God is, and that is what the first commandment establishes. When the first commandment is passed over, it leads to the breaking of the second commandment. Idolatry is the root of all sin because idolatry turns our focus away from God and to the world.

Many lose sight of God and worship a man or a church in His place, following the teachings of man instead of God. Jesus said, “This people draw near Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips; but their heart **is far from Me**. But in vain do they worship Me, **teaching for doctrines the commandments of men**” (Matthew 15:8, 9). This is blatant idolatry. People desire a physical leader that they can see, but “God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him **must** worship Him in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24).

The second commandment tells us to come out of this world. “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the **lust** of the flesh, and the **lust** of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but **is of the world**” (1John 2:15, 16). Lust is covetousness and covetousness “is idolatry” (Colossians 3:5).

Our focus is to be on things which are above. “If ye then be risen with Christ seek those things which are above, where Christ sits on the right hand of God. Set your affection [5426, *mind, sentiment*] on things above, **not on things on the earth**. For you are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God” (Colossians 3:1-3). Setting our minds on things above takes us right back to the first commandment. “I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.” When our focus is on God, then we will not be committing idolatry.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that takes His name in vain (Exodus 20:7).

The third commandment has to do with the way in which you walk, your works, and the way you speak. “LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that **walks uprightly**, and **works righteousness**, and **speaks the truth in his heart**. He that backbites [7270, *slanders*] not with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor. In whose eyes a vile person is contemned [959, *despised*]; but he honors them that fear [3373, *reverence*] the LORD. He that swears to his own hurt, and changes not. He that puts not out his money to usury, nor takes reward against the innocent. He that does these things shall never be moved” (Psalm 15:1-5).

When you have the Spirit of God you are a son of God, and therefore have taken on the name of God. “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God” (Romans 8:14). If you, as a son of God, walk and speak contrary to the way of God, then you are taking the name of God in vain. “You that say a man should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You that abhor idols, do you commit sacrilege [2416, *rob temples*]? You that make your boast of the law, **through breaking the law dishonor God?** For the name of God is blasphemed among the gentiles **through you ...**” (Romans 2:22- 24).

It is not what we claim, but what we do that determines if we are a Christian. “If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin” (1 John 1:6, 7).

The first three commandments are about God’s sovereignty, and His relationship with man. God is the governing authority. He is the King, the Lawgiver, and the Judge. The number three is God’s number in scripture. God’s throne is in the Most Holy Place, so we will place the number 3 in the Most Holy Place.

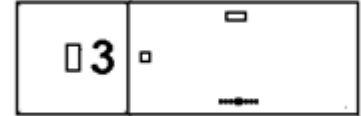


Figure 3

The Territory

- IV. Remember the Sabbath day, **to keep it holy**. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the **seventh day** is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the **seventh day**: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it (vv. 8-11).

The seventh day was made holy at creation. “And God saw everything that He had made; and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the **sixth day**. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the **seventh day** God **ended** His work which He had made; and He **rested** on the **seventh day** from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the **seventh day**, and **sanctified** [6942, *to make pure, to be set apart as holy*] **it...**” (Genesis 1:31-2:3). The Sabbath represents all of creation.

Everything that was created on the first six days was physical, and is subject to decay, and is therefore temporary. Only spiritual things are eternal. “While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things **which are not seen are eternal**” (2 Corinthians 4:18).

Everything that was created on the first six days will be destroyed. “...[T]he heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in all holy conversation [391, *way of life, conduct*] and godliness [2150, *devotion, reverence*], looking for and hasting [4692, *eager for the arrival of*] to the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat” (2 Peter 3:10-12).

The seventh day was a purely spiritual creation. You cannot hear it, see it, smell it, taste it, or touch it. There was nothing physical created on the seventh day, and there was no time limitation placed on the seventh day, as there was on the first six days. Each of the six days of the physical creation had a beginning and an end. “And the evening and the morning were the _____ day.” (Genesis 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31). The seventh day had no “evening and the morning,” because it represents eternity.

