

Grabbing hold of the horns of the altar 5-9-22@8:47AM

"My friend asked me recently, what did I think the phrase "Grabbing hold of the four corners of the altar," mean in my opinion? She asked is it relevant for today or only in the Old Testament days? These are not the exact words she used. I told her to me it meant praying before God until your prayers are answered, but it started me prayerfully searching the true meaning of this phrase!!!

The horns of the altar were first mentioned in the book of Exodus as part of the furnishings of the Tabernacle and used in the consecration of the priest (Exodus 29:12). Exodus chapter 29:37 describes the altar as "most holy!" Verses 43-46 of this same chapter God tells the people of Israel that He will meet them here in great detail!!!

The horns of the altar in Jerusalem had provided refuge for fugitives! Those who caught hold of the horns of the altar were granted refuge as in the case of Adonijah in 1 Kings 1:50-53. When Adonijah, King Solomon's step brother set himself up to be king in place of Solomon and his treachery was heard of, he in fear for his life ran to the altar and grabbed hold of its horns. The primary reason: He thought no one would dare kill a person at the same holy place where offerings were made to the Lord God Jehovah! The intent though of his heart was not repentant or pure before God, but at this moment of time, his life was spared.

Also, we read of Joab in 1 Kings 2:28-34 who ran to the horns of the altar in an attempt to escape death, and his heart was evil too, but he lost his life. Our God know what lies in each of our hearts and nothing is ever hidden from His all-seeing eyes!!!

The horns of the altar are mentioned on three occasions in the Old Testament in Psalms 118:27 which gives the idea that it includes a time of festivities and praise at the Tabernacle! In Amos 3:14 we see it is used in connection in this passage with the altars of Bethel and describes the altars of pagan worship during this time, but in Ezekiel 43 it refers to the horns of the altar, the altar that will exist in the future Millennial Temple and is described in much detail in verses 13-27. So, if it's not relevant for today, then why would it be mentioned for the future time to come?

I personally feel the altar today has two meanings. We know first and foremost it is a symbolization of the cross of Christ- the most holy place, and second it symbolizes fiery prayer. It's a place for repentance. A place of hope, of peace and restorations!!! Simply put, to grab hold of the horns of the altar means we go to God with all our hearts and cry out for mercy. We lay our needs and petitions, our pleas before him in humbleness of heart, in faith believing he is faithful to answer us, his true children in Jesus' holy and powerful name.

We can do this through the direct results of what Jesus did when He died on the cross!!! We petition our need before God through Jesus, for it's through him only that we can approach God's throne, and we plead and pray until we receive our answer which by the way can be "yes," "no," or "wait,"!!!

When a person grabs a hold of the horns of the altar, they are consciously, mentally, and spiritually grabbing hold of the sacrifice of Jesus and saying, Heavenly Father because of Jesus and what He's done on the cross, I need You to answer my prayer. We pray all our prayers in Jesus' name!!! This honor is available to all who have accepted Jesus as their Savior.

If more people had been grabbing hold of the horns of the altar, repenting and crying out to God, instead of grabbing hold of their cell phones, their tablets and other worldly distractions, then we would not be facing this war that's fast approaching our nation America and the world, because war shall not be contained in the United States alone, but will spread like ripples in the water when a stone is cast into it.

With all the evilness of our world today, we need to all grab hold of the four horns of the altar of God, and no this does not mean when we that we are returning to living under the law of Moses! We are not under the old covenant, but under the law, the covenant of grace, of Jesus' sacrifice and the covering of His precious blood!!!

I, personally prefer to stay grabbing hold of the horns of the altar, in constant prayer and I believe each horn, of each of the four corners, to my understanding represents the four corners of the world. So, I feel the altar, Jesus' sacrifice is for all people!!! All people everywhere so please by all means let's unite in prayer and grab hold of the four corners of the altar and pray for our world, our nation together in our lovely Jesus' mighty and powerful name!!!

Scriptures referenced:

Exodus 29:12

Exodus 29:37

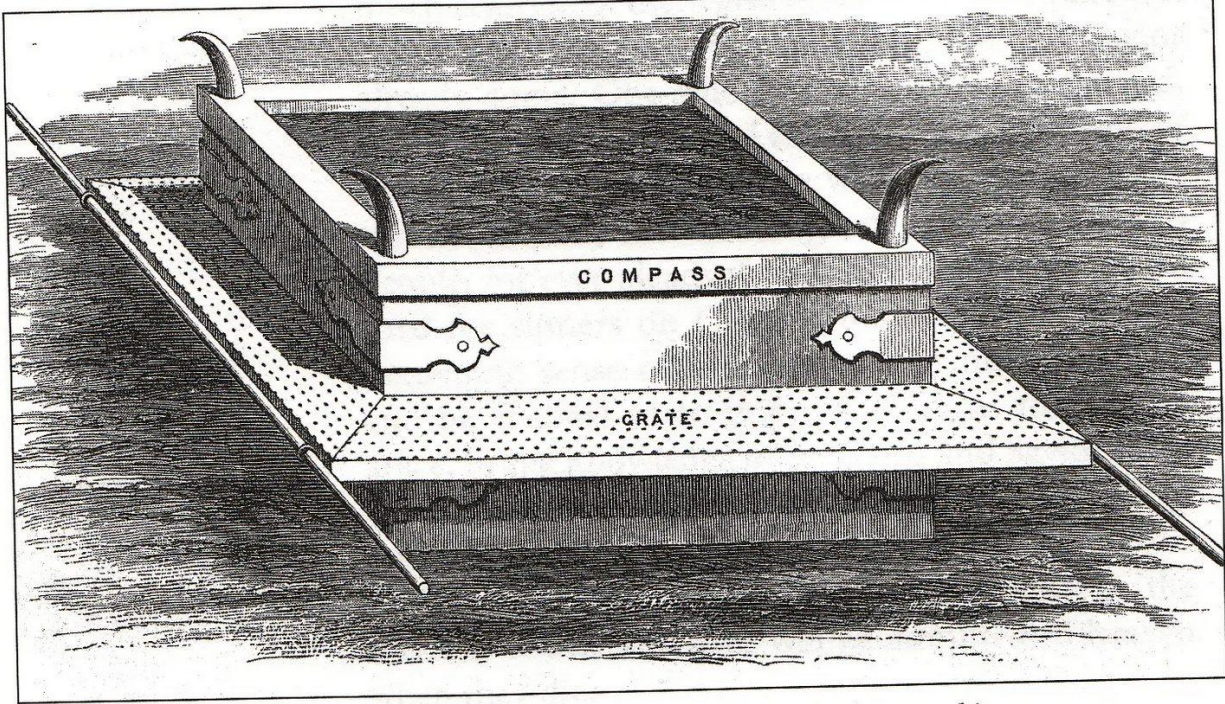
Exodus 29:43-46

1 Kings 1:50-53

1 Kings 2:28-34

Ezekiel 43:13-27

Hebrews 4:16



*From Model. The Brazen Altar. Scale—1 inch to a cubit.*