

# Torah Portion Nitzavim-Vayelech

נִצָּבִים - וַיֵּלֶךְ

“Standing – and he went”

## Deuteronomy 29:9-12

“You are standing today, all of you, before YHWH your God: the heads of your tribes, your elders, and your officers, all the men of Israel, 11 your little ones, your wives, and **\*your\*** immigrant who is in your camp, from the one who chops your wood to the one who draws your water, 12 so that you may enter into the sworn covenant of YHWH your God, which YHWH your God is making with you today,

## Deuteronomy 29:13-15

13 that he may establish you today as his people, and that he may be your God, as he promised you, and as he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. 14 It is not with you alone that I am making this sworn covenant, 15 but with whoever is standing here with us today before the YHWH our God, and with whoever is not here with us today.

## Acts 2:38-39

Peter said to them [fellow Jews], “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Messiah Yeshua so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom Adonai our God calls to him.”

## Deuteronomy 30:1-3

And when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where YHWH your God has driven you, 2 and return to YHWH your God, you and your children, and obey his voice in all that I command you today, with all your heart and with all your soul, 3 then YHWH your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where YHWH your God has scattered you.

## Deuteronomy 30:4-5

4 If your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there YHWH your God will gather you, and from there he will take you. 5 And YHWH your God will bring you into the land that your fathers possessed, that you may possess it. And he will make you more prosperous and numerous than your fathers.

## Acts 2:5-8 – Under the Heavens

Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

## Acts 2:38-39 – Receiving the Holy Spirit & Forgiveness

Peter said to them , “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Messiah Yeshua so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom Adonai our God calls to him.”

## Acts 11 Is the promise just for Jews?

Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. 2 So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, 3 saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?”

Acts 11:17-18 Is the promise just for Jews?

17 If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Messiah Yeshua, who was I that I could hinder God?”

18 When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the nations [*gentiles*] the repentance that leads to life.”

## Ephesians 3 – Mystery of the Gospel

4 When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Messiah, 5 which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. 6 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Messiah Yeshua through the gospel.

## Ephesians 3 – Mystery of the Gospel

15 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Messiah may dwell in your hearts through loyal trust [*faith*]—that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

# Ephesians 3 – Mystery of the Gospel

18 may have strength to comprehend with all the holy ones what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Messiah that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

# What has been established thus far?

1. In Israel, immigrants who worshipped Adonai and stood with everyone else was counted as part of the covenant.
2. Their descendants would also be part of this covenant
3. Genesis 12:1-3
4. The writings of the Apostles confirm and re-affirm that those of the nations (i.e. Gentiles) would be part of the new covenant
5. Jewish and Non-Jewish believers are fellow heirs to the promise
6. Jewish and Non-Jewish believers are members of the same body = Israel
7. We all enjoy spiritual prosperity through God's glory, Spirit, and the Messiah

## Deuteronomy 31:9-11

Then Moses wrote this Torah and gave it to the priests, the sons of Levi, who carried the ark of the covenant of YHWH, and to all the elders of Israel. 10 And Moses commanded them, “At the end of every seven years, at the set time in the year of release, at the Feast of Booths, 11 when all Israel comes to appear before YHWH your God at the place that he will choose, you shall read this Torah before all Israel in their hearing.

## Deuteronomy 31:10-13

12 Assemble the people, men, women, and little ones, and **\*your\*** immigrant within your towns, that they may hear and learn to fear YHWH your God, and be careful to do all the words of this Torah, and that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear YHWH your God, as long as you live in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess.”

Who has the opportunity to be  
part of God's covenant?

1. Israelite Men
2. Israelite Women
3. Israelite Children
4. Immigrants – non-Israelites who are in Israelite towns and are part of Israel
5. The future generations of Israelites and Immigrants

Expectations of Israel = Israelites & Immigrants

1. Do all the words of the Torah
2. Hear YHWH
3. Fear & Revere YHWH

## James 1:22-25

22 But be doers of the Word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. 23 For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; 24 for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. 25 But those who look into the perfect Torah, the Torah of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

## Psalm 19:7-11

"The Torah of YHWH is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of YHWH is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of YHWH are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of YHWH is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of YHWH is clean, enduring forever; the rules of YHWH are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward."

