

Preaching Through the Tabernacle

**Sermons Preached
by Dave Lueloff**

Introduction to the Tabernacle

[Fri] **skhnh**, , h/j, h` tent, booth; (1) generally - of movable lodging places for nomads, pilgrims, herdsmen, soldiers (2) the portable divine sanctuary; (3) as referring to the temple in Jerusalem; (4) referring to the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies; (5) figuratively, of the heavenly *dwelling place* of God, *sanctuary*

The Tabernacle was a temporary dwelling place that was replaced with the permanent Temple. This word, *tabernacle* may refer many things, but we as humans often will think of it in terms of a temporary dwelling place on earth. Here are some of what the Bible teaches on this word:

- There is a Tabernacle in heaven

Heb. 8:2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

When did the Lord “pitch” this “true tabernacle?” **Genesis 1:1** “In the beginning God **created the heaven** and the earth.” This true tabernacle is a permanent dwelling place in the heavens. All tabernacles on this earth are temporary.

Rev. 15:5 ...I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened:

- There will be an eternal dwelling place – in heaven

Rev 21:3 ...Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.

Eze. 37:27 My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Revelation 22:3 ...but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

Revelation 22:5 And there shall be no night there...and they shall reign for ever and ever.

- The earthly Tabernacle was made after the pattern of the “True Tabernacle”

Hebrews 8:5 Who serve unto the **example and shadow of heavenly things**, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, *that* thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

- Our home on earth is our temporary dwelling place / our *tabernacle*

Hebrews 11:9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as *in* a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

2 Peter 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

Your home, your city, your state and your country will all burn up. Now that is temporal!

- On earth, our body is a tabernacle, a temporary dwelling place

2 Peter 1:13-14 Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting *you* in remembrance; Knowing that shortly I must put off *this* my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.

2 Corinthians 5:1-4 For we know that if our **earthly house of *this* tabernacle** were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be **clothed upon with our house which is from heaven**: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are **in *this* tabernacle do groan**, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.

- Christ's body was a different type of tabernacle than our body

Hebrews 9:11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

“Christ was not begotten by man, but was conceived in the womb of a virgin, under the power of the Holy Ghost; he came not into the world in the way of ordinary generation, but in a supernatural manner; and so his human body is a tabernacle, not of the common building, or creation, as the word may be rendered, as other human bodies are.” GILL COMMENTARY

Acts 2:31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, **neither his flesh did see corruption.**

Acts 13:37 But he, whom God raised again, **saw no corruption.**

The sinless Son of God did not see corruption – as His blood was untainted by sin. Thus, His body did not decay at death. The wages of sin is death. The sinless body of Jesus Christ did not decay, rot or corrupt in the grave. His *tabernacle* was *not of this building!*

Hebrews 7:26 For **such an high priest** became us, *who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;*

The Tabernacle

Location of the Tabernacle: It was central to their life. The Tabernacle was in midst of Israel.

Numbers 1:50 But thou shalt appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of testimony, and over all the vessels thereof, and over all things that *belong* to it: they shall bear the tabernacle, and all the vessels thereof; and they shall minister unto it, and shall encamp round about the tabernacle.

Numbers 2:2 Every man of the children of Israel shall pitch by his own standard, with the ensign of their father's house: far off about the tabernacle of the congregation shall they pitch.

1. Geographical Event

Location of Tribes – formed a cross

Numbers 2:3 And **on the east side** toward the rising of the sun shall they of the standard of the camp of **Judah...** **Numbers 2:9** All that were numbered in the camp of Judah *were* an hundred thousand and fourscore thousand and six thousand and four hundred... **186,400**

Numbers 2:10 **On the south side...**the camp of **Reuben...****Numbers 2:16** All that were numbered in the camp of Reuben *were* an hundred thousand and fifty and one thousand and four hundred and fifty... **151,450**

Numbers 2:18 **On the west side shall be...**the camp of **Ephraim...** **Numbers 2:24** All that were numbered of the camp of Ephraim *were* an hundred thousand and eight thousand and an hundred... **108,100**

Numbers 2:25...the camp of **Dan shall be on the north side...** **Numbers 2:31** All they that were numbered ... of Dan *were* an hundred thousand and fifty and seven thousand and six hundred... **157,600**

Location of Furniture – formed a cross The Tabernacle pictured the cross – the central theme of Bible

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

Galatians 6:14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

The Brazen Altar, Laver, Table of Shewbread, Candlestick, Golden Altar of Incense, Ark & Mercy Seat...

