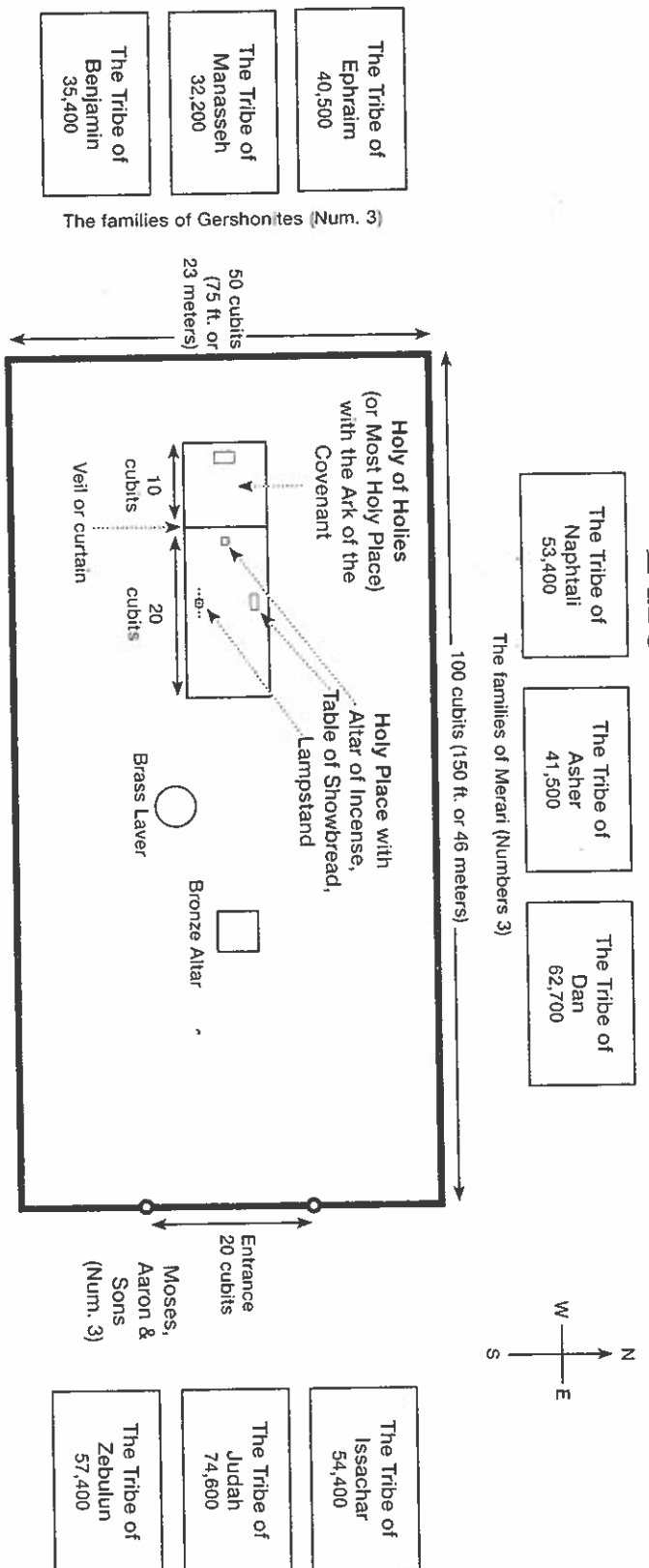


# The Tabernacle



1 cubit = 1 1/2 feet or 46 centimeters

## What is the Tabernacle?

The Tabernacle was a moveable "tent of meeting" that God commanded Moses to build. (Read Exodus 25:1-2 and 25:8-9.) God wanted to dwell among his people, the Israelites. He wanted to have fellowship with them and be able to communicate with them (Ex. 25:22).

The Tabernacle and its courtyard were constructed according to a pattern set by God, not by Moses. We study the Tabernacle to understand the steps that the Lord laid out for a sinful people to approach a holy God. The Tabernacle became the place that God dwelt with his people for 400 years: from the Exodus until the time of King Solomon, when the Temple was built.

The Tabernacle was in the center of the Israelite camp. The 12 Tribes of Israel were encamped around it. The figures in the boxes refer to the number of males age 20 or over in each tribe. The total would be 603,550.

## Fascinating Facts About the Tabernacle

- There are 50 chapters in the Bible that discuss the Tabernacle.
- The Tabernacle would have fit in half of a football or soccer field.
- The Tabernacle of the Old Testament was a "shadow" of things in heaven. Hebrews 8:1-5 tells us that the real Tabernacle is in heaven. This is where Jesus Himself is our high priest (Heb. 8:2).
- The Tabernacle was built using many expensive materials: gold, silver, bronze, precious woods, and rare cloth. In modern terms the cost would exceed \$1 million. Offerings from the Israelites paid for the materials. (Ex. 35:22-36:3)
- The Israelites were so generous they gave more than was needed. Moses had to command them to stop giving. (Ex. 36:6)

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