



THREE REALMS OF PRAYER

Bible Study
Prayer Series

Title: Getting behind the veil

Lesson text: [Matthew 7:7 - 8](#)

Context Scriptures References: [Exodus 25-31, 35-40](#), [Matthew 6:9 - 13](#), [John 15:7](#), [1 John 5:14](#), [Hebrew 8:5](#), [1 John 1:9](#), [Philippians 4:6](#), [1 Peter 5:7](#)
[2 Chronicles 7:14 - 15](#), [2 Corinthians 3:17 - 18](#), [Matthew 27:51](#), [Matthew 5:6](#)

In this enlightening series, we shall explore how the sacred journey through the three realms of prayer is beautifully mirrored in the design of the Tabernacle. As we traverse the sacred pathways of the Tabernacle, we will uncover the striking parallels to the three realms of our prayer life. Our ultimate aspiration in this lesson is to penetrate the veil with our prayers abiding in the presence of God, cultivating a life steeped in constant communion with the Almighty.



In the revered pages of the Old Testament, we find the tale of Moses receiving divine instructions from *Yahweh* (YHWH) atop the majestic Mount Sinai, guiding him in the sacred construction of the *Tent of Meeting*, more commonly known as *The Tabernacle*. The intricate details of this divine blueprint are woven through the chapters of [Exodus 25-31](#) and [35-40](#). Crafted to be portable, the Tabernacle allowed the Israelites to carry it as they journeyed through the wilderness. It stood as a hallowed sanctuary where the faithful could worship God and offer sacrifices, a testament to their devotion and a beacon for seeking God's presence.

The Tabernacle consisted of an outer court, a *Holy Place*, and a *Holy of Holies*.

- **Outer Court:** The outer court contained the *bronze altar* for sacrifices and the *bronze laver* for the priests to wash.
- **Holy Place:** The Holy Place housed the *table of shewbread*, the *seven-branched candelabrum* (menorah), and the *altar of incense*.
- **Holy of Holies:** The Holy of Holies, the innermost part of the tabernacle, housed the *Ark of the Covenant*, which contained the *Ten Commandments*

The Tabernacle, a sacred haven, emerged in the wilderness as the Israelites journeyed from the bonds of Egypt, serving as their spiritual refuge throughout their 40-year odyssey. As the faithful crossed into the Promised Land, the Tabernacle's presence transitioned, ultimately yielding to the grandeur of the temple in Jerusalem, crafted by the wise King Solomon. This celestial dwelling holds immense significance within the Old Testament, particularly illuminated in the scrolls of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers, where its divine architecture and sacred rituals are vividly chronicled. The Feast of the Tabernacles, a Jewish holiday, commemorates the time when the Israelites lived in the the wilderness and swelled in temporary shelters, similar to the Tabernacle.

Matthew 7:7-8 NLT

7 “Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.



Matthew 7:7-8 stands as a beacon of wisdom bestowed upon humanity. In the preceding chapter, *Matthew 6:9-13*, Jesus gifts us with the Model Prayer, leading seamlessly into his exquisite guidance on how to approach prayer with purpose and power. This sacred passage reveals the essential virtues of "*Faith*," "*Perseverance*," and "*Humility*." vv. 7 serves as the divine instructions, while vv. 8 illuminates the actions we are called to undertake. The three realms of prayer, mirroring the structure of the Old Testament Tabernacle, are the outer court (*supplication/asking*), the holy place (*seeking/meditation*), and the Holy of Holies (*knocking/intercession*)

In *Matthew 7:7-8*, the Lord unveils three sacred realms of prayer: the realm of asking, the realm of seeking, and the realm of knocking. Each realm, distinct in its purpose, opens pathways to the divine throne room. The Old Testament illuminates our journey into God's presence. On Mount Sinai, Moses received the divine blueprint for the Tabernacle, a reflection of the heavenly sanctuary. *Hebrews 8:5* declares, "*who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, 'See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.'*" The earthly Tabernacle was designed to prophetically guide us to God the Father through Jesus, demanding perfection in its construction, for it was a sacred vessel of divine intent.

The Tabernacle was crafted with three sacred realms: the Outer Court, the Holy Place, and the Holy of Holies, where the Divine Spirit leads us. Each of these hallowed spaces within the

Tabernacle unveils the triad of prayer and the resplendent presence of God.