2. Historical Event

Exodus 12:13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye *are*: and **when I see the blood, I will pass over you**, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy *you*, when I smite the land of Egypt.

1 Corinthians 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even **Christ our passover is sacrificed** for us:

Hebrews 10:11-12 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after **he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever**, sat down on the right hand of God;

3. Prophetical Event

John 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, **Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.**

Isaiah 53:5-7 But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the **LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all**. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: **he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter**, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

Acts 8:32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, **He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer**, so opened he not his mouth:

Acts 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and **began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus**.

Revelation 5:9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book...and hast **redeemed us to God by thy blood** out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

4. Overall Writings from the One True God

66 Books / 40 Authors / Written on 3 Continents / 1 Central Them - The Lamb of God who shed Blood

Romans 3:25 Whom God hath set forth *to be* a **propitiation** through **faith in his blood**, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

1 John 2:2 And he is the **propitiation for our sins**: and not for ours only, but **also for *the sins of the whole world***.

1 John 4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and **sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins**. (Propitiation = God is satisfied – His wrath is appeased)

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is **none other name under heaven** given among men, whereby we must be saved.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way**, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Amos 4:12 Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: *and* because I will do this unto thee, **prepare to meet thy God**, O Israel.

The Tabernacle – Three Entrances

The Tabernacle had three entrances. The Gate was the entrance to the Court; the Door was the entrance to the Holy Place; and the Veil was the entrance to the Holy of Holies.

➤ **The Gate** Exo. 27:16-17; 38:14-20

The gate gave access to the Brazen Altar and the Laver. (Salvation)

The Brazen Altar speaks of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. It was the very first piece of furniture that one saw and it was the largest piece of furniture.

Hebrews 10:12 But **this man**, after he had offered **one sacrifice** for sins for ever, sat down...

The Laver spoke of cleansing – no dimensions were given.

Ephesians 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the **washing of water by the word**,

➤ **The Door** Exo. 26:36-37; 36:37-38 (Worship)

The door gave access to the Table of Shewbread, the Candlestick and the Golden Altar of Incense.

The shewbread speaks of fellowship with the *Bread of Life*.

John 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger...

1 John 1:3 ...truly our fellowship *is* with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

The Candlestick speaks of our service thru the local church as the light to the world.

Revelation 1:20 ...and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world...

Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

The Golden Altar of Incense speaks of our prayers ascending up to heaven in worship.

Revelation 8:3-4 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, *which came* with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

➤ **The Veil**

Exo. 26:31-35; 36:35-36

(Presence of God)

We are to:

2 Peter 3:18 But **grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.**

Hebrews 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, **let us go on unto perfection...**

Exodus 14:15 And the LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they **go forward**:

Let us move forward -- from the court (salvation) to the Holy Place (worship) to the Holy of Holies (presence of God).

Access to the very presence of God is given by the broken body and shed blood of Jesus Christ

Matthew 27:50-52 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the **veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom**; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose,

Hebrews 10:19-20 Having therefore, brethren, **boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus**, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, **through the veil, that is to say, his flesh**;

1 Corinthians 11:24 And when he had given thanks, he brake *it*, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

It is **the place** to find **MERCY & GRACE TO HELP IN TIME OF NEED** – 2 things we all need!

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore **come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.**

Location of Door Only one door – the door of the Tabernacle – to approach God for sin

Leviticus 19:21-22 And he shall bring his trespass offering unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, *even* a ram for a trespass offering. And the priest shall make an atonement for him with the ram of the trespass offering before the LORD for his sin which he hath done: and the sin which he hath done shall be forgiven him.

John 10:1; 10:9; 14:6; Acts 4:12

The only place to worship God with their sacrifice – The Tabernacle

Leviticus 17:3-5 What man soever *there be* of the house of Israel, that killeth an ox, or lamb, or goat, in the camp, or that killeth *it* out of the camp, And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer an offering unto the LORD before the tabernacle of the LORD; blood shall be imputed unto that man; he hath shed blood; and that man shall be cut off from among his people: To

the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices, which they offer in the open field, even that they may bring them unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation...

1 Timothy 3:15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

God's work done in God's way is key to a life that will withstand the Judgment Seat of Christ.

The Brazen Altar

The Brazen Altar looked like a large brass fire pit. The fire on the bottom of this altar never goes out.

