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## Ezekiel Chapters 40-42

### Chapter 40

- 1 In the twenty-fifth year of our captivity, at the beginning of the year, on the tenth day of the month, in the fourteenth year after the city was captured, on the very same day the hand of the LORD was upon me; and He took me there.
- 2 In the visions of God He took me into the land of Israel and set me on a very high mountain; on it toward the south *was* something like the structure of a city.
- 3 He took me there, and behold, *there was* a man whose appearance *was* like the appearance of shining brass. He had a line of flax and a measuring reed in his hand, and he stood in the gate.
- 4 And the man said to me, “Son of man, look with your eyes and hear with your ears, and fix your heart on everything I show you; for you *were* brought here so that I might show *them* to you. Declare to the house of Israel everything you see.”

#### The Dimensions of the Wall

- 5 And behold, there was a wall all around the outside of the house. In the man’s hand was a measuring reed six cubits *long, each being a cubit and a handbreadth*; and he measured the thickness of the wall structure, one reed; and the height, one reed.

#### The Dimensions of the Outer Gate Facing East

- 6 Then he went to the gate which faced east; and he went up its stairs<sup>1</sup> and measured the threshold of the gate, *which was* one reed wide, and *this is* the first threshold: one reed wide.
- 7 Each guard chamber *was* one reed long and one reed wide; between the guard chambers *was a space of* five cubits; and the *second* threshold of the gate, *which is* by the porch of the gate facing the house *was* one reed.
- 8 He also measured the *inside walls of the* porch of the gate facing the house, one reed.

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<sup>1</sup> see vv. 22, 26

- 9 Then he measured the porch of the gate, eight cubits; and the posts, two cubits; and the porch of the gate *was facing the* house.
- 10 In the eastern gate *were* three guard chambers on one side and three on the other; the three *were* all the same size; also the posts were of the same size on this side and that side.
- 11 He measured the width of the entrance to the gate, ten cubits; *and* the *total* length<sup>1</sup> of the gate, thirteen cubits.
- 12 There was a border in front of the guard chambers, one cubit *on this side* and one cubit on that side; the guard chambers *were* six cubits on this side and six cubits on that side.
- 13 Then he measured the gate from the roof of *one* guard chamber to the roof of the other; the width *was* twenty-five cubits, door facing door.
- 14 He measured<sup>2</sup> the posts, sixty cubits high; and the court all around the gate *extended* to the posts.
- 15 From the front of the entrance of the gate to the front of the inner porch of the gate *was* fifty cubits.
- 16 There were beveled windows in the guard chambers and in their *side* posts on the inner side of the gate all around, and also in the arches; *there were* windows all around on the inner *porch* facing the house. And on each post *were* palm trees.

### **The Outer Court**

- 17 Then he brought me into the outer court; and *there were dining* halls and a pavement made all around the court; thirty *dining* halls were on the pavement.
- 18 The pavement was by the side of the gates, corresponding to the length of the gates; *this was* the lower pavement.
- 19 Then he measured the width from the front of the lower gate to the front of the exterior of the inner court, one hundred cubits toward the east and the north.