# Immigrants in the Bible

1. Abraham – Wandering Aramaean

2. Israel – From Egypt

- Ex 22:21 *“You shall not oppress an immigrant nor torment him, for you were immigrants in the land of Egypt.”*

3. The Nations – Spiritual immigration

## Ephesians 2:1-3

You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup> All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, doing the will of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else

## Ephesians 2:4-7

but God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Messiah— by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Messiah Yeshua, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Messiah Yeshua.

## Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— 9 not the result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are what he has made us, created in Messiah Yeshua for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.

## “Walk in Them”

**Psalms 119:1-3** - "Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in YHWH's Torah! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!"

**Deuteronomy 5:32** – You shall walk in all the way that YHWH your God has commanded you...

**Joshua 22:5** - "Only be very careful to observe the commandment and the Torah that Moses the servant of YHWH commanded you, to love YHWH your God, and to walk in all his ways and to keep his commandments and to cling to him and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul."

## Ephesians 2:11-13

So then, remember that at one time you gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— 12 remember that you were at that time without Messiah, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Messiah Yeshua you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Messiah.

## Ephesians 2:14-16

For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both into one and has broken down the dividing wall; 15 abolishing in His flesh the hostility, which is the law composed of mandates in public decrees, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, 16 and might reconcile both to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.

# Does this passage refer to the Torah?

*“abolishing in His flesh the hostility, which is the law composed of mandates in public decrees, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, 16 and might reconcile both to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.”*

# Hearing & Fearing Yah, Keep his Torah Together: Deuteronomy 31:12-13

12 Assemble the people, men, women, and little ones, and **\*your\*** immigrant within your towns, that they may hear and learn to fear YHWH your God, and be careful to do all the words of this Torah, and that their children, who have not known it, may hear and learn to fear YHWH your God, as long as you live in the land that you are going over the Jordan to possess.”

# Standing by the Ark Together: Joshua 8:34

And **all Israel** with its elders, officers, and their judges were standing on both sides of the ark before the Levitical priests who carried the ark of the covenant of YHWH, **\*\*the stranger as well as the native\*\***.

# Worshipping and Walking in his Paths Together – Isaiah 2:3

And many peoples will come and say,  
“Come, let’s go up to the mountain of YHWH,  
To the house of the God of Jacob;  
So that He may teach us about His ways,  
And that we may walk in His paths.”  
For the Torah will go out from Zion  
And the word of YHWH from Jerusalem

# Celebrating the Exodus Deliverance Together: Numbers 9:14

And if an immigrant resides among you and celebrates the Passover to YHWH, according to the statute of the Passover and its ordinance, so he shall celebrate it; you shall have the same statute, both for the immigrant and for the native of the land.

Can Paul contradict himself?

**Abolishing** [καταργέω] in His flesh the hostility, which is the law composed of mandates in public decrees

Do we then **abolish** [καταργέω] the Torah by this faith?  
By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the Torah.