- It was the first piece and the largest piece of furniture in the Tabernacle

Exodus 27:1 And thou shalt make an altar *of* shittim wood, five cubits long, and five cubits broad; the altar shall be foursquare: and the height thereof *shall be* three cubits.

- It was a place of sacrifice

Exodus 29:16-18 And thou shalt slay the ram, and thou shalt take his blood, and sprinkle *it* round about upon the altar. And thou shalt cut the ram in pieces, and wash the inwards of him, and his legs, and put *them* unto his pieces, and unto his head. And thou shalt burn the whole ram upon the altar: *it is* a burnt offering unto the LORD: *it is* a sweet savour, an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

- All were required to bring a sacrifice

If one was wealthy, a young bull would be offered. If not wealthy, one would bring a lamb or a goat. If poor, a turtledove or pigeon would be offered.

- The sacrifice was to be killed

The priest would take and hold the animal while the offerer would kill it. Then they would place their hands on the animal's head and confess their sins to God, asking for forgiveness. By putting the hands on the head of the animal, they were identifying themselves with the animal sacrifice. It is as if one would transfer the sin from the sinner to the animal. Thus, the animal became a substitute. The sacrificed animal would then be burnt on the Brazen Altar.

Christ, our substitute is also pictured in Genesis, chapter 22.

Genesis 22:7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here *am* I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where *is* the lamb for a burnt offering?

Genesis 22:8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

Genesis 22:13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind *him* a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

Hebrews 11:19 Accounting that God *was* able to raise *him* up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

We see the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ pictured on the Day of Atonement with the 2 goats.

Leviticus 16:15 Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering, that *is* for the people, and bring his blood within the veil, and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before the mercy seat:

Leviticus 16:21-22 And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send *him* away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness: And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness.

The O.T. is full of pictures of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

John 3:14 ...as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

1 Corinthians 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

1 Corinthians 10:4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

Acts 7:37 This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear.

The virgin birth is pictured by the supernatural birth of Isaac:

Romans 4:19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

Salvation is an inward identification, while baptism is an outward identification.

Romans 6:3-4 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

- When we trust Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, we are identifying ourselves with Him and He is our substitute

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

- Today, believers are to present themselves for a life of sacrifice.

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

The Laver

Exodus 30:18 Thou shalt also make a laver *of* brass, and his foot *also of* brass, to wash *withal*: and thou shalt put it between the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar, and thou shalt put water therein.

Exodus 38:8 And he made the laver *of* brass, and the foot of it *of* brass, of the lookingglasses of *the women* assembling, which assembled *at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

- **Purpose of Laver – To Wash** **Exo. 30:18**
- **What it Contained – Water** **Exo. 30:18**
- **What it was Made of – Lookingglasses of the Women** **Exo. 38:8**
- **The Size – None Given**

What it was made of – Lookingglasses of the Women

Women gave up their mirrors – it was an act of self-denial. Self is a hindrance to serving God.

Luke 9:23 any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

Luke 14:26 If any *man* come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:33 ...whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

Romans 8:13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

1 Peter 4:2 That he no longer should live the rest of *his* time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

What it contained – Water

The Word of God is likened to water:

Ephesians 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

John 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

We are commanded to study it with the view of us standing before the Judge of all the earth:

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

“*Study*” is the verb and “*YOU*” is the subject. You are to study....

To Wash Our physical body needs daily cleansing; so does our spiritual life

John 15:3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

After salvation (Brazen Altar), the Christian will have a natural hunger for the Word of God.

1 Peter 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

Matthew 5:6 Blessed *are* they which do **hunger and thirst after righteousness**: for they shall be filled.

Psalms 1:2 But **his delight is** in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

The Word of God changes us – little by little

1 Thessalonians 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which **effectually worketh also in you** that believe.

It exposes us, gives us doctrine, shows us our sin and encourages us

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, **piercing even** to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a **discerner** of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and **is profitable for** doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

This change sanctifies a person – sets them apart to serve God

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

The longest chapter in the Bible is Ps. 119. We are sinners and are defiled via walking on earth. Our feet are “washed” with the Word of God.

John 13:5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel wherewith he was girded.

The purpose of the Laver – to wash. The Bible is not written to tantalize our intellect, but to change our lives. If you are not changing, then you are not growing.

As we obey the Word of God, we are changed. **A good memory verse is Ps. 139:23-24.**

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as by the Spirit of the Lord.

We need to re-commit our lives to reading, studying, and obeying the Bible.

Would you commit to daily cleansing via Bible reading?