### **The Outer Gate Facing North**

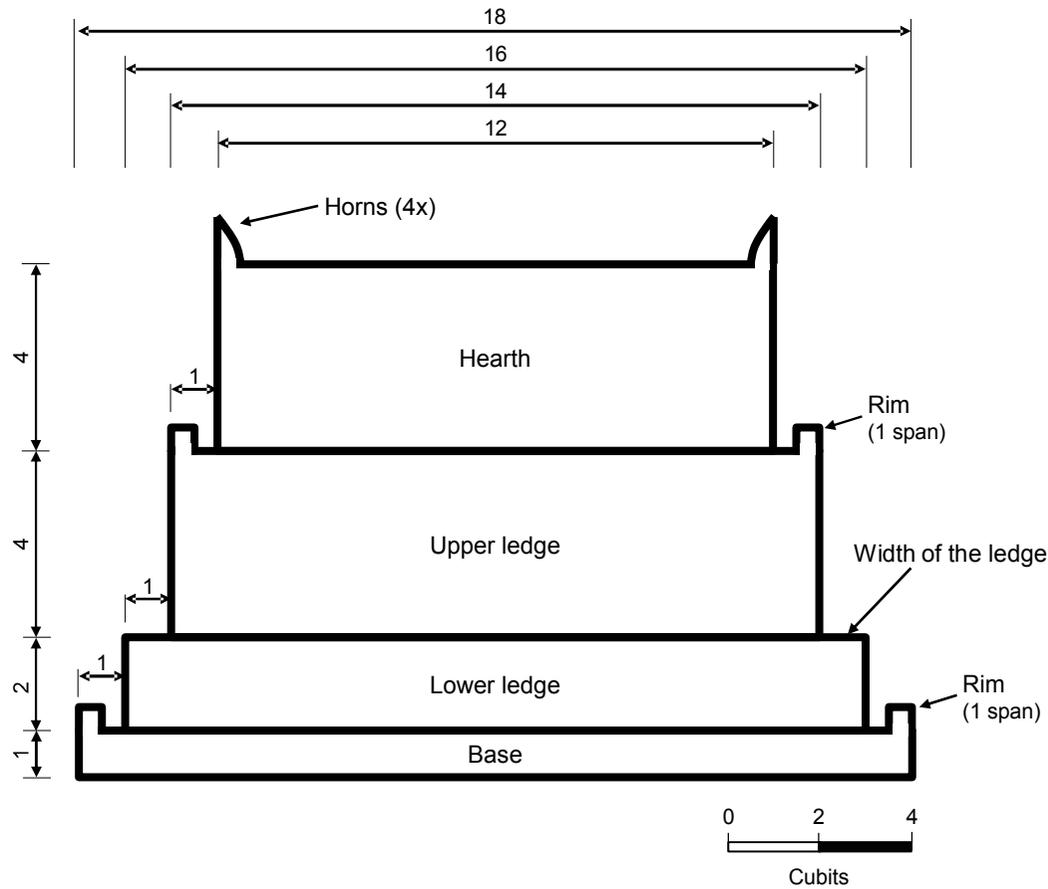
- 20 And he measured the gate of the outer court facing north, its length and its width.

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<sup>1</sup> Including the thickness of the walls

<sup>2</sup> or made

# The Altar (43:13-17)



- 21 Its guard chambers, three on this side and three on that side, its posts and its arches, had the same measurements as the first gate; its length *was* fifty cubits and its width twenty-five cubits.
- 22 Its windows and those of its arches, and also its palm trees, *had* the same measurements as the gate facing east; seven steps led up to it, and the arches thereof *were* before them.
- 23 A gate of the inner court was opposite the northern gate, just as the eastern *gate*; and he measured from gate to gate, one hundred cubits.

## The Outer Gate Facing South

- 24 After that he brought me toward the south, and there a gate was facing south; and he measured its posts and arches according to these same measurements.
- 25 There were windows in it and in its arches all around like the other windows; its length *was* fifty cubits and its width twenty-five cubits.
- 26 Seven steps led up to it, and the arches thereof *were* before them; and it had palm trees on its posts, one on this side and one on that side.
- 27 There was also a gate on the inner court facing south; and he measured from gate to gate toward the south, one hundred cubits.

## The Dimensions of the Gates of the Inner Court

- 28 Then he brought me to the inner court through the southern gate; he measured the southern gate according to these same measurements.
- 29 Also its guard chambers, its posts, and its arches *were* according to these same measurements; *there were* windows in it and in its arches all around; *it was* fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.
- 30 And the arches from one side to the other *measured* twenty-five cubits long and five cubits wide.
- 31 And the arches thereof faced the outer court, palm trees *were* on its posts, and eight steps led up to it.
- 32 And he brought me into the inner court facing east; he measured the gate according to these same measurements.
- 33 Also its guard chambers, its posts, and its arches *were* according to these same measurements; and *there were* windows in it and in its arches all around; *it was* fifty cubits long and twenty-five cubits wide.
- 34 Its arches faced the outer court, and palm trees *were* on its posts on this side and on that side; and eight steps led up to it.