THE OUTER COURT

The Asking Realm



[John 15:7](#) *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you"*. Asking begins in the outer court where you make your request known to Him. This is where you fight and do battle against the enemy and his advisories. Asking begins in the outer court, where we make our requests known to him; *"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanks giving let your requests be made known unto God"* [Philippians 4:6](#)

In the sacred expanse of the Outer Court lies the altar of sacrifice, a hallowed ground where the work of the cross and the precious blood of Jesus the Christ prevail. Here, one confesses sins and is purified, washed clean from all unrighteousness, as proclaimed in [1 John 1:9](#). This realm also houses the laver, a vessel for ceremonial washing, symbolizing both cleansing and holiness, much like the divine Word of God. As you engage in prayer, gently remind the Lord of His promises, and seek in accordance with His will and His Word. For in [1 John 5:14](#), we find assurance: *"14 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us"*

In this realm of prayer, you must press onward toward your triumph, patiently await the Lord's guidance, and wage war against the adversary. It is only by conquering the desires of the flesh that you may ascend into the next realm. Grasp that a prayer life centered solely on requests remains but a shallow pool, failing to delve into the profound depths that God yearns for us to explore. Unfortunately, many of us linger in the Outer Court, never venturing

into the realms of "Seeking" or "Knocking," which lie beyond the veil—the sacred presence of God we long to embrace. Why is this so? Because prayer transcends mere asking; it is a sacred relationship, a dialogue, an exchange of our hearts' deepest yearnings. In the Outer Court, distractions abound, for here the adversary wields his greatest influence. He understands that if he can tether your prayer life to the Outer Court, he keeps you from crossing beyond the veil. For he knows that once you step behind the veil, his control and influences is forever altered!

PRAAYER LIFE IN THE OUTER COURT



The outer court of our prayer life, the realm of asking, embodies our greatest struggle. Here, we wrestle against the flesh and the myriad distractions of existence. In these moments, focusing on our prayers can become an arduous task, particularly when we beseech God for something that, if left unanswered, may alter the very course of our lives. Within this sacred space lie the bronze altar and the bronze laver. The altar stands as a powerful symbol of the death on the cross, representing the sacrifice that cleanses us from sin, allowing us to draw near to the Father in communion. Meanwhile, the laver, reflecting the washing of water, signifies purification and the pursuit of a life steeped in righteousness.

The text reveals in 1 Peter 5:7, "*Cast your cares upon Him, for He cares for you.*" Indeed, the Divine is attuned to our needs and the burdens that weigh upon our hearts. To journey deeper into the sanctum of prayer, we must first navigate the outer court with intention. Worship and worry cannot coexist in harmony. When we seek to truly connect with the heart of God, we must master the noble art of surrendering our concerns to Him. But how can one discern if they have genuinely cast their cares upon the Almighty? The answer lies in PEACE. When the tranquil essence of God's peace envelops you, it signals that you have entrusted your worries to Him, leaving them behind, untouched and unclaimed.

- Example: When we want to wash our clothes we just throw them in the washer add some additives close it and start it up and go about our business right? You don't sit and worry whether its going to do its job because we know what it is designed to do so we don't get concerned at all.

In our journey of faith, we must embrace the act of casting our cares upon God, surrendering them wholly and releasing the weight of worry about their resolution. Often, we find ourselves unable to bask in the joy of the present, burdened by the cares we were never meant to bear. By entrusting your worries to God, you open the gateway to ascend from the outer court into a deeper, more intimate communion with The Father, where prayer becomes a cherished dialogue.

WORSHIP AND PRAYER IN THE HOLY PLACE

In this sacred transition, our prayer life begins to shift from self to the divine. Welcome to the "Seeking Realm," as illuminated in 2 Chronicles 7:14-15: *"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."* Here, we embark on a quest to seek God's face, journeying into a deeper sense of spiritual maturity. Freed from the shackles of worry, we leave our anxieties behind in the outer court.

But how do we effectively seek God's face? 2 Corinthians 3:18 To genuinely pursue His presence is to yearn for a profound understanding of Him, to cultivate intimacy with His character, and to prioritize His essence in our lives. This path is marked by a heart inclined towards Him, a thirst for His truth, and a readiness to attune ourselves to His voice. In the outer court, we sought God's hand, but within the Holy Place, our focus shifts to seeking His face. There lies a distinction: while seeking His hand often revolves around the fulfillment of prayers and desires, seeking His face centers on embracing His character and presence. When we seek God's face we begin to change transformative becoming more and more like Him (Characteristically) 2 Corinthians 3:17-18 *¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty [emancipation from bondage, true freedom]. ¹⁸And we all, with unveiled face, continually seeing as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are progressively being transformed into His image from [one degree of] glory to [even more] glory, which comes from the Lord, [who is] the Spirit. AMP.* This is the beginning of deeper spiritual maturity.

In the Holy Place, you shall discover these sacred elements;

- *table of shewbread*

- *seven-branched candelabrum*
- *altar of incense*

. Each of these treasures plays a crucial role in navigating our journey through the Holy Place and holds equal significance for our prayer life. Within this sacred realm, we embark on a path of spiritual maturity, moving beyond mere worries to seek profound knowledge and a deeper relationship with Him. The Shewbread represents the Word of God, echoing Matthew 6:11: *"Give us this day our daily bread"* The Candelabrum signifies the illuminating presence of the Holy Spirit, while the altar of incense embodies the prayers of God's people ascending to Him as a sweet-smelling fragrance, the intercession of Christ on our behalf, and the perpetual manifestation of God's presence.