The Sabbath day is the promise of eternal life in a kingdom of righteousness. “Nevertheless we, according to **His promise**, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwell **righteousness**” (v. 13). Those who will inherit eternal life in the Kingdom of God are

those who are "...not overcome of evil, but overcome [3528, *conquer, vanquish, subdue, prevail*] evil with good" (Romans 12:21). **The Sabbath day is not just a day of worship, but it represents a way of life!**

Those who "...overcome [3528, *conquer, vanquish, prevail*] shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son" (Revelation 21:7). This will be the fulfillment of the eternal Sabbath rest that man is to labor to enter into. "There remains therefore a rest [4520, *the keeping of a Sabbath*] to the people of God. For he that is entered into His rest [2663, *abode, habitation, dwelling*], he also has ceased from his own works, as God did from His. Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest [2663]..." (Hebrews 4:9-11). On what day did God rest from His works? "...And God did rest the **seventh day** from all His works" (v.4). The seventh day is the only day of the week that God has ever made holy. The annual Sabbaths are on specific dates, and the day of the week can vary from year to year.

The Sabbath is a sign that we are citizens of the Kingdom of God through the process of sanctification. "...Verily My Sabbaths you shall keep [8104, *guard, protect, hedge about*]: for it is a sign [226, *evidence, an agreement between two parties*] between Me and you throughout your generations: that you may know [3045, *to get to know a person*] that **I am the LORD that does sanctify** [6942, *to purify, set apart as holy*] you" (Exodus 31:13).

Through sanctification we have been transferred into His kingdom. "Giving thanks to the Father...Who has delivered us from the power of **darkness**, and has translated [3179, *to cause to change sides, to transfer*] us **into the kingdom of His dear Son**: in whom we have redemption [629, *deliverance procured through payment of a ransom*] through His blood, even the forgiveness [859, *deliverance from captivity*] of sins" (Colossians 1:12-14).

Those who refuse to overcome will suffer eternal death. "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers [4205, *pedophile, sodomite*], and sorcerers [5332, *magic arts, drugs*], and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone: which is the second death" (v. 8).

We have placed the number one in the door of the tabernacle, which represents the entrance into the Kingdom of God. Jesus said, "**I am the door**: by Me if any man enter in, he shall be **saved**..." (John 10:9).

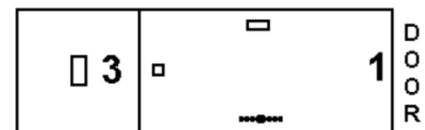


Figure 4

The House of God

The two numbers that we have placed in the tabernacle, when read from left to right form the number 31. In Hebrew, letters are also numbers. The Hebrew letter Lamed ל has a numerical value of thirty. The Hebrew letter Aleph א has a numerical value of one. Hebrew is read from right to left, i.e. from east to west, which is the direction of travel to enter into the tabernacle. When the two letters are combined they form the Hebrew word אל (el). El is *Strong's* 410, and it means: *strength, might*; especially *the Almighty*. In English Bibles, it is usually translated as God, or god. The tabernacle is the בית־אל (Beyth-El), the House of God.

The pattern of the tabernacle complex is revealed back in the book of Genesis. When Abram entered the Promised Land, God said to him, "... I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing ... and in thee **shall all families of the earth be blessed** ... and Abram was **seventy and five** years old when he departed

out of Haran ... and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came” (Genesis 12:2-5).

Abram came to “... a mountain on the **east of Bethel** [1008, בֵּית־אֵל, Beyth-El, *House of God*], and pitched his tent, having Bethel on the **west**, and **Hai** [5857, or Ai, *a ruin*, from 5753, *twisted, perverted, iniquity*] on the **east**: and there he built an altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD” (Gen. 12:8). The House of God is to the west, and sin and destruction is to the east, just as Jesus described the narrow way that leads to life, and the broad way that leads to destruction.



Figure 5

Abram’s altar is between the two ways, just as it is in the tabernacle complex. Abram was **seventy-five** years old at the time that he built the altar (Genesis 12:4). The volume of the altar in the tabernacle complex is **seventy-five** cubits (Exodus 27:1). The altar corresponds to the Mount of Olives, where Jesus was crucified.

The number 70 represents all the people of the earth. There are seventy descendants of the sons of Noah listed in Genesis 10, “...and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood” (v. 32). The number 5 represents the hand as that which does work. It is by the hand of God that the families of the earth would be blessed by being brought out of “the house of bondage” of sin and death by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, “In whom we have redemption [629, *deliverance procured by payment of a ransom*] through His blood, even the forgiveness [859, *deliverance from captivity*] of sins” (Colossians 1:14).

The Subjects

- V. Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee (v. 12).
- VI. Thou shalt not kill [7523, *murder*] (v. 13).
- VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery (v. 14).
- VIII. Thou shalt not steal (v. 15).
- IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor (v. 16).
- X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor’s (v.17).