- 35 Then he brought me to the north gate and measured *it* according to these same measurements –  
 36 also its guard chambers, its posts, and its arches. It had windows all around; its length *was* fifty cubits and its width twenty-five cubits.  
 37 Its posts faced the outer court<sup>1</sup>, palm trees *were* on its posts on this side and on that side, and eight steps led up to it.

### Wash Chamber and Tables for the Sacrifices

- 38 There was a chamber and its entrance by the posts of the gate, where they washed the burnt offering.  
 39 In the porch of the gate *were* two tables on this side and two tables on that side, on which to place the slain<sup>2</sup> burnt offering, sin offering, and trespass offering.  
 40 Outside, as one goes up to the entrance of the porch of the northern gate, *were* two tables *on one side* and two tables on the other side;  
 41 Four tables *were* on this side and four tables on that side, by the side of the gate; *altogether* eight tables on which they slaughtered *the sacrifices*.  
 42 The four tables *outside were* of hewn stone for the burnt offering, one cubit and a half long, one cubit and a half wide, and one cubit high; on these they also laid the instruments with which they slaughtered the burnt offering and the sacrifice.  
 43 Inside *the porch were* hooks, a handbreadth wide, fastened all around; and the flesh of the sacrifices *was to be placed* on the tables.

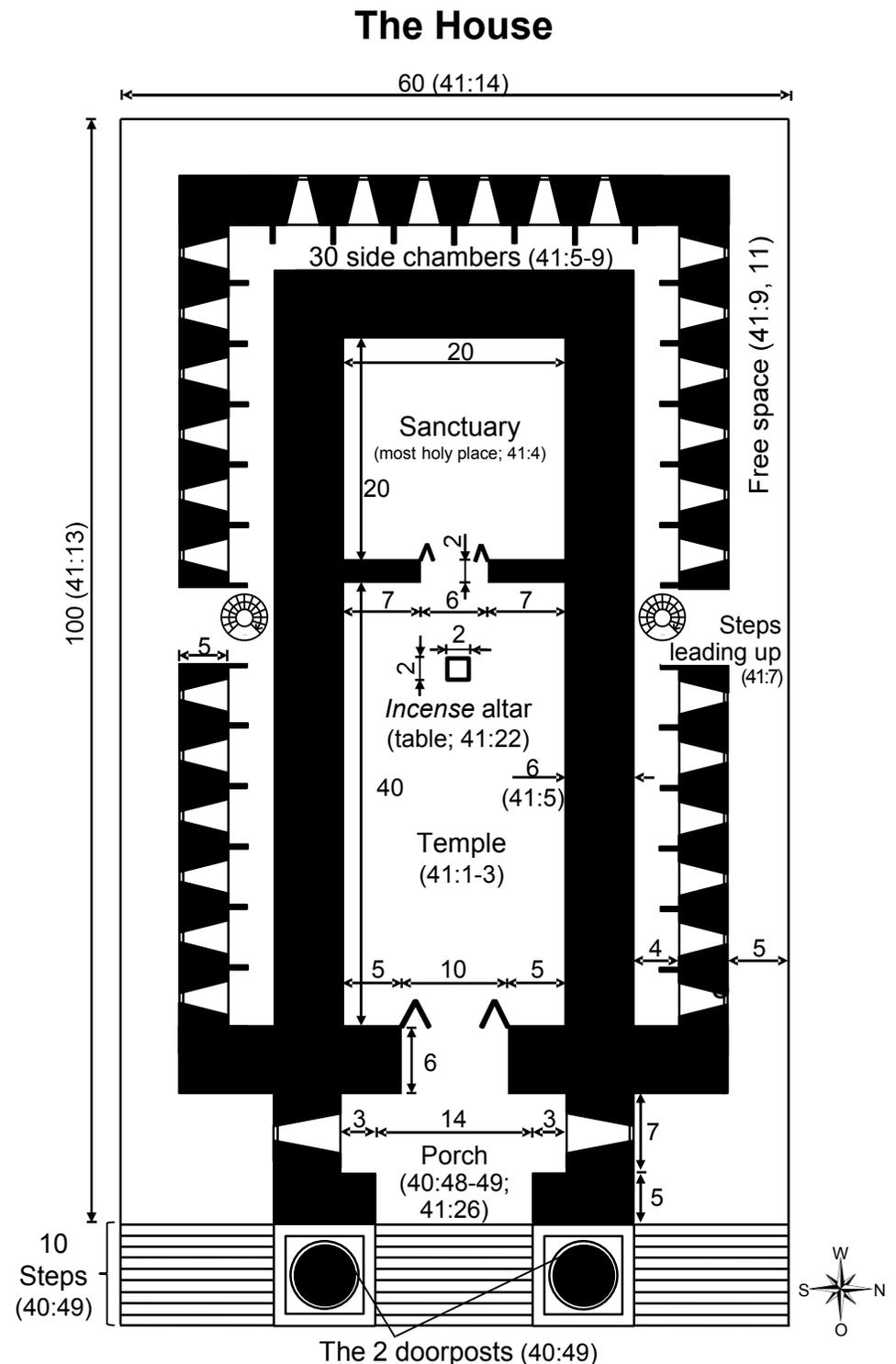
### Two Chambers in the Inner Court for the Serving Priests

