

Exodus 38:1-7 **Altar of Burnt Offerings**

¹ He made the altar of burnt offering of acacia wood; five cubits was its length and five cubits its width--it was square--and its height was three cubits. ² He made its horns on its four corners; the horns were of one piece with it. And he overlaid it with bronze. ³ He made all the utensils for the altar: the pans, the shovels, the basins, the forks, and the firepans; all its utensils he made of bronze. ⁴ And he made a grate of bronze network for the altar, under its rim, midway from the bottom. ⁵ He cast four rings for the four corners of the bronze grating, as holders for the poles. ⁶ And he made the poles of acacia wood, and overlaid them with bronze. ⁷ Then he put the poles into the rings on the sides of the altar, with which to bear it. He made the altar hollow with boards. NKJV [\[see also Exodus 27:1-8\]](#)

Facts Revealed:

- ✧ The first article of Tabernacle furniture that a person encounters, as soon as he enters the Gate through the wall which is around the Tabernacle and into the Court to approach God, is the Bronze or copper altar which represents the Judgment of God against sin.
- ✧ It addresses the attention of the person to the fact that the first thing necessary if we are to approach God is to deal with our own sin, and to look to the Sacrifice that stands as our substitute for the punishment for our sins.
- ✧ The need of a substitute to take the punishment for our sins is obvious since all have sinned and there is no one who is righteous before God. [\[Romans 3:9-12, 23, 5:12, Galatians 3:22, Psalm 143:2, Isaiah 41:26\]](#)
- ✧ That sacrifice points to Jesus Christ the final and perfect sacrifice that God provided for a covering for our sins and the sins of the world once for all. [\[Romans 6:8-10, Hebrews 7:22-27, 9:11-12, 10:1-10\]](#)
- ✧ The Altar of Sacrifice is made of Acacia wood overlaid with bronze or copper, which represents our Lord Jesus Christ Who had become mortal, and to Whom all Judgment is given, because He experienced life as a man and can therefore be a just judge. [\[John 5:22-27, Acts 17:31, Romans 14:10, 2 Corinthians 5:10, 2 Timothy 4:1, Jude 1:14-15, Hebrews 2:14-18\]](#)
- ✧ The Altar of Sacrifice represents God's provision of a substitute to pay the price of our sins.
- ✧ Yet the covering for our sins requires that we avail ourselves of God's provision by coming to Him the way He has prescribed which is through Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one can come to the Father except by Me." [\[John 3:16-18, 36, 8:24, 14:6, 20:31, Mark 16:16, Acts 10:42-43, 13:37-39\]](#)
- ✧ The wood represents the humanity of Jesus, Who became our substitute as He surrendered Himself to the abuse of man when they took Him to the cross where He gave His life for the sins of the world.
- ✧ The bronze or copper represents the judgment of God against sin, which was satisfied by the blood of Christ. [\[Hebrews 9:11-28\]](#)