

# Sanctuary Studies

by Jose Rivera

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## **The Altar of Incense** - Lesson 6

- ◆ This lesson is all about the Altar of Incense. God wants His people to be a sweet smelling savor. May our life be such, and our prayers reach heaven by faith in our Great High Priest.
- 1. What were they to burn on the Altar that is mentioned in **Exodus 30:1?**
- 2. What was the Altar made from and what was it overlaid with? **Exodus 30:3**
- 3. What did they use to carry this Altar? **Exodus 30:4**
- 4. Where was it to be placed? **Exodus 30:6, Exodus 40:5**
- \* *In the offering of incense the priest was brought more directly into the presence of God than in any other act of the daily ministrations. As the inner veil of the sanctuary did not extend to the top of the building, the glory of God, which was manifested above the mercy seat, was partially visible from the first apartment. When the priest offered incense before the Lord, he looked toward the ark; and as the cloud of incense arose, the divine glory descended upon the mercy seat and filled the most holy place, and often so filled both apartments that the priest was obliged to retire to the door of the tabernacle. {CIHS 48}*
- 5. How often was the incense to be burned on this Altar? **Exodus 30:7,8**
- \* *While engaged in our daily work, we should lift the soul to heaven in prayer. These silent petitions rise like incense before the throne of grace; and the enemy is baffled. The Christian whose heart is thus stayed upon God cannot be overcome. No evil arts can destroy his peace. All the promises of God's word, all the power of divine grace, all the resources of Jehovah, are pledged to secure his deliverance. It was thus that Enoch walked with God. And God was with him, a present help in every time of need. {GW 254}*
- \* *By blood and by incense God was to be approached—symbols pointing to the great Mediator, through whom sinners may approach Jehovah, and through whom alone mercy and salvation can be granted to the repentant, believing soul. {CIHS 48}*
  - a. Proverbs 28:9
  - b. Psalm 66:18
  - c. Isaiah 58:3
- 6. Would God accept any kind of incense? **Exodus 30:9**
- \* *The prayer of the humble suppliant He presents as His own desire in that soul's behalf. Every sincere prayer is heard in heaven. It may not be fluently expressed; but if the heart is in it, it will ascend to the sanctuary where Jesus ministers, and He will present it to the Father without one awkward, stammering word, beautiful and fragrant with the incense of His own perfection. {DA 667}*
- 7. What kind of incense were they instructed to make? **Exodus 37:29, Exodus 30:34-36**
- 8. What were the consequences of using the recipe for personal use? **Exodus 30:37, 38**
- \* *The incense, ascending with the prayers of Israel, represents the merits and intercession of Christ, His perfect righteousness, which through faith is imputed to His people, and which can alone make the worship of sinful beings acceptable to God. Before the veil of the most holy place was an altar of perpetual intercession, before the holy, an altar of continual atonement. {CIHS 48}*
- 9. How often would atonement be made upon the horns of the Altar? **Exodus 30:10**
- 10. On the day of atonement what was to cover the mercy seat? **Leviticus 16:12,13**
- 11. Why would this Altar need atoning for? **Leviticus 4:3-7, 15-18**
- 12. What did John say were the odours? **Revelation 5:8**
- 13. What relative scene did John see in heaven under the 7th seal? **Revelation 8:3, 4**
- 14. What did David relate the incense to? **Psalms 141:2**
- 15. What service was going on when Gabriel came to Zacharias? **Luke 1:9-13**