## **Christmas Gifts**

A costly, wonderful gift that is not seen or valued

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## Being Home Hebrews 9:1-15

ref.ly/Heb9;niv





## God's awesome presence

Garden of Eden

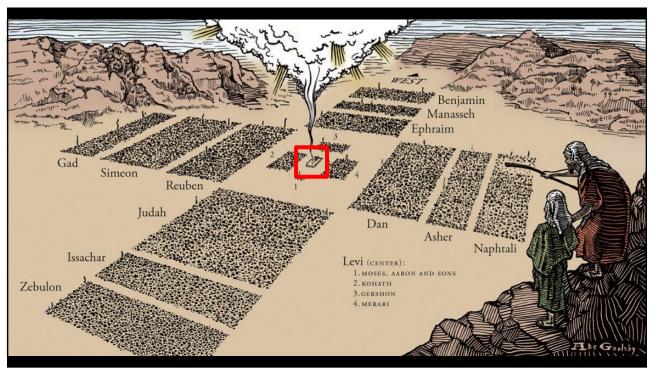
Yet human rebellion cut us off

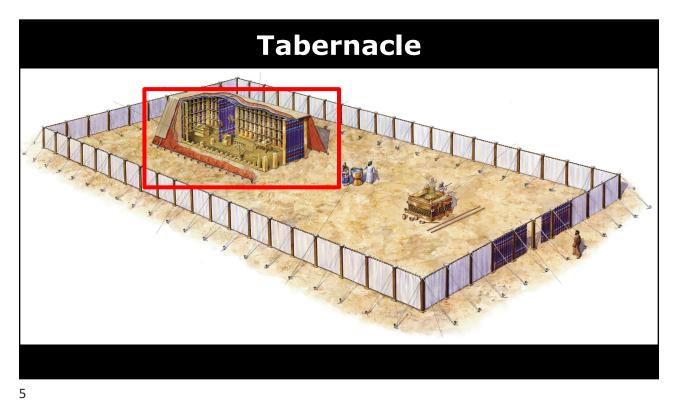
His presence is too holy for people

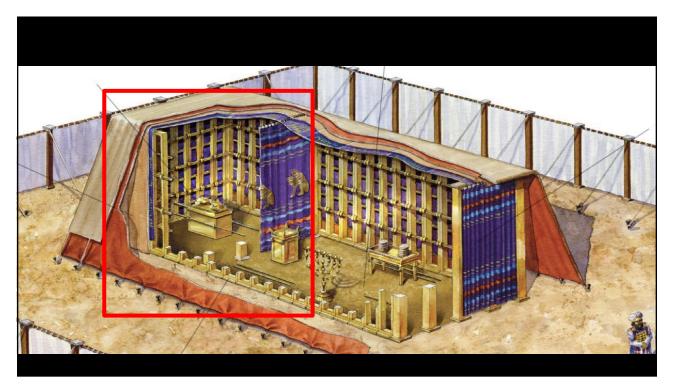
Yet His presence is life

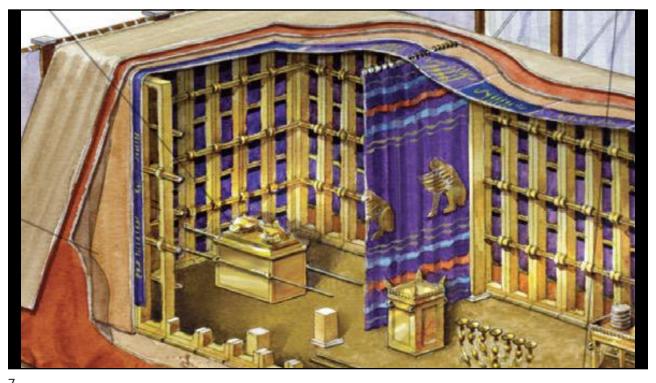
So...

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## **Hebrews 9:1-10**

[Reviewing tabernacle in the wilderness]

"The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still functioning."

Hebrews 9:8

### **Hebrews 9:11-12**

<sup>11</sup> But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. <sup>12</sup> He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the **Most Holy Place** once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

9

## Hebrews 9:13-14

13 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. 14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

### **Hebrews 9:15**

15 For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

11

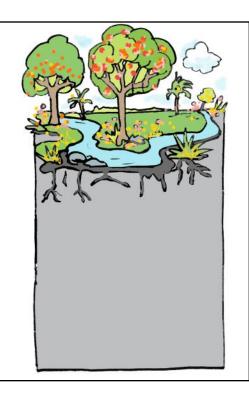
## The Big Idea

Our flourishing and joy-filled life is freely available and only available through Jesus Christ

if we'll draw near to God in Christ

## **Most Holy Place**

- ➤ Garden of Eden
- ➤ Cut off because of Sin
- ➤ Old Covenant:
  - 1 person (High Priest),
  - 1 day per year,
  - in a cloud of smoke