The Table of Shewbread

The Brazen Altar – Sacrifice / Salvation

Laver – Water Cleanses / Word of God Cleanses Us
Made of Lookingglasses – Self Denial

Table of Shewbread – Fellowship

The first two pieces of furniture pictures us dealing with our sin. Entrance through the gate pictured salvation; through the door pictured service and through the veil pictured the presence of God.

Leviticus 24:5-9 And thou shalt take fine flour, and bake **twelve cakes** thereof: two tenth deals shall be in one cake. And thou shalt set them in **two rows, six on a row, upon the pure table before the LORD**. And thou shalt put pure frankincense upon *each* row, that it may be on the bread for a memorial, *even* an offering made by fire unto the LORD. **Every sabbath he shall set it in order before the LORD continually, being taken** from the children of Israel by an everlasting covenant. And it shall be Aaron's and his sons'; and **they shall eat it in the holy place**: for it *is* most holy unto him of the offerings of the LORD made by fire by a perpetual statute.

This table contained 12 loaves which were renewed each Sabbath Day. The priests ate them in the holy place and they served as a thank-offering to God for the blessings of life and sustenance which they received from Him.

The Table of Shewbread pictures the positive aspect of the Christian life – fellowship.

Exodus 25:30 And thou shalt set upon the table shewbread before me alway.

Exodus 35:13 The table, and his staves, and all his vessels, and the shewbread,

Exodus 39:36 The table, *and* all the vessels thereof, and the shewbread,

Fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ – the Living Word

John 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

John 6:51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

1 John 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Psalms 34:8 O taste and see that the LORD *is* good: blessed *is* the man *that* trusteth in him.

Acts 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Acts 2:46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

Just as we receive bread to feed our physical body; so also we need the Bread of Life for our soul.

Fellowship with the Word of God – the Written Word

1 Peter 2:2-3 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

Psalms 119:103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! *yea, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!

Hebrews 6:4-5 For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

Hebrews 5:14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, *even* those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Luke 4:4 ...It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.

Luke 11:3 Give us day by day our daily bread.

The Word of God feeds our spiritual life.

Fellowship was to be a Constant Throughout the Day

Exodus 25:30 And thou shalt set upon the table shewbread before me alway.

Micah 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what *is* good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Psalms 55:17 Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

Daniel 6:10 ...he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

Genesis 6:9 ...Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God.

Psalms 1:2 But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

We eat everyday – sometimes, “all day, every day....”

The Purpose of Fellowship – To Do... All

Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, **that thou mayest observe to do according to all** that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

The purpose of eating food & partaking of the Bread of Life – health / sustenance / vitality

The Candlestick

Text: Exo. 25:31-39; 37:17-24

SALVATION:

The Brazen Altar – Sacrifice / Salvation

Laver – Water Cleanses / Word of God Cleanses Us

SERVICE:

Table of Shewbread – Fellowship

Candlestick – Light to the World

The first two pieces of furniture pictures us dealing with our sin. Entrance through the gate pictured salvation; through the door pictured service and through the veil pictured the presence of God.

Though the holy of holies was always dark, unless when lighted by the glory of God, the holy place, in which many of the priests' functions were to be performed, was to be always kept light. In the day-time sufficient light entered from the porch in front; but, as evening drew on, some artificial illumination was required...PULPIT HELPS

This world lies in darkness. Jesus is the Light of the world.

John 1:9 *That* was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

2 Corinthians 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

The Candlestick – Serving the Lord thru the church, the Candlestick. Put your light on a candlestick.

Matthew 5:14-15 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world...

John 12:46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world....

Revelation 1:13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks *one* like unto the Son of man...

Revelation 1:20 ...and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

The 7 lamps of the candlestick were of one beaten work. Church & Christ are one flesh.

Ephesians 5:30-32 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

The purpose of the Candlestick is to give light.

John 1:9 *That* was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

It is not about us – we are to point to the True Light

John 1:7-8 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all *men* through him might believe. He was not that Light, but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light.

That which is of God is Light.

Jesus is the true Light; the Word of God is Light; the Holy Spirit illuminates....

2 Peter 1:19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

1 John 1:5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

John 3:19-21 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

Paul's Salvation – He saw the Light

Acts 9:3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

Acts 22:6 And it came to pass, that, as I made my journey, and was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light round about me.

Acts 26:13 At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me.

