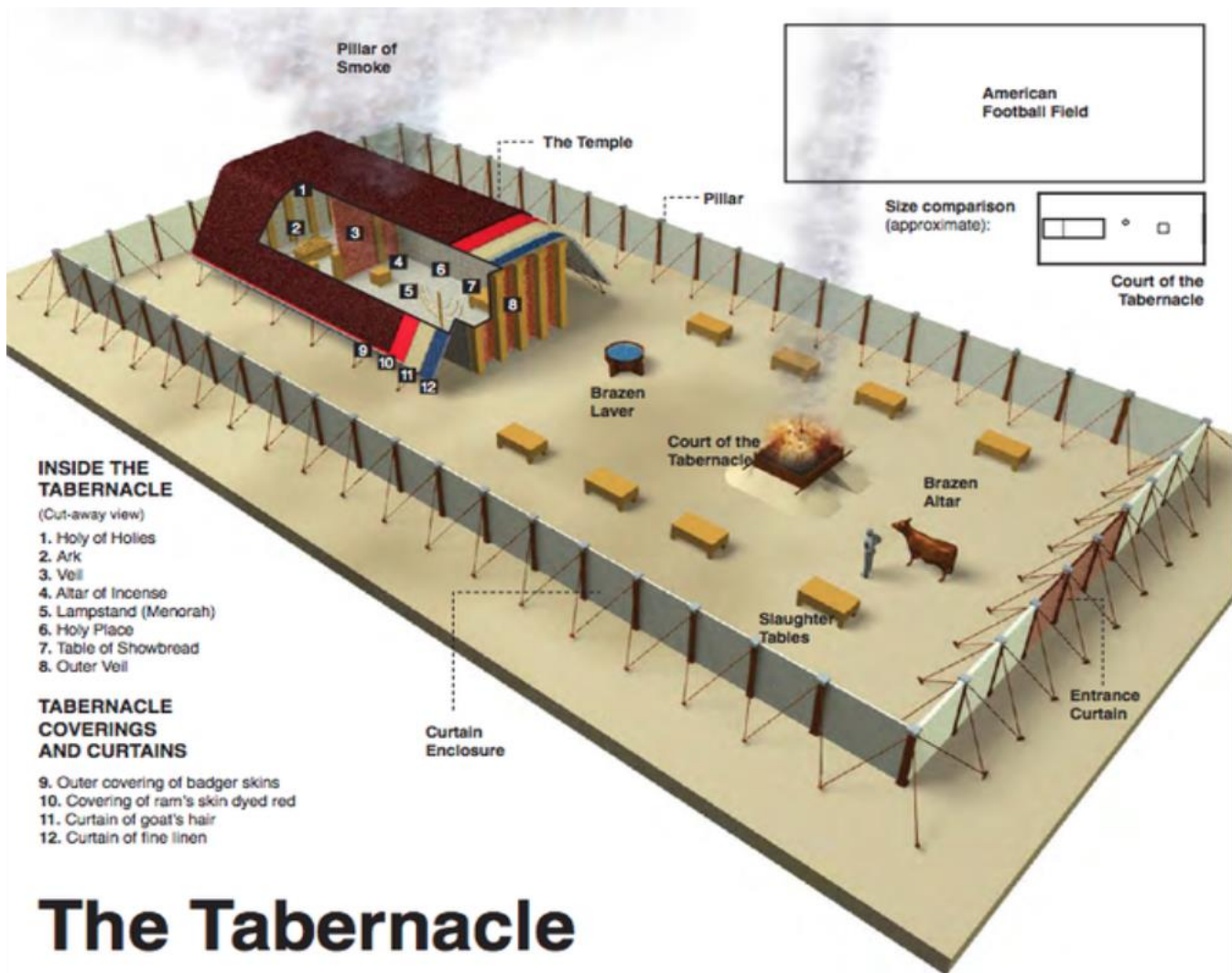




The Tabernacle

Gave Moses specific instructions for the Tabernacle.

In the Outer Court to the altar of burnt offerings, where the sacrifices of the people were presented to God to atone for their sins. Beyond the altar, closer to the door leading into the Tabernacle, stood the laver, where the rites of purification were done. These washings were intended to make the priest and the sacrifices holy. Within the Tabernacle in the Inner Court, also called the Holy Place, stood the table of shewbread, on which the priest put the fresh bread of the presence every Sabbath. This was eaten only by priests and only in the Holy Place. Frankincense was also placed on the table of shewbread. This was burnt on the altar of incense, which stood before the veil leading into the Holy of Holies, to make atonement. Across from the table of the shewbread stood the golden lampstands or candlesticks. The final part of the Tabernacle was the Holy of Holies, where the Ark of the Covenant was kept. On the Mercy Seat above the Ark and between the cherubim, part of the lid to the Ark was the place where God would dwell. Cherubim, the protectors of God's presence, were also woven into the veil that hung between the Inner Court and the Holy of Holies (Ex. Ch. 25). All of this was part of God's plan and preparation to provide a place where He would live in the midst of his people. The same was true for the Temple in Jerusalem when God gave the plans to David and entrusted David's son Solomon with the task of building it.