A Holy God and a Holy Night

Exodus 3:1-5

Luke 2:4-20

"Qadosh" - Hebrew for holy used over 100 times in the Old Testament.

"Hagios"- Greek word for holy used over 200 times in the New Testament.

Set Apart, Pure, Sacred and Sanctified.

1 Samuel 2:2 There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.

Exodus 3:1-5

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight - why the bush did not burn up."

When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

And Moses said, "Here I am."

"Do not come any closer," God said.

"Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."

1. The burning bush didn't burn up.

2. God calls to Moses twice.

Indicates importance and/or endearment.

Luke 22:31-32

"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you all like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail."

Luke 10:41-32

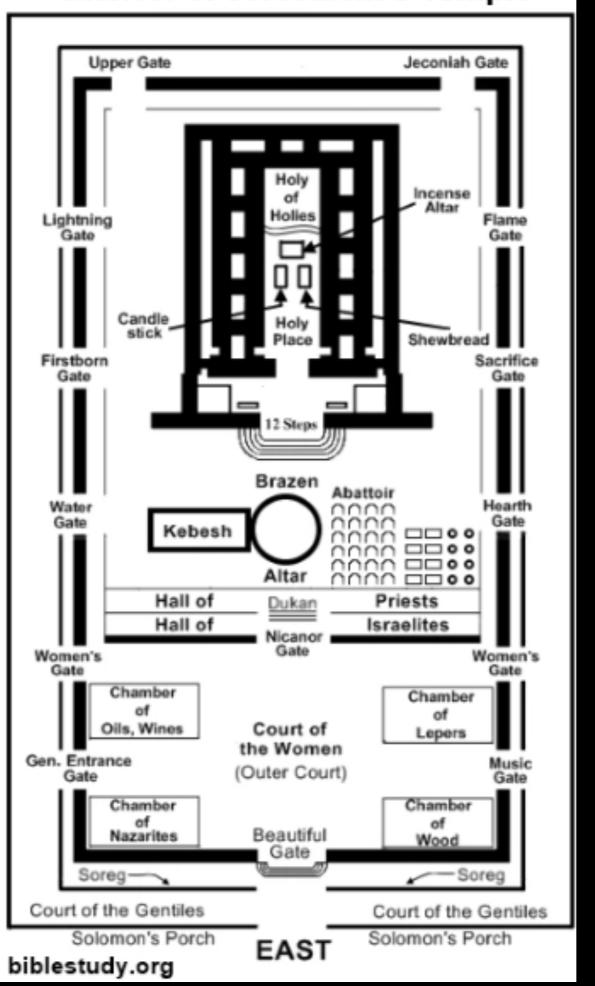
"Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered and anxious about so many things, but only one thing is necessary."

Habakkuk 1:13 Your eyes are too pure to look at what is evil.

Distance between God and People

- Burning bush
- Adam and Eve banished form the Garden.
- A boundary around Mt Sinai, the people couldn't touch the mountain.
- Prophet Isaiah could see God's robes filling the temple but not His face.
 - Innermost Temple and the priests.

Interior of Jerusalem's Temple



Luke 2:4-20

Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David because he belonged to the house and the line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger because there was no guest room available for them.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were terrified.

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people." "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the baby who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Philippians 2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross.

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet he did not sin.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God has come near to us.

Immanuel = God is with us.