Colossians 1:13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:

Paul's Mission – to spread the Light

Acts 26:17-18 Delivering thee from the people, and *from* the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, To open their eyes, *and* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

2 Corinthians 4:6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 2:15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

1 Peter 2:9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Sin needs to be confessed just like the dross removed from the wicks of the candlestick:

Exodus 25:38 And the tongs thereof, and the snuffdishes thereof, *shall be of* pure gold.

The tongs - Used to trim and adjust the wicks. The snuff-dishes were shallow vessels used to receive the burnt fragments of wick removed by the tongs. BARNES

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Romans 13:12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

Ephesians 5:8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

The Rapture

1 Thessalonians 5:4-5 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

1 Thessalonians 5:9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

Do you love the brethren?

1 John 2:10-11 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

Eternity

Revelation 21:23-24 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

Revelation 22:5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

Golden Altar of Incense

Text: Exo. 30:1-10

SALVATION – IN THE OUTER COURT

The Brazen Altar – Sacrifice / Salvation

Laver – Water Cleanses / Word of God Cleanses Us

SERVICE – IN THE HOLY PLACE

Table of Shewbread – Fellowship

Candlestick – Light to the World

Golden Altar of Incense – Prayers of the Saints

There is a progression here – from the Brazen Altar to the Golden Altar...

2 Peter 3:18 But grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen.

Exodus 40:26-27 And he put the **golden altar** in the tent of the congregation before the vail: And he **burnt sweet incense thereon**; as the LORD commanded Moses.

“Where so many sacrifices were offered, it was essentially necessary to have some pleasing perfume to counteract the disagreeable smells that must have arisen from the slaughter of so many animals, the burning of so much flesh, the sprinkling of the blood. The incense was burnt on it every day, as the morning and evening sacrifice of a lamb was burnt on the brazen altar.” TREASURY OF SCRIPTURE KNOWLEDGE

Description – size, material and location

Exodus 30:2-6 A cubit **shall be** the length thereof, and a cubit the breadth thereof; foursquare shall it be: and two cubits **shall be** the height thereof: the horns thereof **shall be** of the same. And thou shalt **overlay it with pure gold**, the top thereof, and the sides thereof round about, and the horns thereof; and thou shalt make unto it a **crown of gold round about**. And **two golden rings** shalt thou make to it

under the crown of it, by the two corners thereof, upon the two sides of it shalt thou make *it*; and they shall be for **places for the staves** to bear it withal. And thou shalt make the **staves of shittim wood, and overlay them with gold**. And thou shalt **put it before the veil** that *is* by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy seat that *is* over the testimony, where I will meet with thee.

Purpose

Exodus 30:1 And thou shalt make an altar to burn incense upon: *of* shittim wood shalt thou make it.

Exodus 30:7-8 And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense every morning: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it. And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations.

The Blood & the Golden Altar of Incense

Leviticus 4:7 And the priest shall put *some* of the blood upon the horns of the altar of sweet incense before the LORD, which *is* in the tabernacle of the congregation; and shall pour all the blood of the bullock at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering, which *is at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Leviticus 4:18 And he shall put *some* of the blood upon the horns of the altar which *is* before the LORD, that *is* in the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall pour out all the blood at the bottom of the altar of the burnt offering, which *is at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Exodus 30:10 And Aaron shall make an atonement upon the horns of it once in a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonements: once in the year shall he make atonement upon it throughout your generations: it *is* most holy unto the LORD.

Leviticus 16:18-19 And he shall go out unto the altar that *is* before the LORD, and make an atonement for it; and shall take of the blood of the bullock, and of the blood of the goat, and put *it* upon the horns of the altar round about. And he shall sprinkle of the blood upon it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it, and hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

The Incense & the Golden Altar

Leviticus 16:12 And he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from off the altar before the LORD, and his hands full of sweet incense beaten small, and bring *it* within the veil:

The censers in use at the time of the construction of this altar and after were in shape like a spoon or ladle, which, when filled with live coals from the great altar, were carried within the sanctuary and laid upon the altar of incense. The incense-sticks, broken small, were then placed upon the coals.

The incense from this golden altar pictures the prayers of the saints

Luke 1:9-10 According to the custom of the priest's office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense.

The Application – our prayers ascend into the nostrils of God

Revelation 8:3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

Psalms 141:2 Let my prayer be set forth before thee *as* incense; *and* the lifting up of my hands *as* the evening sacrifice.

We are never worthy. The closer you get to God, the more sinful we truly are.

Job 40:4 Behold, I am vile; what shall I answer thee? I will lay mine hand upon my mouth.