Each one of the last six commandments has to do with man’s relationship with his fellow man. The number six is man’s number in Scripture. We now have the subjects of the Kingdom of God. We will place the number six at the

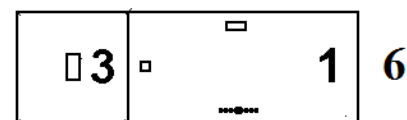


Figure 6

door of the tabernacle, which is the Sabbath rest that man is to labor to enter into.

Jesus said, “The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath: Therefore the Son of man is Lord [2962, *master, sovereign*] of the Sabbath” (Mark 2:27, 28). Jesus is the Master over His Father’s house, and Jesus “...has the key of David, He that opens and no man shuts; and shuts, and no man opens” (Revelation 3:7). It is only through the door that Jesus opens for us that we can enter into the Kingdom of God. We cannot enter in through our own efforts.

When the number 316 is read from right to left, as Hebrew is read, it is the number 613. There are 613 laws in the Torah (the five books of Moses). There are 365 positive (to do) commands, and 248 negative (don’t do) commands. The Ten Commandments are the basis of God’s law, from which all of the other laws are derived.

We have established that the Ten Commandments contain the four elements of the Kingdom of God: the governing authority, territory, subjects, and the laws governing the kingdom. The number 10 represents the Kingdom of God, from which the Word of God originates. God’s throne is in the Most Holy Place which is 10^3 . The number 10 is the Word, and the number 3 is God. The Word of God comes from the Most Holy Place, which is where the ark of the covenant is located.

The New Jerusalem and the Most Holy Place

Those who overcome will dwell with the Father and Jesus Christ in the New Jerusalem. The New Jerusalem is a cube of “...twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal” (Revelation 21:16). The Most Holy Place is the only cube in scripture. In the earthly tabernacle it was 10^3 cubits, and in Solomon’s temple it was 20^3 cubits.

Jesus told His disciples, “In My Father’s house are many mansions [3438, *dwellings*]...I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the **way** you know” (John 14:2-4).

Where did Jesus go? “But Christ being come a high priest of good things to come...by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place [39, *Most Holy Place*], having obtained eternal redemption for us” (Hebrews 9:11, 12). The Most Holy Place is “Where the forerunner [4274, *one who advances to explore and prepare the way*] is for us entered, even Jesus, made a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek” (Hebrews 6:20).

Under the Old Covenant, only the high priest could enter the Most Holy Place, and that only once a year on the Day of Atonement (10^{th} day of the seventh month). But through Jesus Christ, all of those who inherit eternal life will enter into the Most Holy Place, and “...the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and His servants shall serve Him: and they shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God gives them light: and **they shall reign** [936, *rule, govern*] forever and ever” (Revelation 22:3-5).

It is the destiny of man to be created into the same spiritual image as God. The bride of Christ is not going to be a different species than is Christ. “But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed [3339, *to change into another form*] **into the same image** from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord [or, *of the Lord the Spirit*]” (2 Corinthians 3:18). When mankind is created in the spiritual image of God, they will reign with the Father and Jesus Christ for all eternity.

God's number in scripture is 3, because the Godhead is going to consist of the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Bride. The bride of Christ will be made up of all of those who have received eternal life. "And I John saw the holy city, **New Jerusalem**, coming down from God out of heaven, **prepared as a bride adorned for her husband**" (Revelation 21:2).

The Broad Way That Leads to Destruction

The way that leads to destruction is the exact opposite of the Kingdom of God. Biblically directions are in relation to Jerusalem, which is where the temple was located. Straight east of Jerusalem, in the area of present day Iraq, is Babylon (fig. 7). Babylon represents the way of this world. The king of Babylon is "...that old serpent, called the Devil [1228, *slanderer*], and Satan [4567, *adversary*], which deceives [4105, *to lead astray*] the whole world..." (Revelation 12:9).



Figure 7

The system that Satan uses to deceive the world is called "MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH" (Revelation 17:5). She is "...the great whore that sits upon many waters: with whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication [4203, *fig. idolatry*], and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication [4202, *idolatries*]" (vv. 1, 2).

