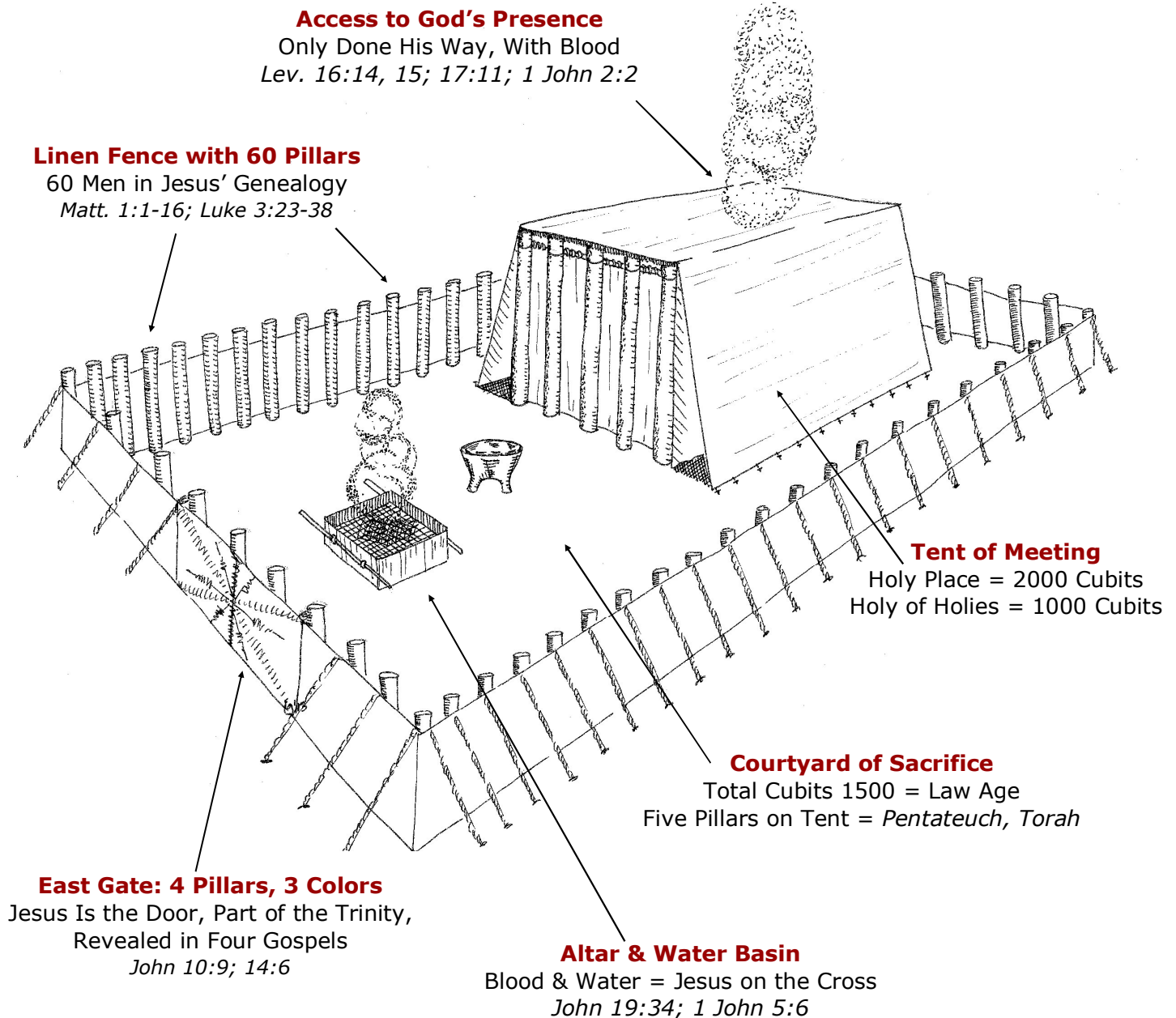


Tabernacle of Moses

Purpose

The word *tabernacle* (later temple) means to dwell. God instructed Moses to build the tabernacle so that He could dwell with His people (*Ex. 25:8*). It has always been His desire to dwell with His people. Remember how He used to walk with Adam in the Garden and make frequent visits to Abraham?

Here, He would be visibly present in the midst of His nation, taking the form of pillars of cloud and fire in a desert sanctuary. Of course, in the future, God would dwell with His people in bodily form through Christ, who was called *Emmanuel*, "God with us" (*John 1:1, 14*), then within His people through the Holy Spirit (*1 Cor. 3:16*).



"You must build it according to the plans which I will show you." *Exodus 25:9*

Illustration by Leslie Glenn