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Altar of Sacrifice
in the
Court of the Temple

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Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Altar of Sacrifice in the Court of the Temple.

The brazen altar of burnt sacrifice (also called the altar of sacrifice) stood in the court of the temple in front of the temple entrance. It was to this altar that the sinner brought their sacrifice for the cleansing and forgiveness of sin and the place where sin was atoned for and the people offered prayers of praise and thanksgiving. The high priest would carry some of the blood of the sacrificial animal into the Holy Place of the temple and pour it on the four horns of the altar of incense, and the rest of the blood was poured at the base of the altar of sacrifice. (Lev. 4:7).

- The priest shall put some of the blood on the horns of the altar of fragrant incense before the LORD that is in the tent of meeting, and all the rest of the blood of the bull he shall pour out at the base of the altar of burnt offering that is at the entrance of the tent of meeting. (Lev. 4:7).

The altar signified the following things: in the book of Revelation John had a vision of those who had been slain for Christ's work and his name under this altar.

- When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. ¹⁰ They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" ¹¹ Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been. (Rev. 6:9–11).

This vision signifies the following things:

1. The triumph of the faithful in Christ will be accomplished through suffering.
2. Those suffering persecution seek refuge in Christ the true altar, for this was the place where the blood of the sacrifices was poured out, and the place where atonement for sin was made and prayer was offered.
3. Those sleeping in Christ are symbolized as being under the altar of sacrifice, because they have sacrificed their lives for him, and the life is in the blood (Lev. 17:11).
 - For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life. (Leviticus 17:11).
4. The redeemed martyrs seeking refuge at the foot of the cross, for Jesus is the true altar and it is by his blood that sin is atoned for, and it is by his blood that we are washed whiter than snow.
5. The martyrs are resting and being kept in the presence of Christ (referred to in Scripture as sleeping in Christ) until he returns in glory to raise them from the dead, and that their life is safe in the hands of him who they committed their lives to at death.

Finding comfort at the foot of the altar is not limited to martyrs only, but by extension applies to all the faithful who believes in the Lord Jesus Christ and holds fast their faith despite whatever troubles, hardships, sorrows and grief comes their way. It was at this altar the sinner brought their sacrifice for the cleansing and forgiveness of sin, and since these redeemed martyrs were by Christ's blood cleansed and washed whiter than snow it is very appropriate that this is where John in this vision would see them.

CONCLUSION: since Jesus is the true altar, the true sacrifice and the true High Priest and it is through him that every sacrifice of prayer and praise arises up to God with acceptance, the brazen altar of burnt sacrifice, signifies the true altar which is Jesus crucified, as he is the altar that truly sanctifies, and truly cleanses, and the High Priest that makes us acceptable to God.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

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