

The Pharisee and the tax collector

Text – Luke 18



He who humbles himself will be exalted

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Pride – the invisible sin

A warning about false comparisons

God's verdict is what matters

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Mediterranean
Sea



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9 Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else:

10 “Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector.

11 The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer : ‘I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everyone else. For I don’t cheat, I don’t sin, and I don’t commit adultery. I’m certainly not like that tax collector!

12 I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.’

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13 “But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.’

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TAX COLLECTORS IN CHRIST'S DAY (NEW TESTAMENT ERA)

AN EXPLORATION OF THE ROLES, METHODS, AND PROFOUND SOCIAL ISOLATION OF TAX COLLECTORS.



THE TWO CLASSES: PUBLICANI & PORTITORES



- **TAX FARMERS (PUBLICANI):**
The original holders of rights; wealthy, often Roman. (This role is less prominent in Judea's direct collection).
- **LOWER TAX COLLECTORS (PORTITORES):**
The direct collectors who leased the smaller districts. Crucial distinction: these are the "publicans" of the Gospels.



METHODS & EXTORTION: THE PORTITORES' PRACTICES

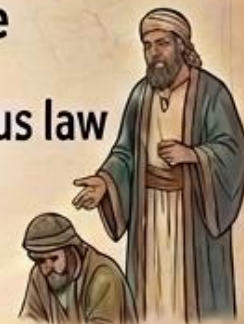


- **ESTIMATION & OVER-CHARGING:**
Based on loose assessment, not just standard lists. A key source of corruption.
- **LEASING PROFITS:**
Collectors profited only by collecting more than they paid to their superiors.



SOCIAL ISOLATION & STIGMA IN JEWISH LIFE

- **BANISHED FROM RELIGIOUS LIFE:**
Excluded from synagogue worship and community. Edersheim details religious law (Mishnah) specifics.
- **REGARDED AS WORSE THAN GENTILES:**
Deeply hated, seen as active colluders. The testimony of a "publican" was invalid.



THE PORTITORES:
Duties paid on imported and exported goods



TAX COLLECTORS:
Shunned by fellow Jews and excluded.



SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS OSTRACISM

THE PHARISEES OF JESUS' DAY (NEW TESTAMENT ERA)

EXPLORATION OF THEIR HISTORY, PRACTICES, BELIEFS, AND INFLUENCE
DRAWING ON ALFRED EDERSHEIM AND ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA

SECTION 1: ORIGINS & HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT



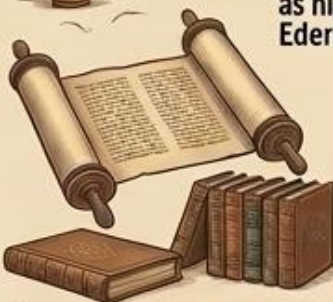
- **HASMONEAN EMERGENCE:** The emergence of the Pharisees as a distinct 'party' (Hebr. *Perushim*, 'separated ones') in response to Hellenization.



- **POLITICAL POWER (SALOME ALEXANDRA):** Their period of greatest political power during the reign of Queen Salome Alexandra.



SECTION 2: KEY BELIEFS & DAILY PRACTICES



- **RESURRECTION & ANGELS:** Their core beliefs, distinguishing them from Sadducees, included bodily resurrection, angels, and spirits.

- **ORAL LAW (MISHNAH):** Commitment to the Oral Law as equal to the Written Torah, creating a 'fence' around the law, as highlighted by Alfred Edersheim.



- **DAILY PURITY:** Rigorous daily observance of ritual purity laws (e.g., ritual handwashing and tithing), making holiness part of everyday life.

SECTION 3: INFLUENCE & RABBINIC LEGACY

- **AFTER 70 CE (YAVNEH):** Their central role in the preservation and development of Judaism at Yavneh after the Second Temple's destruction.



- **RELIGION FOR THE HOME:** Focusing spiritual life on prayer and study, not just the Temple, making faith personal and accessible to all.



- **ROLE IN THE GOSPELS:** A central point of conflict, with Gospels frequently depicting intense debates and Jesus' severe criticisms of their legalism and hypocrisy.