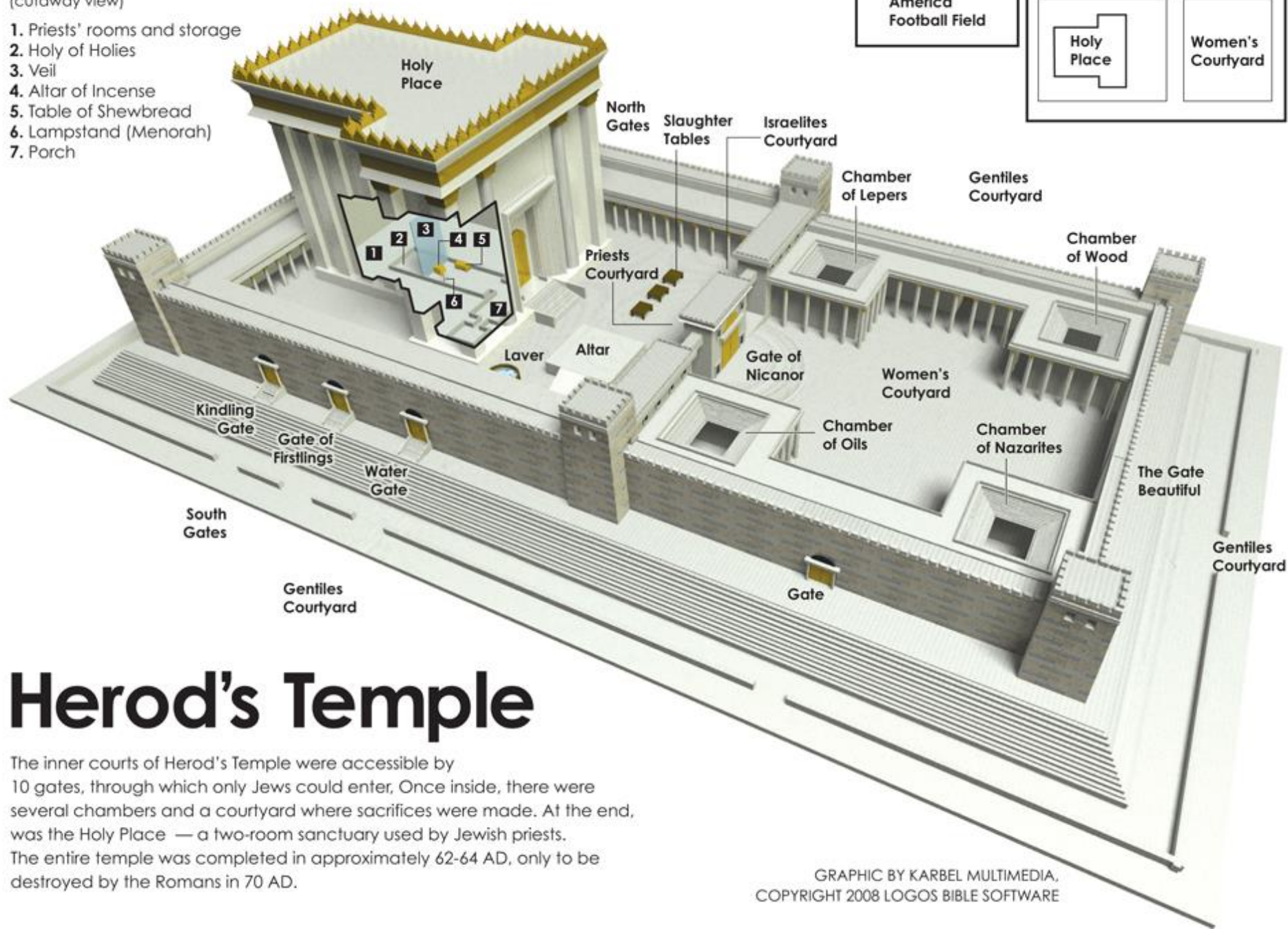
Where is the dividing wall in the Torah?

Where is the dividing wall in the Hebrew Bible?

## INSIDE THE HOLY PLACE

(cutaway view)

1. Priests' rooms and storage
2. Holy of Holies
3. Veil
4. Altar of Incense
5. Table of Shewbread
6. Lampstand (Menorah)
7. Porch



Size comparison (approximate):

