

# EXAMINING OUR FAITH, part 5 quotes

**1** “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves.” 2 Corinthians 13:5.

(Picture #11 - the High Priest’s Ministration in the Cleansing of this Heavenly Sanctuary)

**2** Was the structural sizes of the Earthly and Heavenly Sanctuaries exactly the same? No.

## Size of the Outer Court

The dimensions of the Outer Court connected with the Earthly Sanctuary was approximately 150 feet long and 75 feet wide (Exodus 27:9-18 and 38:9-19). But the dimensions of the Outer Court connected with the Heavenly Sanctuary is the size of this entire earth (almost 25,000 miles in circumference along the equator)!

**3** The dimensions of the Earthly Sanctuary itself was approximately 45 feet long, 18 feet wide and 15 feet high. Since this Tabernacle was divided into two different Apartments, this meant that the First Apartment was approximately 30 feet long, and the Second Apartment was approximately 15 feet long (Exodus 26:1-37). But the dimensions of the Heavenly Sanctuary itself are almost unimaginable!

## Size of the First Apartment or the Holy Place

“After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will show thee things which must be hereafter. And immediately I was in the spirit; and, behold, **a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.**” Revelation 4:1-2.

“...there came a great voice out of **the temple of heaven**, from the throne.” Revelation 16:17.

This throne of God is located within the Heavenly Sanctuary or Temple itself, and since this was the very first door opened in heaven listed in Revelation where God's throne was seen, then these verses are speaking about the door being opened into the First Apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary.

“And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald. And **round about the throne were four and twenty seats**: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold. And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were **seven lamps of fire burning before the throne**, which are the seven Spirits of God. And **before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal**: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were **four beasts full of eyes** before and behind....The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

“And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood **a Lamb** as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth. And **I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands.**” Revelation 4:3-6, 10, 5:1, 6-11.

The size of the First Apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary is revealed to be immense enough to comfortably contain within it God the Father and His throne; the golden Candlestick of 7 lamps of fire; the golden Altar of Incense; 24 human elders or priests and their 24 thrones; 4 living creatures or beasts; the Lamb of God or Jesus Christ; a crystal sea of glass, as well as an innumerable company of heavenly angels!

**4** What is the time frame when these scenes depicted in Revelation 4 & 5 were taking place within this First Apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary?

These scenes depicted in the First Apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary could not occur until after the Lamb of God had been slain, resurrected and then ascended to heaven in order to appear before God the Father within this First Apartment.

Also the 24 human elders declared about Jesus Christ:

**“...for thou wast slain, and [then after being slain] hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests”.** Revelation 5:9.

**“And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.”** Matthew 27:52-53.

**“Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive”.** Ephesians 4:8.

After Jesus had been crucified, had shed His precious blood and was resurrected, then these 24 different elders, who were held in captivity in the prison house of death, were resurrected and then began witnessing to those in Jerusalem of the freedom they had received from Jesus. After many days of witnessing they were led captive by Christ - the Mighty Conqueror of Sin and Death - and taken with Him into heaven to sit on these 24 thrones in this First Apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary as kings and also priests unto God. But since Christ is the only High Priest in this Heavenly Sanctuary, then these 24 other priests are common priests.

Just like the Wave Sheaf or first-fruits of the grain which the priest waved before the Lord in the Earthly Sanctuary and which depicted the greater harvest of grain soon to come (Leviticus 23:10-11), so Christ as the High Priest presented these newly resurrected redeemed elders before God as the antitype of the Wave Sheaf who are representatives of the greater harvest and resurrection of the righteous dead from all ages soon to come.

Since Jesus was crucified on a Friday in the Spring of 31 A.D. (Mark 15:37-47; Luke 23:46-56; John 19:30-42), was then resurrected on that Sunday (Matthew 28:1-2; Luke 24:1; John 20:1), and 40 days later ascended to heaven (Acts 1:3-9), then the beginning of Christ's ministration as our High Priest before God in the First Apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary began very shortly after His ascension in 31 A.D. About 10 days after Christ's ascension the outpouring of the Holy Spirit occurred at Pentecost (Acts chapters 1 & 2), which actually signaled the very beginning of our High Priest's ministration for mankind before God in this First Apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary!

**5** How large is the Second Apartment or the Most Holy Place of the Sanctuary and Temple of God in heaven? And is God the Father, Jesus Christ and all the rest of the heavenly beings still conducting services today within the First Apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary?

### **Size of the Second Apartment or the Most Holy Place**

“And the **temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament**: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.” Revelation 11:19.

Another door has been opened in the heavenly Temple or Sanctuary of God, which can only be referring to the inner veil or door into the Second Apartment, because “the ark of his testament” is seen which was only found in the Most Holy Place.

“I beheld till the **thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit**, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool...” Daniel 7:9.

All these thrones within the First Apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary were now cast down or turned over and were no longer able to be sat upon. This indicated that the work of God the Father, Jesus Christ and these 24 common priests had now been completed or finished, and that no more ministerial work was to occur within this Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary.

This fact of truth is further backed up because the Ancient of days, or God the Father “did sit” on His throne, meaning that He first had to be standing. Since God was already sitting on His throne and ruling in the First Apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary, but is now pictured as standing and then sitting down again, reveals that He had to have first stood up from off His throne in the First Apartment, then moved into the Second Apartment and sat down on a different throne in that Most Holy Place.

**6** How did God travel from the First Apartment and into the Second Apartment of the Heavenly Sanctuary?

**“...his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.”** Daniel 7:9.

Something like a chariot with wheels of "burning fire" transported God the Father from the First Apartment and into the Second Apartment at that time. God then stepped off this flaming chariot and sat down upon a throne that "was like the fiery flame".

**7** Besides the Ark of the Testament or Covenant, as well as God the Father sitting on His fiery throne, what else was within this Second Apartment in the Heavenly Sanctuary?

**“A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened....I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.”** Daniel 7:10-14.

This Most Holy Place in the Heavenly Sanctuary is immense enough to comfortably contain within it God the Father and His fiery throne; the fiery stream that issued before Him; the Ark of His Testament; the “thousand thousands” of ministering angels, and the “ten thousand times ten thousand” of those who stood before Him; as well as the Son of Man or Jesus Christ!