LEGACY & CONTINUITY: THE FATHERS OF RABBINIC JUDAISM

THE JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM: JESUS' FINAL PATH (LUKE 9:51-19:44)



THE DEPARTURE

1. GALILEE & SAMARIA BORDER

➔ Setting the Face:
Luke 9:51



Samaritan Rejection:
Luke 9:52



THE TEACHING ROUTE

2. JUDEA & PEREA



Teaching in Villages:
Luke 13:22



Parables of Grace & Persistence: Luke 18



THE APPROACH

3. JERICHO & JERUSALEM



Meeting Zacchaeus:
Luke 19:1



Triumphal Entry:
Luke 19:37



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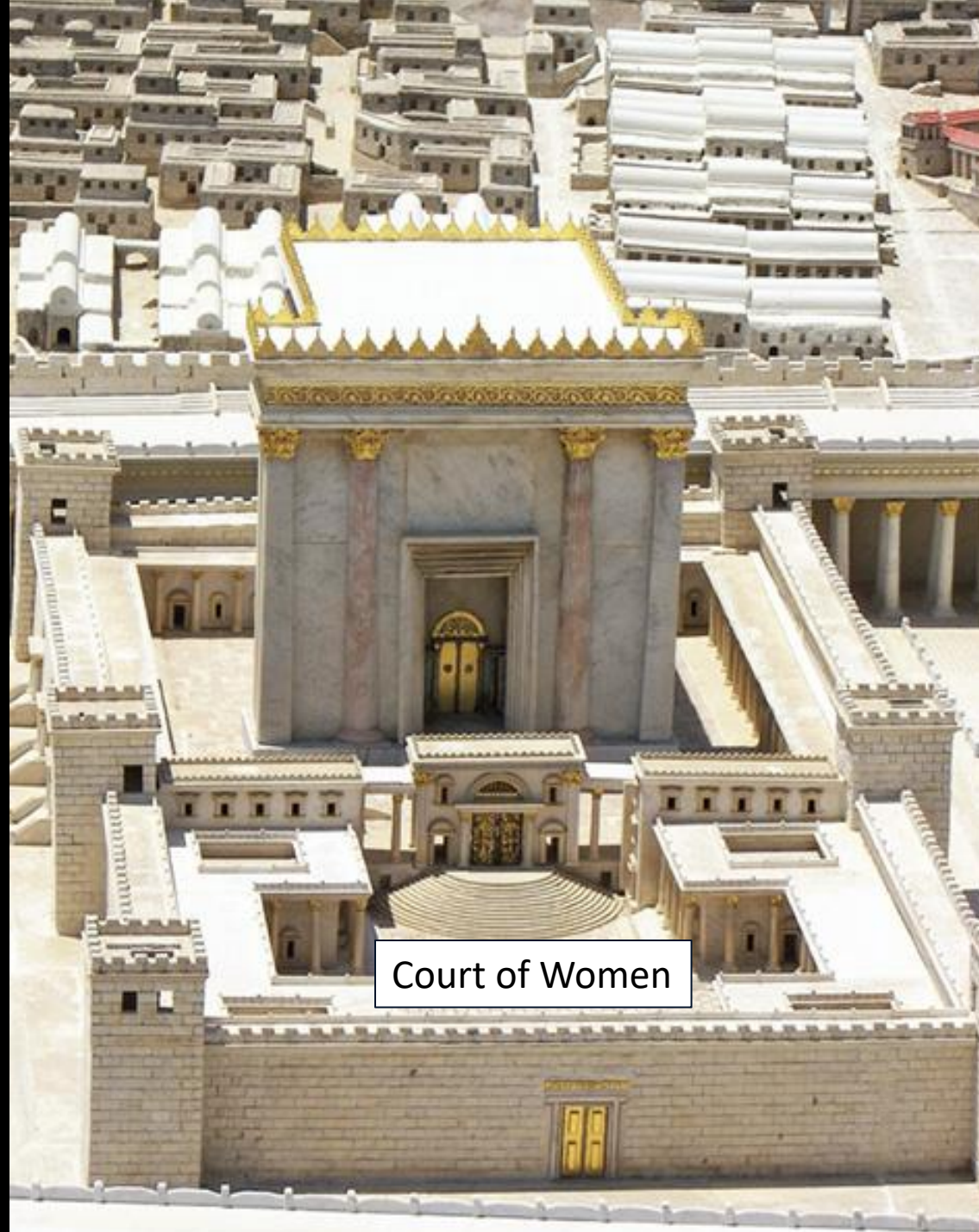


I can't sit here and say that I'm upset because I'm not. I'm really proud of myself.