- 44 Outside the inner gate *were* the *two* chambers<sup>3</sup> in the inner court, one facing south at the side of the northern gate, and the other facing north at the side of the southern gate.  
 45 Then he said to me, “This chamber which faces south *is* for the priests who have charge of the house.  
 46 The chamber which faces north *is* for the priests who have charge of the altar; these *are* the sons of Zadok, from the sons of Levi, who come near the LORD to minister to Him.”

<sup>1</sup> This indicates that the inner gates stand in a reverse position with the posts of the porch facing toward the outer court (see also v. 40 and 46:2)

<sup>2</sup> “to place the slain” lit. to slay the ...

<sup>3</sup> Some translations add “for the singers”





side chambers all around the wall, that they might be supported, but not fastened to the wall of the house.

7 As one went up from story to story, the side chambers became wider all around, because their supporting ledges in the wall of the house ascended *like steps*; therefore the width of the structure increased as one went up *from* the lowest *story* to the highest by way of the middle one.

8 I also saw a raised platform all around the house; it was the foundation of the side chambers, a full reed, *that is*, six cubits *high*.

9 The thickness of the outer wall of the side chambers *was* five cubits, and so also the free space along *the structure of* the side chambers *of the house*.

10 And between *it and* the dining halls<sup>1</sup> *for the priests* was a width of twenty cubits all around the house on every side.

11 The doors leading to the side chambers were toward the free space, one door toward the north and another toward the south; and the width of the free space *was* five cubits all around.

12 The building that faced the separating place<sup>2</sup> at its western end *was* seventy cubits wide; the wall of the building *was* five cubits thick all around, and its length ninety cubits.

13 So he measured the house, one hundred cubits long; and the separating place with the building and its walls *was* one hundred cubits long;

14 also the width of the eastern face of the house, including the separating places, *was* one hundred cubits.

15 He measured the width<sup>3</sup> of the building behind it, facing the separating place, with its galleries<sup>4</sup> on the one side and on the other side, one hundred cubits.

