

Father Hubert Linckens MSC
The pattern on the mountain (1)

In Holy Scripture everything that has reference to the divine worship of the Israelites is described with the greatest exactness; God let Moses see a pattern of the tent that was to be built and said to him, "See that you make it according to the pattern shown you on the mountain" (*Ex 25: 40*).

According to St. Paul (*Heb 8*) the divine worship of the New Testament is prefigured, as in a shadow, by that of the Israelites. Now this shadow has disappeared before the reality; the shadow was material and exterior; *the reality is spiritual and interior*. . . In the New Covenant the pattern for our divine services is shown — not in a short passing vision as in the case of Moses when he was to build the tabernacle for the Lord — but in the everlasting example of our divine Saviour. As the pattern of the tabernacle was shown to Moses on the mountain, so our pattern is shown to us on Mt. Golgatha at that moment when the new covenant was sealed by the sacrifice on the Cross through the piercing of the Heart of Jesus. To this mountain, to this pattern of our Redeemer we must raise our eyes: "See that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain" (*Heb 8: 5*).

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