Within this realms of the Inner Court, three elements stand as pillars of success. First, the Shewbread (The Word) beckons us to delve deeply and commune with God's teachings. Engaging with His word through reading, singing, and meditation allows us to internalize its essence, revealing the character and nature of the Divine—a crucial step in our encounters with Him.

Next, we encounter the Seven Lampstands (The Holy Spirit). This radiant Spirit bestows illumination upon the scriptures, guiding us to comprehend their depths. Without the Holy Spirit, the sacred texts remain veiled; it is through His grace that we transform from mere readers to living embodiments of the Word. The Holy Spirit acts as our decoder, unlocking the mysteries of divine wisdom.

Lastly, we approach the Altar of Incense (Intercession), where our prayers and supplications ascend to the heavens. Here, we witness the believer's full maturity. As we engage with God's word and allow the Holy Spirit to illuminate our hearts, we become profoundly effective in intercessory prayer. The intercessor stands in the gap, serving as a voice of humanity to God, yet a truly effective intercessor also channels the voice of God to man. The Holy Place is essential for bringing the needs of others and our nation before the Almighty.

In this hallowed space of the Inner Court, we cultivate a deeper yearning for Him. We enter the Holy Place ready to offer our very selves. While we relinquished our cares in the outer court, here we surrender our hearts and minds. Each prayerful encounter in the Holy Place transforms our perspective, shifting our focus from personal burdens to the needs of others, reflecting the essence of spiritual maturity.

The Holy of Holies

Behind the Veil



Welcome to the "Knocking realm" behind the veil

We are now graced with the extraordinary access to the divine presence of God! **51** *Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,--* Is this not magnificent? We can now approach the Father through the sacred blood of Jesus the Christ. Yet, sadly, many wander only to the threshold of prayer, lingering in the Holy Place (Inner Court) where their communion resides. But upon entering the Holy of Holies, one finds nothing but the magnificent essence of GOD! This sacred realm of prayer is seldom traversed, as it is reserved for those who genuinely hunger and thirst for righteousness. **Matthew 5:6** *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled."*

In this space, our unwavering attention must rest upon the divine and our communion with Him. Here, worship transforms into an active expression, a heartfelt homage that brings forth stillness, for within the Holy of Holies—The Presence of God—one encounters the profound essence of "THE HUSH." **Zechariah 2:13** ¹³ *Be silent, all flesh, before the Lord, for He is aroused from His holy habitation!* Psalms 3:7 tells us to be silent before the LORD and wait patiently. When you find yourself immersed in the sacred realm of prayer, standing before the Divine, you transform into a champion of patience! This journey also fosters spiritual maturity. Remember, when you are graced with access to this holy space, it revolves around God and His divine timing. In the knocking realm, we must cultivate the patience to await God's voice.

Envision this: you long to see someone, so you journey to their abode, knowing they are home, for their car graces the driveway, lights illuminate the rooms, and shadows flit past the window. You approach the door and begin to knock... five minutes pass, yet silence reigns. You persist, knocking again... ten minutes slip by, and still, no response. You know they are within, and your heart yearns for their presence, so you continue to knock and wait patiently until someone finally answers.

Such is the essence of the knocking realm in the Holy of Holies; here, God orchestrates the encounter, and we must remain steadfast in our waiting until He chooses to speak. This is why many may never truly experience the knocking realm—because we must learn to WAIT! A perfect biblical illustration of being in the presence of God, waiting patiently and quietly for His voice, serves as a guiding light on this path.

Exodus 24:12-18

²The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to Me on the mountain and stay there. I will give you the pieces of stone with the Law which I have written for you to teach the people." ¹³Then Moses got up with his helper Joshua, and Moses went up on the mountain of God. ¹⁴He said to the leaders, "Wait here until we return to you. See, Aaron and Hur are with you. Let whoever has a problem go to them." ¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, which was covered with a cloud. ¹⁶The shining-greatness of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai. And the cloud covered it for six days. On the seventh day He called to Moses from the cloud. ¹⁷To the people of Israel, the shining-greatness of the Lord looked like a fire that destroys on the mountain top. ¹⁸Moses went into the cloud as he went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

For six days, Moses lingered in the divine presence, yearning for God to utter His words. On the seventh day, the heavens opened, and God finally spoke. Moses, enveloped in the sublime aura of the Almighty, embraced the stillness, patiently awaiting the voice of the Creator. This profound practice of prayer beckons us to the Holy of Holies, urging us to remain tranquil and attuned, ready for God's whispers to grace our hearts! **LETS GET BEHIND THE VEIL**