### The Wood Paneling and Ornaments

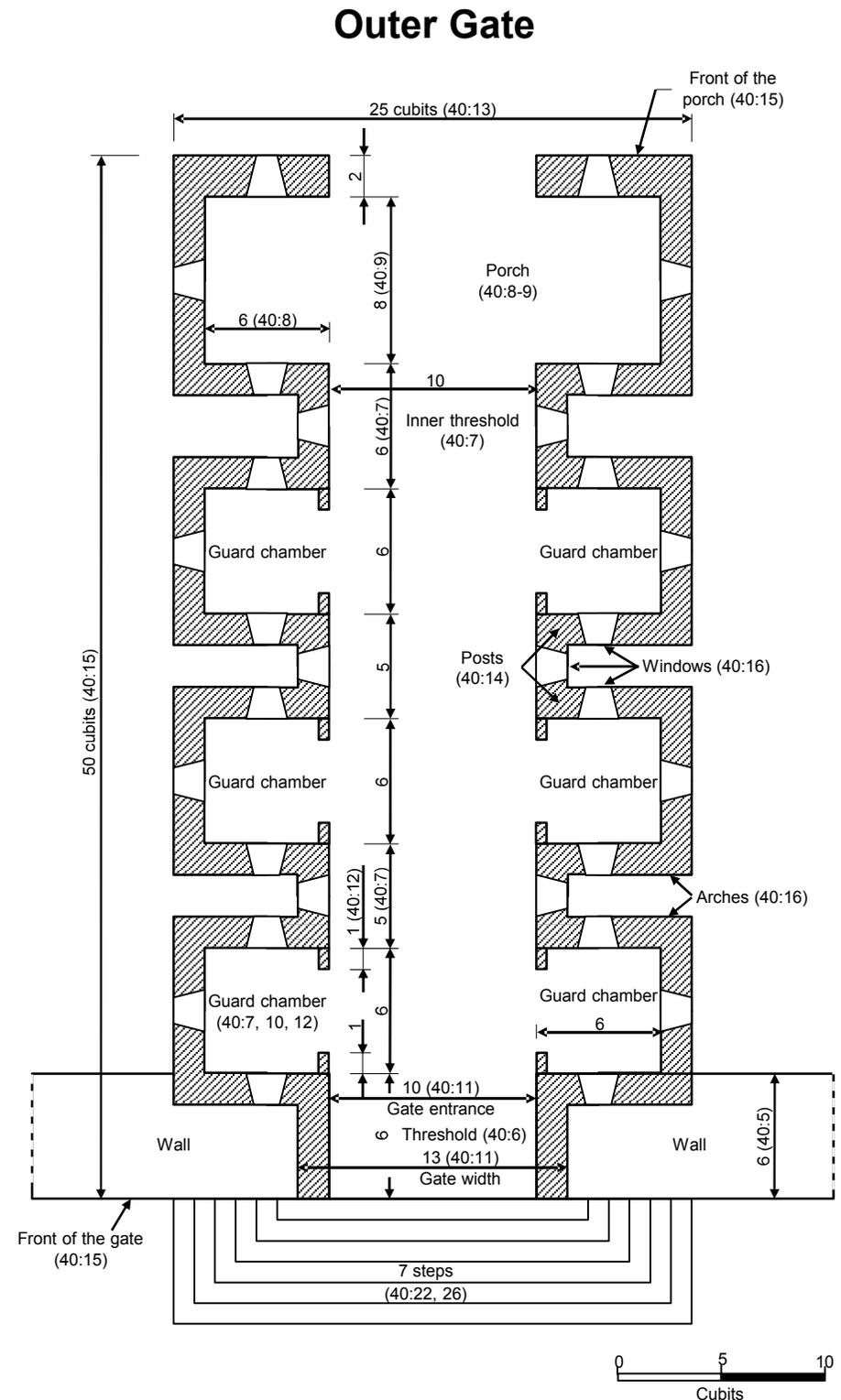
16 The interior of the temple and the porch of the court, the thresholds and the beveled window *frames*, and the galleries all around their three stories opposite the threshold were paneled with wood from the ground to the windows; and the windows were covered.