We pray to God not based upon our merit; but based upon His blood.

1 John 2:2 And **he is the propitiation for our sins**: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world*.

His blood satisfies the wrath of God. We are never worthy – ever.

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest **by the blood of Jesus**,

John 14:13-14 And whatsoever ye shall **ask in my name**, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall **ask any thing in my name**, I will do *it*.

If you think you are worthy; you have a small view of the holiness of God.

Isaiah 6:1-3 ...I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of his glory.

Isaiah 6:5 Then said I, Woe *is* me! for I am undone; because I *am* a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.

If you think you are unworthy; you have a small view of 'how God views you.'

Romans 4:8 Blessed *is* the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

We need to accept how God views us; confess our sin; and pray.

Philippians 4:6-7 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are* pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things.

How God views our prayers

Proverbs 15:8 ...but the prayer of the upright *is* his delight.

This is not a license to live like the world all week, and then pray; but rather an honest assessment of our standing before God. We plead with Him to hear us:

Psalms 17:1 A Prayer of David. Hear the right, O LORD, attend unto my cry, **give ear unto my prayer, that goeth** not out of feigned lips.

The Veil

- The veil covered the glory of God. The veil contained the glory of God.

Exodus 40:21 And he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the vail of the covering, and covered the ark of the testimony; as the LORD commanded Moses.

- The veil separated the glory of God from sinful man

Exodus 26:33 And thou shalt hang up the vail under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the vail the ark of the testimony: and the vail shall divide unto you between the holy *place* and the most holy.

- When the veil was rent in twain, access to God was available to all.

Matthew 27:51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; (Also Mark 15:38, Luke 23:45)

- Christ' flesh is called *the veil*.

Hebrews 10:19-20 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

HENCE

- Christ's flesh contained the glory of God.

Colossians 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

Matthew 17:1-5 ...Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light...While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

- When Christ's flesh was *rent in twain*, access to a holy God was available to all thru the Blood of Jesus Christ. His body was broken.

Matthew 26:26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

1 John 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world*.

1 John 4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

Romans 3:25 Whom God hath set forth *to be* a **propitiation** through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

[Fri] **i`lasth, rioj**, the means by which sins are forgiven *having atoning power, bringing about reconciliation; means of forgiveness (RO 3.25); place where God forgives sins, often translated mercy seat (HE 9.5)*

- The end result – a holy God is SATISFIED. A sinner is made righteous, justified and sanctified by the blood of Jesus Christ.

It is the incorruptible Blood of Jesus Christ placed on the mercy seat in heaven that satisfies a Holy God. The throne of God, which is a throne of Judgment, becomes a throne of Grace to the one that is justified by His blood.

1 Peter 1:18-19 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were **not redeemed with corruptible things**, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; **But with the precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

Hebrews 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but **by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place**, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*.

Hebrews 9:24 For **Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands**, *which are the figures of the true*; **but into heaven itself**, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore **come boldly unto the throne of grace**, that we may **obtain mercy**, and find **grace to help** in time of need.

Romans 5:9 Much more then, being now **justified by his blood**, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Ephesians 1:7 In whom we have **redemption through his blood**, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Colossians 1:14 In whom we have redemption through **his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:**

Hebrews 9:22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and **without shedding of blood is no remission.**

Hebrews 10:4 For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

Hebrews 10:12 But this man, after he had offered **one sacrifice for sins for ever**, sat down on the right hand of God;

Hebrews 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the **blood of the everlasting covenant**,

Hebrews 10:14 For by one offering he hath **perfected for ever** them that are sanctified.

Revelation 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and **washed us from our sins in his own blood**,

Revelation 5:9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast **redeemed us to God by thy blood** out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

Revelation 7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have **washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

Are you washed in the Blood of the Lamb?

The Ark

Text: Exo 25:10-16

“The ark is called the ark of the testimony, the ark of the covenant, the ark of the Lord, the ark of God, the ark of the strength of the Lord, and the holy ark. It was the central point of the sanctuary and designed to contain the testimony, that is, the tables of the divine law, the terms of the covenant between Yahweh and His people: and it was to support the mercy-seat with its cherubim, from between which He was to hold communion with them.” BARNES NOTES

It was about 3 ft. 9 in. long, 2 ft. 3 in. wide, and 2 ft. 3 in. deep.

➤ **Materials of the Ark**

Exodus 25:10-11 And they shall make an **ark of shittim wood**: two cubits and a half *shall be* the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof. And thou shalt **overlay it with pure gold**, within and without shalt thou overlay it, and shalt make upon it a crown of gold round about.

