

2. Notes on tabernacle significance:

- a. The great detail given to the different tabernacle features indicates that there is a lot of careful thought in the mind of God in the design and intention of the structure. Some students go to enormous details on these things and probably go to an extreme to which we do not want to travel. But that there is some importance to the details cannot be denied in that God gave them and told Moses to follow them exactly. It was hardly a game.
- b. That the tabernacle was to symbolize God dwelling with His people is also instructive. It stood in the very middle of the camp..equally visible on all sides, and those who attended it were likewise divided into parties on all sides. It was therefore both available to all and protected by the entirety of the camp people.
- c. That it faced east is one of the things that has always fascinated me for, as it faced east, it is plain that the worshipper faced west. The devout Hebrew turned his mind away from natural religion to that which was revealed.
- d. Everything that was needed to prepare the worshipper for the presence of God was there. The place of sacrifice, the place of cleansing, the witnesses of holiness.
- e. In the study of the tabernacle (and many other Old Testament image pieces) we become aware for an understanding of:
 - (1) **symbols**..the use of one item to represent another..some didactic use is involved.
 - (2) **types**..the use of an item to teach of another in a predictive sense.

A careful study of these is needed..beyond this course, I fear, but a type may be a symbol at the same time..it is much less likely that a symbol will be a type. The determinations offered by the New Testament are conclusive..those understood by Bible teachers, including the present lecturer, may be subject to question.