As the people multiplied after Noah's flood, they began to migrate eastward. "And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east [6924, *eastward*],³ that they found a plain in the land of Shinar [*Babylon*]; and they dwelt there" (Genesis 11:2). The people were moving **eastward**, away from God, and into idolatry, and what they began to do will substantiate this.

In the land of Shinar, they began building what was to become known as the Tower of Babel. The tower was a terraced pyramid called a "Ziggurat." Ziggurats were used for religious purposes from which they would worship "...the host of heaven upon the housetops [1406, *the roof as flat, of a tower, temple, house, altar*]" (Zephaniah 1:5). We see that the people "...changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshiped and served the creature [2937, *creation*] more [3844, *rather*] than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen" (Romans 1:25).

The worship of the sun is a big part of pagan worship. Easter and Christmas evolved from the worship of the sun, as did the first day of the week which came to be called Sunday. Sunday became a symbol of the Babylonian religious/political system. Sunday is 180° out of phase with the seventh day Sabbath, just as the Kingdom of Babylon is 180° out of phase with the Kingdom of God.

Scripturally Sunday is equated with spiritual darkness and confusion. On the first day (Sunday) of creation week, "...the earth was [*became*] without form [8414, *waste, emptiness, vanity*], and void [922, *fig. spiritually empty*]; and darkness [2822, *fig. misery, adversity, ignorance, death, wickedness*] was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon

³ The marginal note in the KJV renders 6924 מִקְדָּם as "eastward," as do several other translations (NASB, Amplified, NIV, ASV, and others). In Genesis 13:11, מִקְדָּם is translated as east. "...Lot journeyed east..." Likewise Genesis 2:8, "And the LORD God planted a garden eastward [מִקְדָּם] in Eden..." The context of Genesis 11 is that the people were moving away from God, which would be eastward.

the face of the waters” (Genesis 1:2). This is a description of a world without God that is under the sway of Satan’s religious/political system. The waters represent the people of the earth. “...The waters...where the whore sits, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues” (Revelation 17:15).

God brought light into this world of darkness. “And God said, Let there be light: and there was light” (Genesis 1:3). The light represents Jesus Christ, and “In Him was life; and the life was the **light** of men. And the **light** shines in **darkness**; and the **darkness** comprehended it not” (John 1:4, 5). Humanity does not like the light because it exposes their evil ways. “...[M]en loved **darkness** rather than **light**, because their deeds were evil. For everyone that does evil hates the **light**, neither comes to the **light**, lest his deeds should be reproved [1651, *exposed*]” (John 3:19, 20).

God began drawing people out of the darkness of this world. “And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided [914, *to separate, to make a distinction*] the light from the darkness” (Genesis 1:4). The light that God separated from the darkness represents those people whom God is calling out of the darkness of this world into His light. “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar [4047, *acquired, purchased*] people; that you should show forth the praises [703, *goodness, uprightness*] of Him who has called you **out of darkness into His marvelous light**” (1 Peter 2:9).

The difference between the first day (Sunday), and the seventh day (Saturday) Sabbath is literally the difference between night and day. The Sabbath is light because God is light. “...God is **light**, and in Him is no **darkness** at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in **darkness**, we lie, and do not the **truth**: but if we walk in the **light**, we have fellowship one with another; and the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin” (1 John 1:5). When God calls His people out of darkness, He is drawing them away from Babylon (Sunday), and toward His Sabbath rest.

Sunday worship is a sign that one is a citizen of Babylon. God says, “...Come out of her [*Babylon*], My people, that you be not partakers of her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities” (Revelation 18:4, 5).

The Tower of Babel was man’s first attempt at building a one world religious/political system that is in direct opposition to the Kingdom of God. In the last days this corrupt “New World Order,” which originated at the Tower of Babel, will finally come to fruition, but for only a short time.

Summary: The earthly tabernacle is a model of the Kingdom of God. When we overlaid the Ten Commandments on the pattern of the tabernacle, we saw that they fit the pattern of the tabernacle perfectly, and that the Ten Commandments contained the four basic elements of a kingdom: a governing authority (God), territory (the Sabbath), subjects (man), and laws governing the kingdom. We saw that the tabernacle, and its instruments and ceremonies are a revelation of the New Testament pattern of salvation. There is no other way that leads to salvation than that which is revealed by the pattern of the tabernacle. The pattern of the tabernacle makes a clear delineation between the way that leads to eternal life (west), and the way that leads to eternal death (east). This is the blueprint that we will be using throughout this series on God’s appointed times.