All of shittim wood / all of gold. It is made of two materials that were 100% of each. The ark is made of shittim wood and the ark is made of gold. Both of these statements are true.

Even so, Christ is 100% God and 100% man.

Philippians 2:6-8 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

All God – 100%

Colossians 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

All Man – 100%

1 Peter 4:1 Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh...

Isaiah 53:10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief...

➤ **The Ark Contained the Law**

Exodus 25:16 And thou shalt put into the ark the testimony which I shall give thee.

Deuteronomy 10:2 And I will write on the tables the words that were in the first tables which thou brakest, and thou shalt put them in the ark.

Jesus fulfilled the law –

1 Peter 2:22 **Who did no sin**, neither was guile found in his mouth:

1 John 3:5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and **in him is no sin**.

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, **who knew no sin...**

➤ **Follow the Ark**

Joshua 3:3 And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it.

Joshua 3:11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth passeth over before you into Jordan.

In the account of the solemn march around Jericho, which according to [Jos 6](#) caused the walls of the city to fall, the carrying of the ark around the city is regarded as an essential feature in [Jos 6:4,7,11](#).

Genesis 6:9 These *are* the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God.

Micah 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what *is* good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Bring the Ark Back for Divine Help

1 Samuel 4:4-5 So the people sent to Shiloh, that they might bring from thence the ark of the covenant of the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth *between* the cherubims: and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, *were* there with the ark of the covenant of God. And when the ark of the covenant of the LORD came into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth rang again.

Hosea 6:1 Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

When ark was taken, the glory of the Lord had departed

1 Samuel 4:21-22 And she named the child Ichabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel: because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband. And she said, The glory is departed from Israel: for the ark of God is taken.

Luke 14:34-35 Salt *is* good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; *but* men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

➤ **The Ark was the God of gods**

1 Samuel 5:1-4 And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it from Ebenezer unto Ashdod. When the Philistines took the ark of God, they brought it into the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon. And when they of Ashdod arose early on the morrow, behold, Dagon *was* fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark of the LORD. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again. And when they arose early on the morrow morning, behold, Dagon *was* fallen upon his face to the ground before the ark of the LORD; and the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands *were* cut off upon the threshold; only *the stump of* Dagon was left to him.

➤ **Don't Touch the Ark – holy holy holy...**

1 Chronicles 13:9-10 And when they came unto the threshingfloor of Chidon, Uzza put forth his hand to hold the ark; for the oxen stumbled. And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzza, and he smote him, because he put his hand to the ark: and there he died before God.

1 Chronicles 15:15 And the children of the Levites bare the ark of God upon their shoulders with the staves thereon, as Moses commanded according to the word of the LORD.

➤ **Don't Look into the Ark – holy holy holy...**

1 Samuel 6:19-20 And he smote the men of Bethshemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the LORD, even he smote of the people fifty thousand and threescore and ten men: and the people lamented, because the LORD had smitten *many* of the people with a great slaughter. And the men of Bethshemesh said, Who is able to stand before this holy LORD God? and to whom shall he go up from us?

We can take the holy things of God for granted – Holy Scriptures, Holy Spirit, Salvation, Holy Living...

Hebrews 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

➤ **The Staves were left in for transportation of the Ark**

The staves were to remain in the ark for transportation. The Levites were to carry the ark via the staves. It was a burden for the Levites to transport the ark upon their shoulders.

Every life has a burden – the Levites were called to minister about the holy things; yet they too had a burden upon their shoulder.

Lamentations 3:27 *It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.*

Matthew 11:29-30 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light.

Sin has a yoke:

Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Proverbs 13:15 Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors *is* hard.

➤ **The Staves were taken out – the ark was in its permanent location**

2 Chronicles 5:7-9 And the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD unto his place, to the oracle of the house, into the most holy *place, even* under the wings of the cherubims: For the cherubims spread forth *their* wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubims covered the ark and the staves thereof above. And they drew out the staves *of the ark*, that the ends of the staves were seen from the ark before the oracle; but they were not seen without. And there it is unto this day.

➤ **Even so, Christ rested and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

Even as the staves were taken out when the ark found its permanent location in the Temple, so Christ has seated at the right hand of the Father.