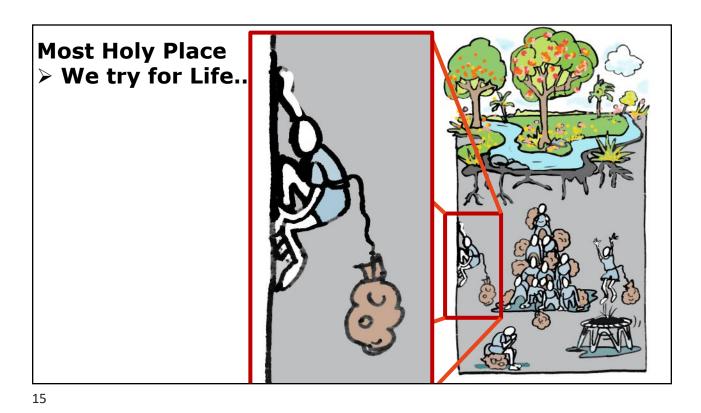


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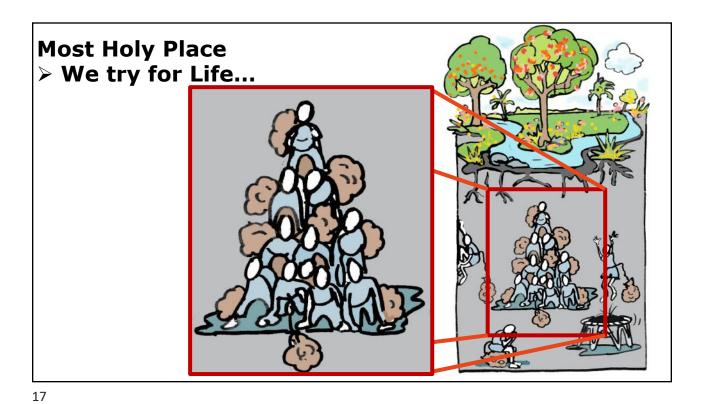
# Most Holy Place

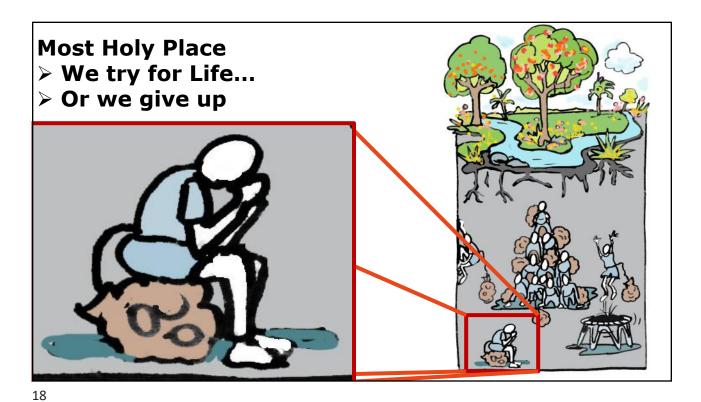
> We try for Life...

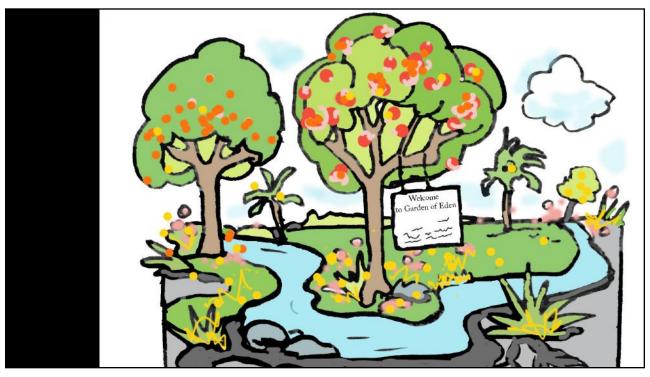




**Most Holy Place** > We try for Life...







## The Big Idea

Our flourishing and joy-filled life is freely available and only available through Jesus Christ

if we'll draw near to God in Christ

## **Application**

## Rejoice!

"Come near to God and he will come near to you."

James 4:8

"You have not come to a mountain...burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm...a sight so terrifying that Moses said, 'I am trembling with fear." 12:19-21

"You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven!" 12:22-23

21

## **Application**

#### **Draw near to God**

- The perfect sacrifice in the perfect tabernacle by the perfect priest opened the way forever
- > So come

#### Hebrews 4:14-16

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

23

#### Hebrews 10:19-22

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

## **Application**

#### **Draw near to God**

Do we?

25

## Martha

She had a sister called **Mary**, who **sat at the Lord's feet listening** to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made.

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

Luke 10:39-40, 41-42

### **Invitation to the Feast**

"But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.'

"Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.'

"Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come."

Luke 14:18-20

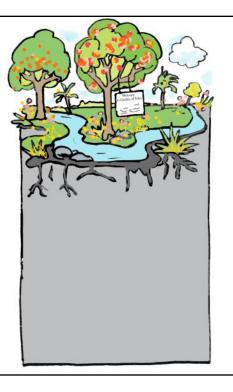
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## The worst tragedy

> The way is open to Almighty God, and we don't go



## **Application**

#### **Draw near to God**

Our soul seeking God as a living person

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

When can I go and meet with God?" Psalm 42:1-2

31

## **Application**

#### **Draw near to God**

- > Listen to God: Bible, meditation, silence
- > Speak with God: lament, petition, worship
- > Walk with God: obey
- > Together as God's people



How much more then will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to Good, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living Good.

Hebrews 9:14