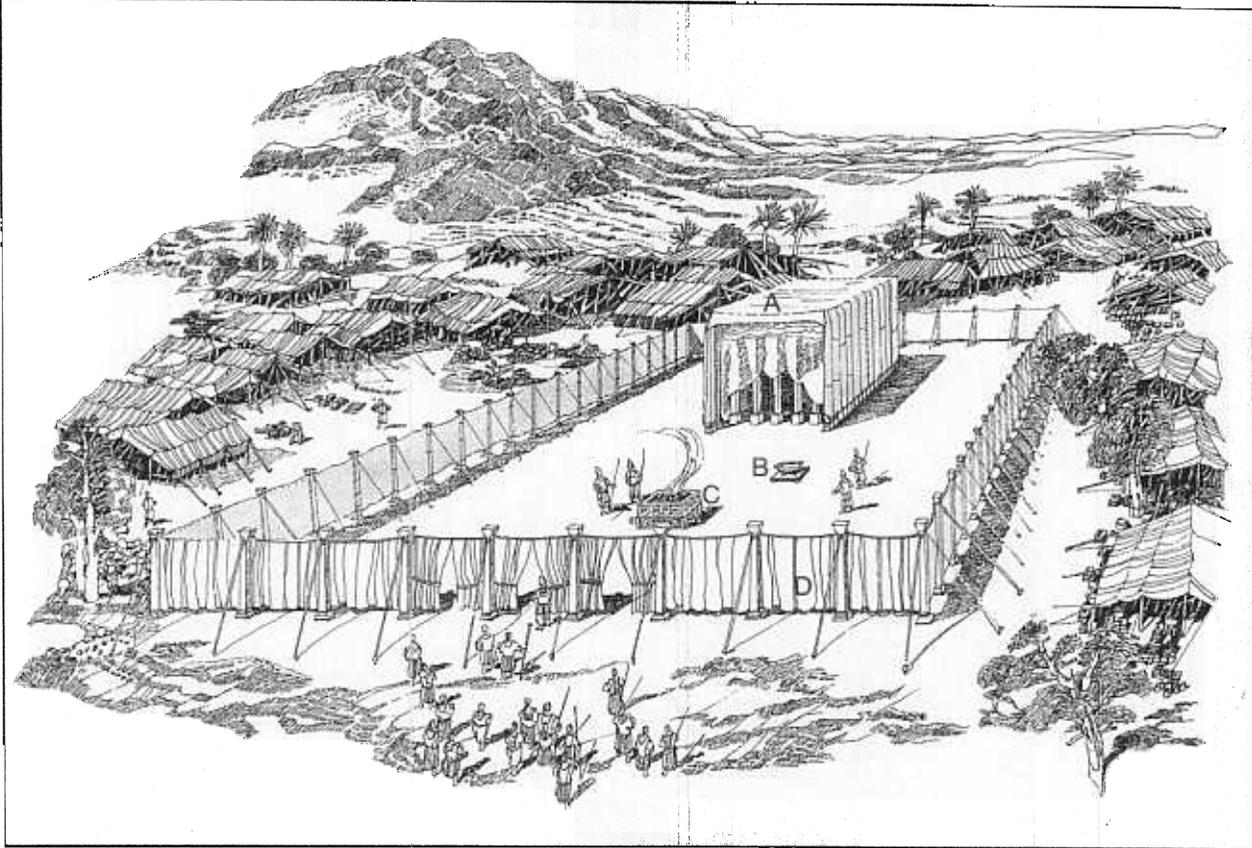


## 245 - sketch of tabernacle



So that the Lord "might dwell in their midst," he gave Moses detailed instructions as to how the Israelites should build him a portable sanctuary. After three months the structure was finished. The heart of the sanctuary was the tabernacle (A) which housed the ark of the covenant, a chest containing the stone tablets of the law. Directly in front of the tabernacle was a bronze laver (B) for priests' ablutions during the ceremonies. Next came the altar (C) for burnt offerings. Linen curtains (D) on poles formed the courtyard.

thy servant?" he asked. "And why have I not found favor in thy sight, that thou dost lay the burden of all this people upon me? . . . I am not able to carry all this people alone, the burden is too heavy for me. If thou wilt deal thus with me, kill me at once, if I find favor in thy sight, that I may not see my wretchedness."

And the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel . . . and bring them to the tent of meeting . . . and I will take some of the spirit which is upon you and put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone. And say to the people, 'Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow, and you shall eat meat . . . the Lord will give you meat, and you shall eat. You shall not eat one day, or two days, or five days, or ten days, or twenty days, but a whole month, until it comes out at your nostrils and be-

comes loathsome to you, because you have rejected the Lord . . . and have wept before him, saying, 'Why did we come forth out of Egypt?'"

The Lord soon made good his promise: "And there went forth a wind . . . and it brought quails from the sea, and let them fall beside the camp . . . And the people rose all that day, and all night, and all the next day, and gathered the quails . . ." Soon they had had their fill.

### Spies in Canaan

At last the caravan reached the edge of the wilderness and stopped to rest at Kadesh-barnea, a large oasis just north of Paran. Here they were only 50 miles away from the southern border of Canaan, so Moses chose 12 spies to gather information about the land, its people and its defenses. One of them was Joshua.