

# THE HEAVENLY SANCTUARY

Heavenly Home Base  
(heavenly sanctuary)

## GOD'S HOME BASE

The heavenly sanctuary is where God lives. It's His throne room, the command center of the universe (Isaiah 6:1-4).

God had the Israelites build a place where He could live on earth with them. The earthly sanctuary was "a copy of the true one" (Hebrews 9:24). The heavenly sanctuary is the real thing.

### Other names for the sanctuary

- holy place
- tabernacle (tent)
- temple

Sanctuary Building Instructions



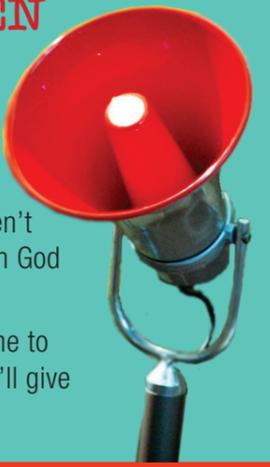
(Should look like this when done)

## JESUS' JOB IN HEAVEN

Jesus hasn't spent the past 2,000 years relaxing and hanging out with the angels. He has a full-time job: He's our Mediator (1 Timothy 2:5).

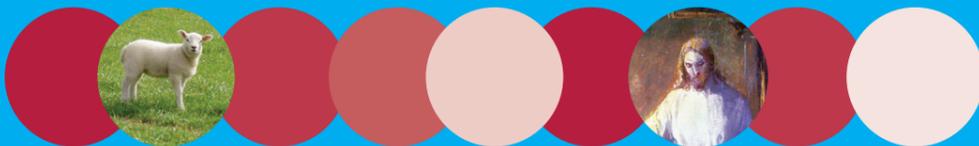
A mediator brings peace between people who aren't getting along. Jesus helps us become friends with God again.

Because Jesus has forgiven our sins, we can come to God in prayer any time we want, knowing that He'll give us the help we need (Hebrews 4:14-16).



## A PICTURE OF SALVATION

Everything about the earthly sanctuary helped people understand what Jesus would do for us.



Earthly Sanctuary	Jesus' Work
People sacrificed animals so their sins could be forgiven.	Jesus, the "Lamb of God," died so our sins could be forgiven (John 1:29).
Only priests could go inside the sanctuary.	We can't come to God in our sinful condition. But Jesus represents us in heaven as our High Priest (Hebrews 7:24-26).
Once a year all the sins were removed from the sanctuary.	At the end of time Jesus gets rid of our sins permanently (Hebrews 9:25-28).

## SIN HAS GOT TO GO



Even though Jesus' death defeated Satan, we're still dealing with sin. But God is working right now on getting rid of it forever.

In 1844 Jesus started a new part of His work as our High Priest—a job similar to what the high priest did on the Day of Atonement each year. Daniel's prophecies predicted when this work would begin (see timeline).

On the Day of Atonement the high priest offered a special sacrifice to "cleanse" (clean up) the sanctuary and the people from all the sins they had confessed during the year. Then the priest symbolically put all the sins on a goat, which was taken off into the wilderness (Leviticus 16:15-22, 30).

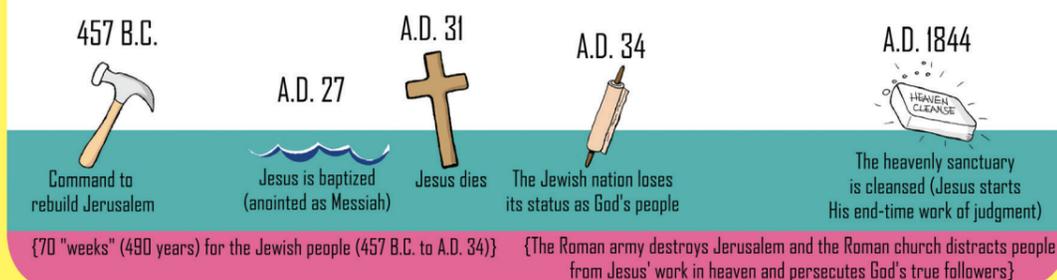
Similarly, at the end of time God will

- show that His people are clean from sin because they trust in Jesus
- remove the record of their sins from the heavenly sanctuary
- send Satan away—he'll be banished to the deserted earth and eventually destroyed (see FUN-da-Mental #27).

## TIMELINE TO THE END-TIME

(Daniel 8:9-17; 9:24-27)

### 2300 "Days" (Years) Prophecy



## JUDGMENT DAY IS HERE

God's end-time Day of Atonement is a time of judgment, when God makes a final decision about who will be saved. Daniel saw a dramatic vision of this event.

"Thrones were set in place. The Eternal God took his seat... Thousands and thousands of angels served him. Millions of them stood in front of him. The court was seated. And the books were opened" (Daniel 7:9, 10).

In God's courtroom the angels see that His decisions about who will be saved are fair and right. Jesus presents evidence that His death paid their debt. God proves beyond a doubt that it's time to end Satan's deadly experiment with sin.

## COURT IN SESSION

When everyone on earth has chosen whether to follow God or not, the court session will end. All the cases will be decided. Jesus will come to earth to carry out each person's sentence: life or death (Revelation 22:12).

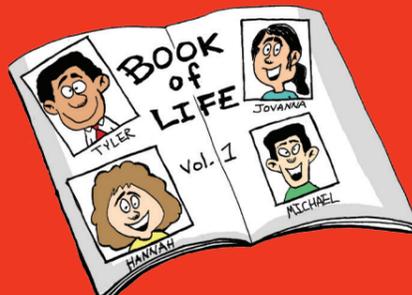
## GOD'S BOOKS

God has "books" (heavenly records) that tell what every human has done during their lifetime (Revelation 20:12). His most important record is the Book of Life. That's where He puts the name of every person who chooses Him.

In God's heavenly end-time judgment one of two things will happen:

- Your sins will be erased from God's records because you trusted in Jesus (Isaiah 43:25).  
or
- Your name will be erased from the Book of Life because you didn't let Jesus get rid of your sins (Exodus 32:32, 33).

Trusting Jesus is the key to staying safe in His book!



## WHAT'S TAKING SO LONG???

Do God, Jesus, and the angels really need 150-plus years for the judgment? Couldn't they have finished a long time ago so Jesus could return?

Quite possibly. But God is being "patient with you. He doesn't want anyone to be destroyed. Instead, he wants all people to turn away from their sins" (2 Peter 3:9).

Maybe God is waiting for *you* to make that choice for Him!