<sup>1</sup> See 42:1-13

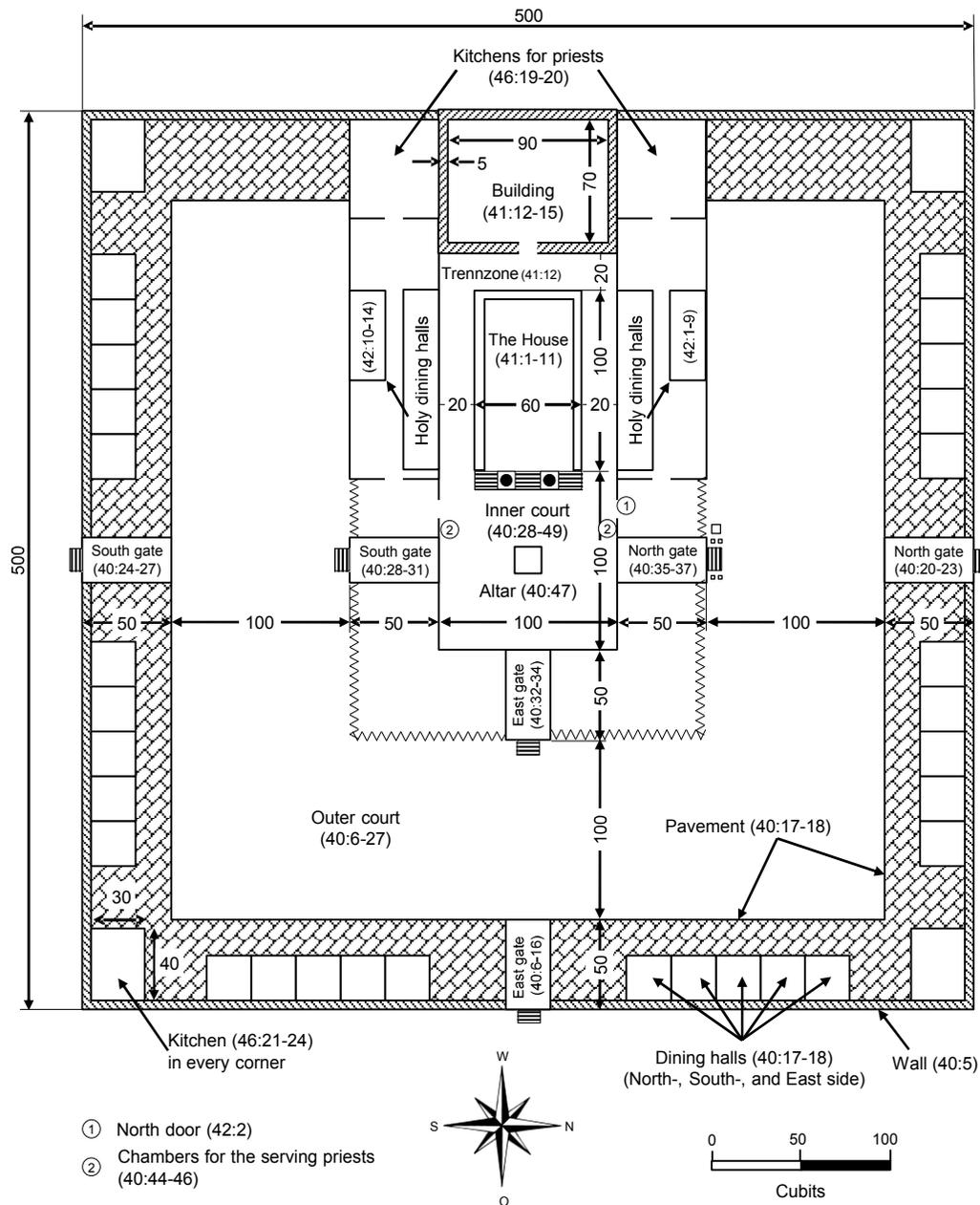
<sup>2</sup> See v. 10

<sup>3</sup> Lit. length

<sup>4</sup> The holy dining halls, see 42:13



# The Temple Compound



17 The space above the door, even to the inner room, as well as outside, and on every wall all around, inside and outside, were *carefully* measured.

### Carvings of Cherubim and Palm Trees

18 Cherubim and palm trees were carved on it, a palm tree between cherub and cherub. *Each* cherub had two faces,  
 19 so that the face of a man *was* toward a palm tree on one side, and the face of a young lion toward a palm tree on the other side; thus *it was* made throughout the house all around.  
 20 From the floor to the space above the door, and on the wall of the sanctuary, cherubim and palm trees *were* carved.