America  
Football Field

Holy  
Place

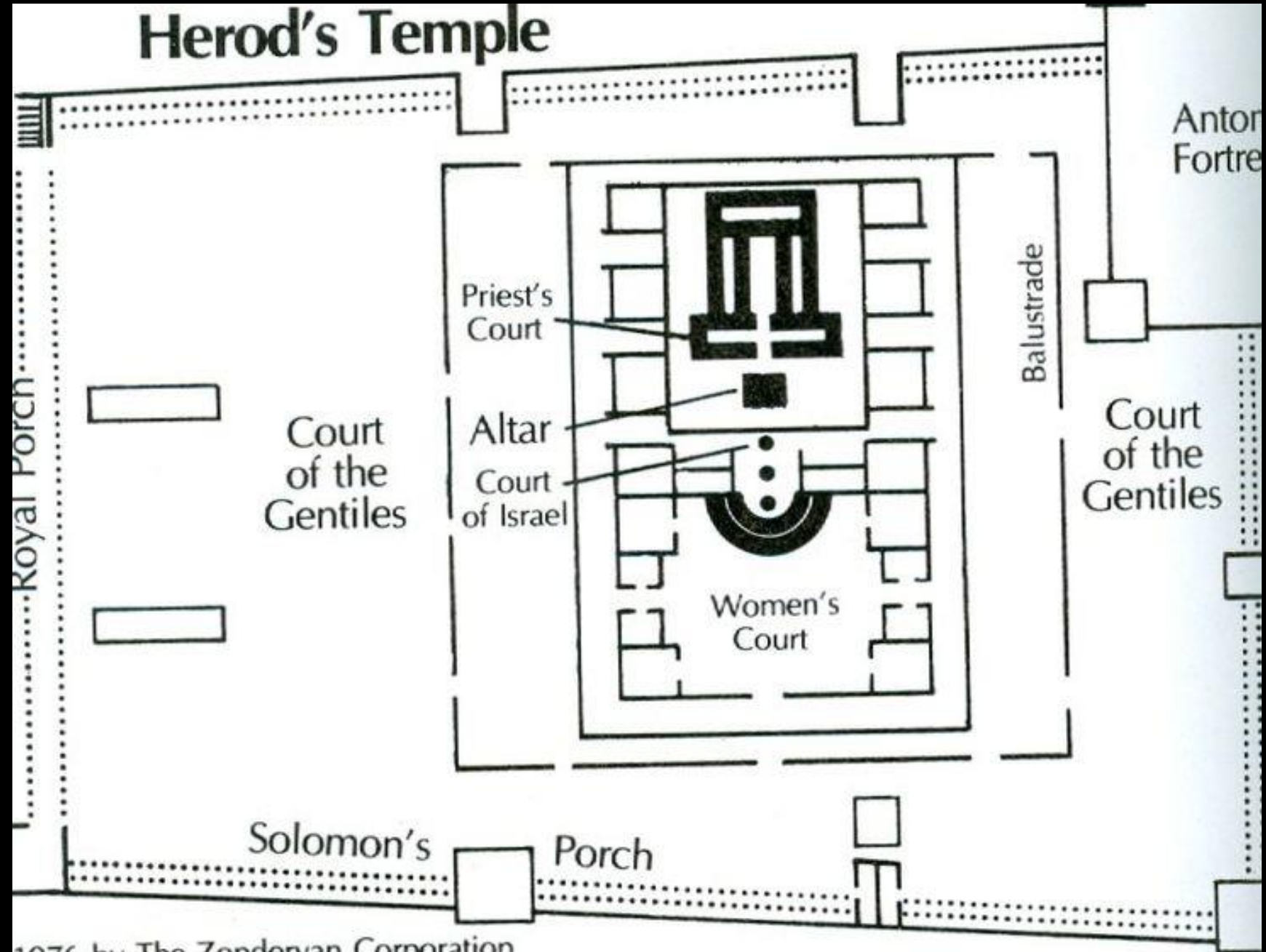
Women's  
Courtyard

# Herod's Temple

The inner courts of Herod's Temple were accessible by 10 gates, through which only Jews could enter. Once inside, there were several chambers and a courtyard where sacrifices were made. At the end, was the Holy Place — a two-room sanctuary used by Jewish priests. The entire temple was completed in approximately 62-64 AD, only to be destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD.

