

## **Lesson 8: The Holy of Holies and the Veil**

### **Read: Exodus 26:31-35**

Within the Holy Place of the tabernacle, there was an inner room called the Holy of Holies, or the Most Holy Place. During the Israelites' wanderings in the wilderness, God appeared as a pillar of cloud or fire in and above the Holy of Holies. The Holy of Holies was a perfect cube — its length, width and height were all equal to 15 feet.

A thick curtain separated the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place. This curtain, known as the "veil," was made of fine linen and blue, purple and scarlet yarn. There were figures of cherubim (angels) embroidered onto it.

Only the high priest could enter the Holy of Holies one day out of every year, on the Day of Atonement. Before entering, he had to make some meticulous preparations, as recorded in Leviticus 16:2-19: He had to wash himself, put on special clothing, bring burning incense to let the smoke cover his eyes from a direct view of God, because "no man can see Me and live" (Exodus 33:20). He brought blood with him to make atonement for sins.

### **Discussion:**

1. Why does the name Holy of Holies or Most Holy Place imply about that room?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. The word "veil" in Hebrew means a screen, divider or separator that hides. What was the curtain hiding? Why was it necessary?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. There were cherubim embroidered on the veil. What was their significance?