### Square Entries

21 The doorframe<sup>1</sup> of the temple *was of a square shape*, as was the front of the sanctuary; their appearance was similar.

### Incense Altar (Table)

22 The altar<sup>2</sup> *was* of wood, three cubits high, and its length two cubits. Its corners, its length, and its sides *were* of wood; and he said to me, “This *is* the table that *is* before the LORD.”

### The Doors to the Temple and the Sanctuary

23 The temple and the sanctuary *each* had a double door.  
 24 The panels *of the double doors* had two leaves – two hinged leaves for each panel.  
 25 Cherubim and palm trees *were* carved on the doors of the temple<sup>3</sup> just as they *were* carved on the walls. Thick planks<sup>4</sup> *were* on the front *portal* of the porch outside.  
 26 There were beveled windows and palm trees on one side and on the other, on the sides of the porch – also on the side chambers of the house and on the thick planks.

<sup>1</sup> Lit. the door posts, see Exod. 12:7

<sup>2</sup> i.e. the incense altar

<sup>3</sup> incl. sanctuary

<sup>4</sup> LXX Deut. 21:23; Gal. 3:13

## Chapter 42

### The Holy Dining Halls for the Priests

- 1 Then he brought me out into the outer court, by the way toward the north; and he brought me to the dining hall which *was* opposite the separating place, and opposite the building toward the north.
- 2 Along the length, *which was* one hundred cubits, was the north door. The width was fifty cubits.
- 3 Opposite the twenty *cubits* of the inner court, and opposite the pavement of the outer court, *were two* galleries of three *stories* facing each other.
- 4 In front of the dining halls, toward the inside, *was* a passage ten cubits wide and one hundred<sup>1</sup> cubit long; and their doors faced north.
- 5 Now the upper dining halls *were* shorter, because the galleries took away *space* from them more than from the lower and middle stories of the building.
- 6 For they *were* in three *stories* and did not have pillars like the pillars of the courts; therefore *the upper level* was shortened more than the lower and middle levels from the ground up.
- 7 There *was* an outside wall which ran parallel to the dining halls, toward the outer court, facing the front of the dining halls; *and* its length *was* fifty cubits.
- 8 For the length *of the row* of the dining halls toward the outer court *was* fifty cubits, whereas *the row* facing the house *was* one hundred cubits.
- 9 At the lower dining halls *was* the entrance on the east side, as one goes into them from the exterior *part of the inner* court<sup>2</sup>.
- 10 In the breadth of the wall of the court toward the south, opposite the separating place and opposite the building, were dining halls
- 11 with a passage in front of them; their appearance *was* like the dining halls which *were* toward the north; they *were* as long and as wide as the others, with similar exits and dimensions. The doors of the dining halls on the south

<sup>1</sup> LXX

<sup>2</sup> See 40:19

- 12 were similar to the doors on the north. There was an entrance at the beginning of the passage which was parallel to the corresponding wall extending eastward, by which one enters the dining halls.
- 13 Then he said to me, “The north dining halls and the south dining halls, which are opposite the separating place, are the holy dining halls where the priests who draw near to the LORD shall eat the most holy offerings. There they shall lay the most holy offerings – the grain offering, the sin offering, and the trespass offering – for the place is holy.
- 14 When the priests enter them, they shall not go out of the holy *dining halls* into the outer court; but there they shall leave their garments in which they minister, for they *are* holy. They shall put on other garments; then they may approach *that* which *is* for the people.”

### The Separating Wall

- 15 Now when he had finished measuring the inner house, he brought me out through the *outer* gate that faces toward the east, and measured the *entire precinct of the temple* all around.
- 16 He measured the east side with the measuring reed, five hundred reeds by the measuring reed all around.
- 17 He measured the north side, five hundred reeds by the measuring reed all around.
- 18 He measured the south side, five hundred reeds by the measuring reed.
- 19 He came around to the west side *and* measured five hundred reeds by the measuring reed.
- 20 He measured it on the four sides; it had a wall all around, five hundred *reeds* long and five hundred wide, to separate the holy areas from the common.