

STATION 9 STATION

HOLY OF HOLIES

Our Purpose: Help each visitor feel the spirit and learn that God loves them. God invites them to prepare to enter His presence.

Your Role: Share the story below in your words, in 2-3 minutes. Let the spirit guide you. *Have fun, your enthusiasm is contagious!*

Core Message:

Welcome to the **Holy of Holies**, which is half the size of the Holy Place. To the Israelites, it was the holiest place on earth, where God's presence resided. It is a 15x15x15 cube and represents perfection. Only the High Priest entered this room, one day each year on The Day of Atonement.

Here is the Ark of the Covenant. It contains three items: (Hebrews 9:4)

- God's law, which was written on stone tablets
- Aaron's budding rod
- A pot of manna

The law was given to Moses on the top of Mount Sinai and shares God's expectations for us, His children.

Why do you think the manna was kept in the ark?

Possible Answer: It reminds us of the ways the Lord provides for our physical and spiritual needs.

You may not know the story of Aaron's rod. Multiple men wanted to perform ordinances in the Tabernacle, not just the priests of Aaron. Each put his staff in the Holy of Holies overnight. Aaron's flowered, indicating that he and his sons were the Lord's chosen priesthood holders.

The top of the Ark of the Covenant is known as the mercy seat. You can see two cherubim. With outstretched wings they protect this holy space. It represented the throne of God and was where God met with His prophets.

On the Day of Atonement, the High Priest entered and sprinkled the sacrificial blood on the top of the mercy seat.

Can you see Christ in this ordinance?

Possible Answer: Through God's mercy and Christ's atonement, if we repent, we can be perfected and enter God's presence. Through faith in Jesus Christ and His Atonement, we also 'receive strength and assistance to do good works that they otherwise would not be able to maintain if left to their own means'. (Bible Dictionary)

This is still God's promise to us today. He loves us, and He wants us to come home to live with Him.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions:

- There is symbolism in the Ark of the Covenant and its contents. The law sits inside; the mercy seat covers the Ark of the Covenant. Mercy can swallow up justice.
- There was no natural light or lamps in the holy of holies.

