

Ezekiel 41:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then went he inward, and measured the post of the door, two cubits; and the door, six cubits; and the breadth of the door, seven cubits.

Analysis

The guide 'went... inward' to the Most Holy Place—the innermost sanctum where God's glory dwelt. The decreasing door dimensions (six cubits) and narrowing breadth (seven cubits) as one progresses inward teach that access to God's immediate presence is most restricted. Only the high priest entered once yearly (Leviticus 16), and here even the guide hesitates—Ezekiel himself doesn't enter. This reverence reflects God's transcendent holiness: 'our God is a consuming fire' (Hebrews 12:29). The two-cubit posts and specific measurements aren't arbitrary but divinely prescribed, teaching that approach to God's throne must follow His terms. The veil separating Holy Place from Most Holy Place (implied here) was torn at Christ's death (Matthew 27:51), granting believers direct access (Hebrews 10:19-20). Reformed theology celebrates this dramatic shift: what was once restricted to one man once yearly is now open to all believers always through Christ's blood.

Historical Context

The Most Holy Place in both tabernacle and Solomon's temple was a perfect cube (Exodus 26:33-34, 1 Kings 6:20), containing the Ark of the Covenant. Only the high priest entered on Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) with blood for the mercy seat (Leviticus 16:2-34). Unauthorized entry meant death (Leviticus 16:2, Numbers 3:10). When Solomon's temple was completed, God's glory filled it so densely that priests couldn't stand to minister (1 Kings 8:10-11). The Babylonians plundered the

temple in 586 BC, and the Ark's location afterward remains unknown—Jewish tradition suggests Jeremiah hid it (2 Maccabees 2:4-8), but the second temple's Holy of Holies stood empty. This vision promised God's return to dwell among His people, fulfilled ultimately in Christ ('the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,' John 1:14) and the church as God's temple (1 Corinthians 3:16).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does understanding the restricted access to the Most Holy Place deepen your appreciation for Christ opening 'a new and living way' (Hebrews 10:20)?
2. What reverence should characterize your approach to God's presence, even though you now have 'boldness' through Christ (Hebrews 10:19)?
3. In what ways do you treat casual access to God's presence as license for irreverence rather than motivation for deeper awe?

Interlinear Text

אָמָוֹת:	שְׁתַּי!	מִ	תְּחִ	הַפְּ	תְּחִ	הַפְּ	תְּחִ	אָמָוֹת:
Then went	he inward	and measured	the post	and the door	two			cubits
H935	H6441	H4058	H352	H6607	H8147			H520
תְּחִ	הַפְּ	תְּחִ	אָמָוֹת:	שְׁשָׁ	אָמָוֹת:	שְׁבַע	אָמָוֹת:	אָמָוֹת:
and the door	six	cubits	and the breadth	and the door	seven			cubits
H6607	H8337	H520	H7341	H6607	H7651			H520