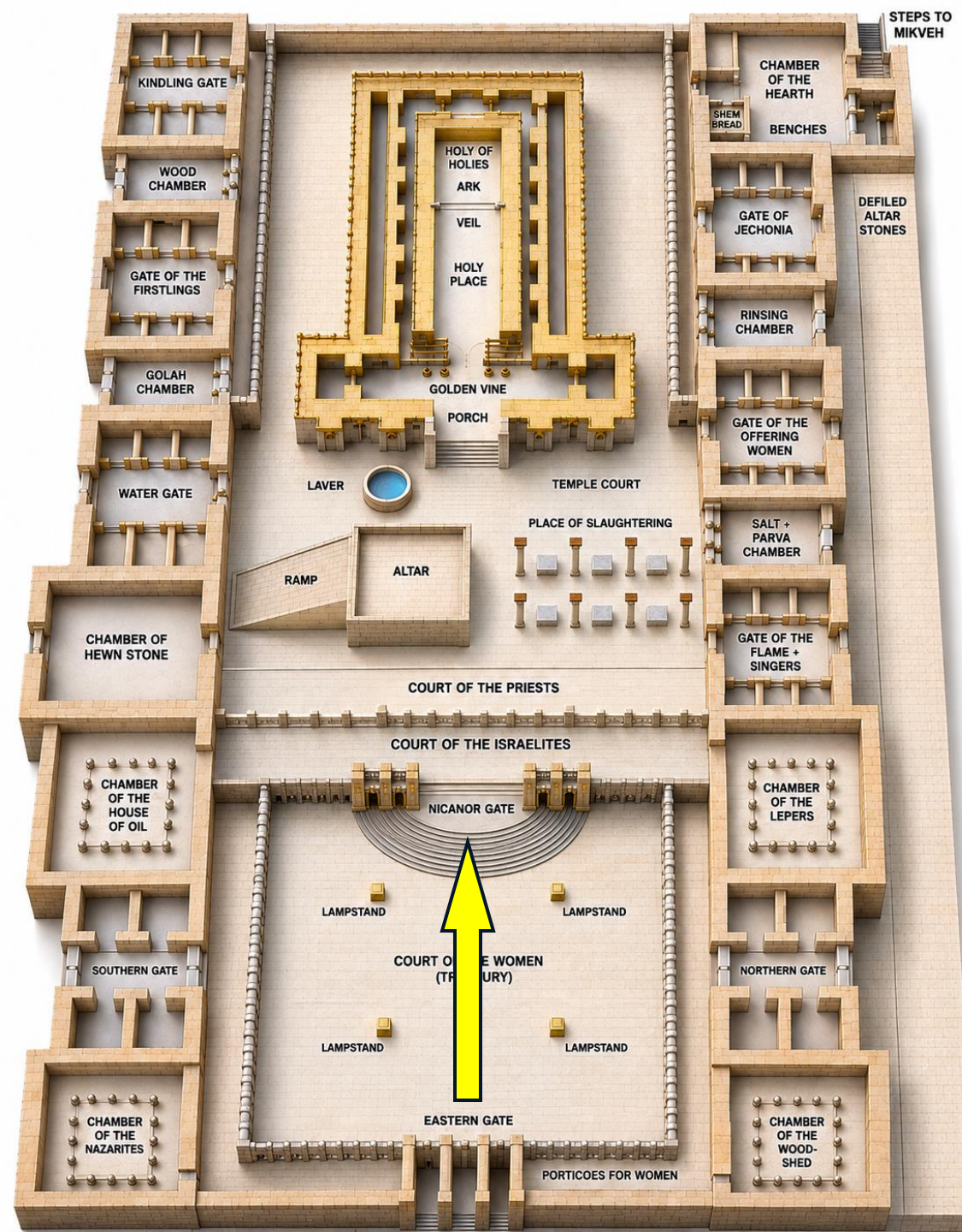


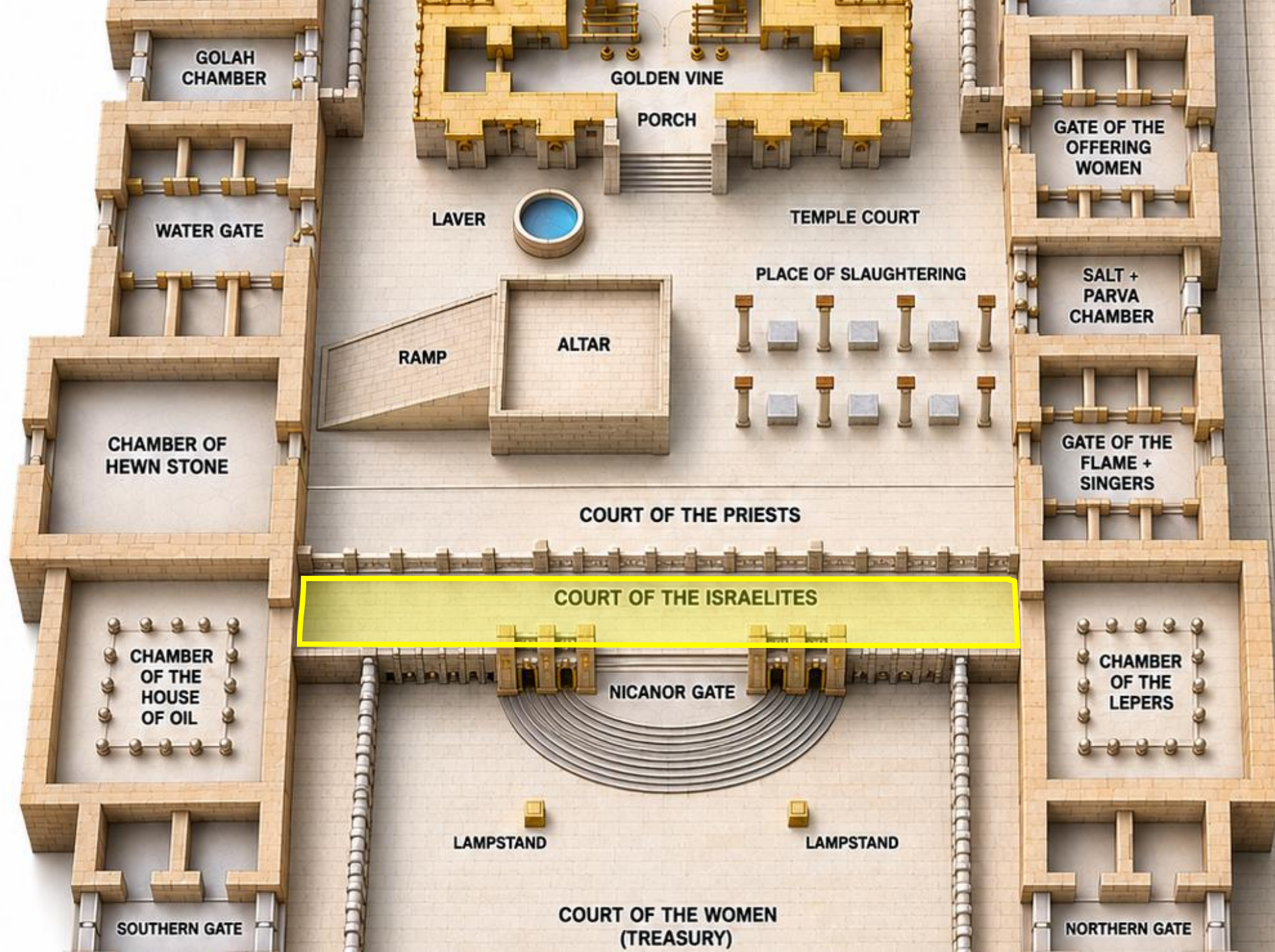


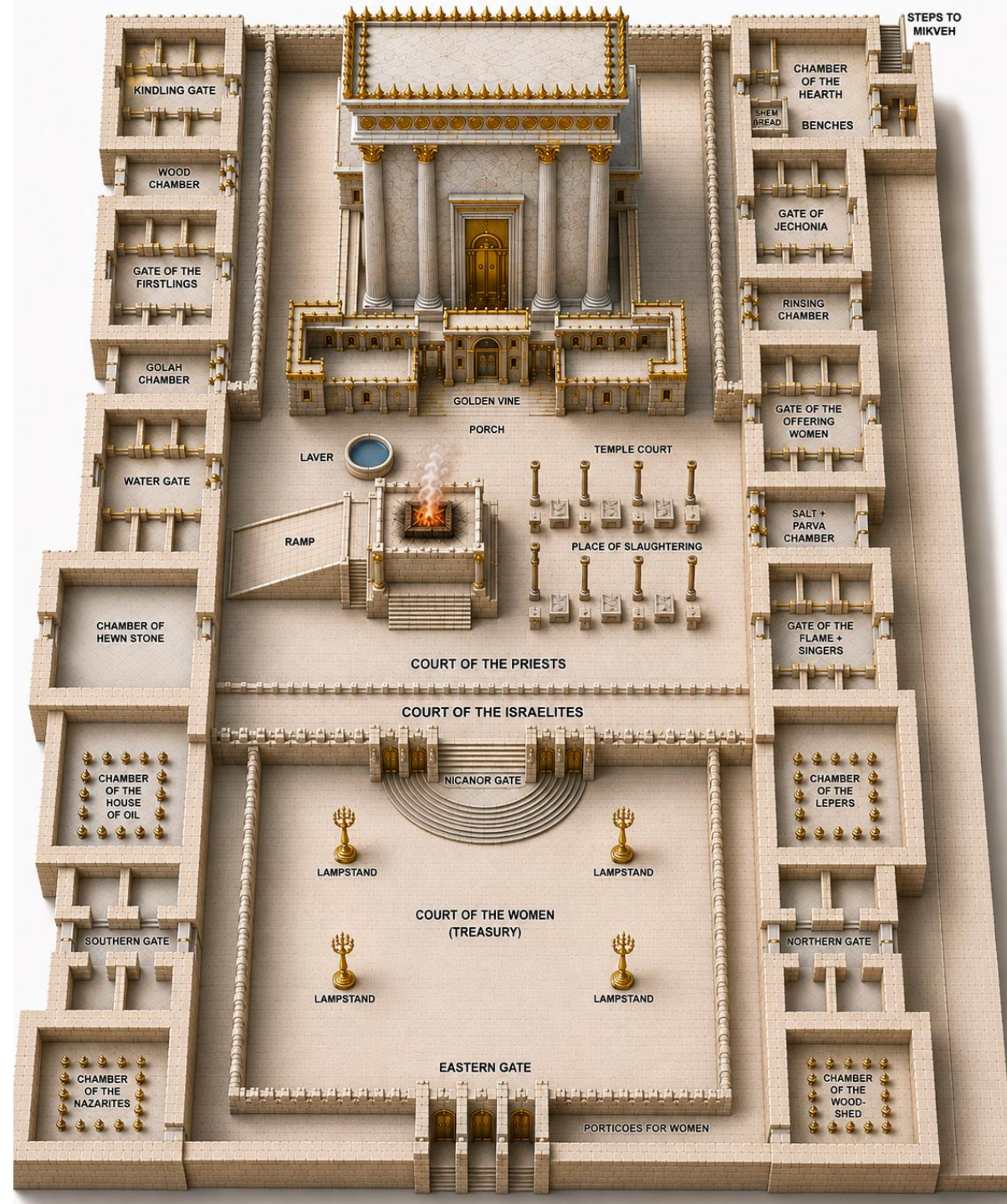
Court of Gentiles



Court of Women







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Let Him glorify you when the time is right

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