GRAPHIC BY KARBEL MULTIMEDIA,  
COPYRIGHT 2008 LOGOS BIBLE SOFTWARE

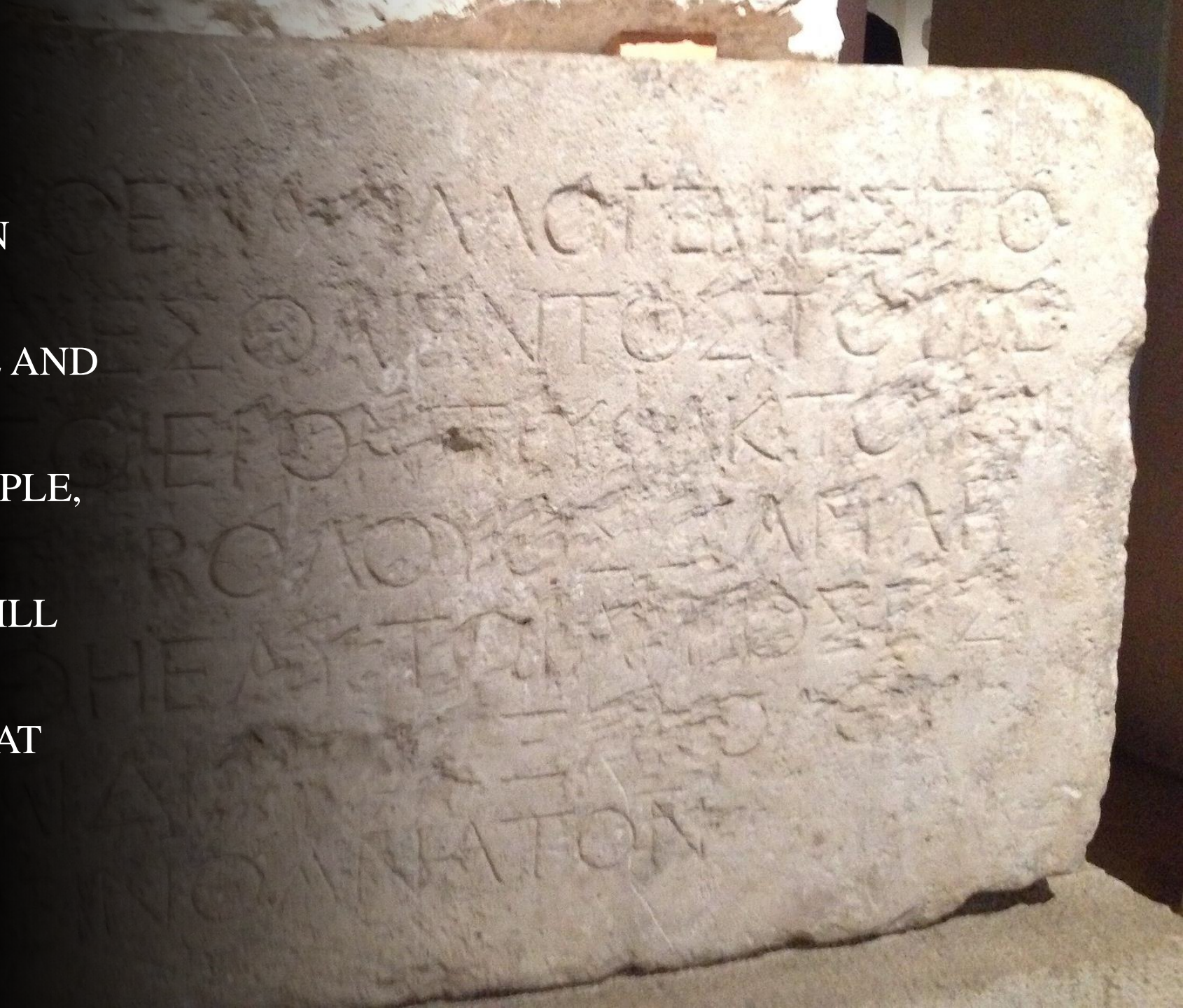
# Herod's Temple



1976 by The Zondervan Corporation

Public Decree:

NO MAN OF ANOTHER NATION  
TO ENTER WITHIN THE FENCE AND  
ENCLOSURE ROUND THE TEMPLE,  
AND WHOEVER IS CAUGHT WILL  
HAVE HIMSELF TO BLAME THAT  
HIS DEATH ENSUES



## Ephesians 2:17-19

So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near, 18 for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the holy ones and also members of the household of God...

## Ephesians 2:20-22

...built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Messiah Yeshua himself as the cornerstone; 21 in him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in Adonai, 22 in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

# What has been established?

1. Jewish and Non-Jewish believers are fellow heirs to the promise
2. Jewish and Non-Jewish believers are members of the same body = Israel
3. Jews and Non-Jewish believers keep the same covenant
4. One Shepherd, One Flock, One Torah

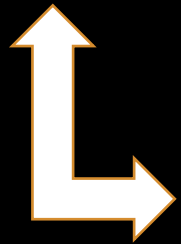
# What has been established?

5. Jewish Tradition divided Jews from Non-Jews.
6. Regardless of the physical dividing wall keeping Gentiles from entering the temple courts... Messiah unites Jews with the Gentiles in Himself. There's no division in Him.
7. Gentiles will not be kept out of the house but are part of the house.
8. Israel is being built into a holy temple for Adonai.
9. Israel is comprised of Jews and Gentiles, the latter being grafted in just as the immigrants in ancient Israel were

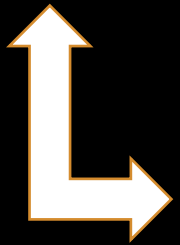
# What has been established?

10. Israel's promises and responsibilities are for both the Jewish and non-Jewish believers.

Following the footsteps of Yeshua =



Listening to the voice of Adonai =



keeping the Torah as a saved people in Messiah