

Aim: To learn about the Heavenly Sanctuary

Looking back through the craft pages for this term, what have we learnt from the parts of the Sanctuary that is useful today?

- Altar of Sacrifice: Sin is not nice; Jesus died for our sins.
- Laver: Baptism
- Lampstand: The Bible can guide us through life and we can guide others by being a good witness for Jesus.
- Shewbread: Daily Bible study is important, just like eating is important.
- Altar of incense: God always hears us when we pray
- Ark: We can approach God, only because Jesus has paid for our sins.

We also learnt that the High Priest teaches us about Jesus; but there is something that you might not know about High Priests.

Read: Hebrews 8:24, 26 Jesus IS actually a High Priest!

And not only is He a High Priest, He is also the sacrifice! **Read the last sentence of Hebrews 8:27**

So if Jesus is a High Priest, you might ask, "Does He have a Sanctuary?"

Read Hebrews 9:23 The earthly Sanctuary and the things in it were a copy of real things in heaven!

Christians, especially Seventh-day Adventists have spent years studying the Bible to learn about the Sanctuary in heaven, but even so, there is a lot we can't understand and will have to wait find out when we go to heaven.

Below are some question and discussion ideas, choose what is relevant to the group.

Is there really an Altar of Sacrifice in heaven and does Jesus actually make sacrifices there?

Read Hebrews 8:27. Because Jesus had never sinned, He only needed to make one sacrifice; no other sacrifices were needed. Remember how last week I said the curtain in the Temple ripped when Jesus died, to show that the temple was no longer needed?

Do you know where and when Jesus sacrifice was? Jesus was sacrificed on the cross, and it happened nearly 2000 years ago.

Is there really a Sanctuary in heaven?

Hebrews 9:11_{NLT} says of Jesus, "He has entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven"

Hebrews 9:23_{NLT} says "the Tabernacle and everything in it ...were copies of things in heaven"

So it sounds like the Sanctuary or Tabernacle in heaven is a real place. – The sanctuary wasn't just something that God designed for this earth to teach people about sin and being saved.

Does the Sanctuary in heave actually look like the one that Moses built?

Some people think that there is a Sanctuary, just like the one that Moses built, in heaven; other people think that it doesn't necessarily look the same but that the parts of the earthly Sanctuary still represent things in the heavenly Sanctuary.

Hebrews 8:5_{NLT} says the earthly priests "serve in a system of worship that is only *a copy, a shadow* of the real one in heaven"

Does your shadow look like you? It does and it doesn't. It copies what you do; depending on the angle of the sun, it has a head, arms and legs like you do; but it doesn't have the same colours as you do, and it can't do all the things that you do. Your shadow is flat; you are much more than just a shadow. **Imagine what someone who has never seen a (car, giraffe, elephant...) would think if they only saw the shadow of it.**

Both Daniel and Paul had visions about things that were going to happen in the future. We will learn more about them another time, but one thing that people who were studying the Bible worked out, was that the visions said something special was going to happen in the year 1844. At first they thought that meant Jesus was coming back to earth, and they waited all day for Him, but nothing happened. Then when they studied their Bibles further, they worked out that Jesus had moved from the Holy Place in the heavenly Sanctuary into the Most Holy Place; just like on the Day of Atonement, the High Priest would enter the Most Holy Place to cleanse the earthly Sanctuary. One day soon, Jesus will be finished, and then He will come back to earth to take those who have chosen to follow Him to Heaven, I want to be there and I hope you will all be there too.