

Sermon: The Gospel of the Altar.
Series: Exodus: From Slavery to Glory.

Scripture: Exodus 27.
Date: May 7, 2023

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) God prescribes the building of the altar and courtyard of the Tabernacle with great detail. What do these detailed instructions teach you about God?

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) What altars do you find yourself building? To identify your altars, think about where you feel stressed, discontent, or where something that should be enjoyable has become exhausting. In what way has your altar made demands of you that can never be satisfied?

b) Do you find yourself worshiping at the altar of performance? Do you have to be the best? In what ways has this mindset harmed you or left you unsatisfied?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) In the sermon we said that God speaks in both Law and Gospel. In what way is the Bronze Altar a "gospel" (good news) that counteracts the demands of the law?

b) Hebrews 13:10-13. In what way is the altar of the cross of Christ better than the Bronze Alter of the Tabernacle? How does it alone unify God's people?

APPLICATION

a) Read Ephesians 2:13-15. How can you allow the cross of Christ to tear down a wall of hostility in your life? Be specific.

FIGHTER VERSES: Romans 5:1-2.

PRAYER

- Praise God for bringing you into his presence through the Son.
- Confess ways that you have worshiped at an altar other than the cross of Jesus.
- Thank Jesus for being the sacrifice for your sins.
- Ask God to help you live in unity with other believers.