Authority of Jesus Christ

Ephesians 1:20-21 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

1 Peter 3:22 Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

Acts 2:34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand,

He is worthy to sit there – as He paid for our sins

Hebrews 1:3 Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Hebrews 10:12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

John 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

What He is doing

Romans 8:34 Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Reality of it in relation to our life

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

‘Follow the Ark’ -- 16 times Jesus said, “Follow Me”

The Mercy Seat

Text: Exo. 25:17-22 The Mercy Seat was a lid / a covering for the Ark

Exodus 25:21 And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee.

Last week – the Ark was a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Mercy Seat was the “Lid” to the Ark. It was located within the veil. Again – a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Exodus 30:6 And thou shalt put it before the vail that *is* by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy seat that *is* over the testimony, where I will meet with thee.

Hebrews 10:20 By a new and living way... through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

The Mercy Seat was where God would meet with man

Exodus 25:22 And **there I will meet with thee**, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which *are* upon the ark of the testimony, of all *things* which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.

We meet God on His terms – at the Mercy Seat where the Blood was placed.

Leviticus 16:14-15 And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle *it* with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven

times. Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering, that *is* for the people, and bring his blood within the vail, and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before the mercy seat:

The Cherubim overshadowed the Mercy Seat

Exodus 25:20 And the cherubims shall stretch forth *their* wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and their faces *shall look* one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubims be.

Hebrews 9:5 And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly.

There is a Mercy Seat in Heaven – Jesus placed His own Blood upon it

Hebrews 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*.

Hebrews 9:24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, *which are* the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

The Mercy Seat on earth teaches us about the Mercy Seat in heaven

Exodus 25:22 And **there I will meet with thee**, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which *are* upon the ark of the testimony, of all *things* which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.

You find mercy at the Throne of God – the Blood of Jesus Christ --- it is a Throne to obtain mercy

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore **come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy**, and find grace to help in time of need.

Mercy defined by Webster – it is indescribable:

“That benevolence, mildness or tenderness of heart which disposes a person to overlook injuries, or to treat an offender better than he deserves;

The disposition that tempers justice, and induces an injured person to forgive trespasses and injuries, and to forbear punishment, or inflict less than law or justice will warrant.

In this sense, **there is perhaps no word in our language precisely synonymous with mercy**. That which comes nearest to it is grace.

It implies benevolence, tenderness, mildness, pity or compassion, and clemency, but exercised only towards offenders. **Mercy is a distinguishing attribute of the Supreme Being.**”

Ephesians 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Paul is our example of mercy

1 Timothy 1:13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief.

1 Timothy 1:16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

The English word *propitiation* is actually the Greek word *Mercyseat!*

Romans 3:25 Whom God hath set forth *to be* a **propitiation through faith in his blood**, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

i`lasth, rioj, with focus on the means by which sins are forgiven *having atoning power, bringing about reconciliation; means of forgiveness; place of forgiveness, place where God forgives sins*, often translated *mercy seat*

*“And **he is** the **propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.**”*

1 John 2:2

The Distraction

The LORD called Moses up to Mount Sinai. Read Exo. 24:12-18. The children of Israel become impatient.

Exo. 32:1 And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for *as for* this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

Aaron leads them as they build the golden calf.

Exo. 32:4 And he received *them* at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These *be* thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

Exo. 32:8 They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These *be* thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

The LORD is angry

Exo. 32:10 Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation.

Moses tries to soothe the wrath of God as he pleads with the LORD. (Exo. 32:11-14)

Moses sees the situation first-hand and he is angry. (Exo. 32:19).

Exo. 32:20 And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt *it* in the fire, and ground *it* to powder, and strawed *it* upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink *of it*.

Aaron lies and tries to blame the idolatry on the people.

Exo. 32:24 And I said unto them, Whosoever hath any gold, let them break *it* off. So they gave *it* me: then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf.

There are two lessons gleaned from this event.

1) Expect distractions – we deal with humans / we wrestle against demonic spirits

1 John 5:19 *And* we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

Mary is worshipping Jesus and Judas criticizes her. Read John 12:3-8.

Paul goes on his first missionary journey and is stoned and left for dead. Read Acts 14:19-21.

1 Corinthians 16:9 For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and *there are* many adversaries.

2 Thessalonians 1:4 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure:

2) Anger is a human emotion.

Both the LORD and Moses got angry.

- Anger must be kept under control – out of control anger is sin.

Proverbs 16:32 *He that is* slow to anger *is* better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

Ephesians 4:26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

Proverbs 25:28 He that *hath* no rule over his own spirit *is like* a city *that is* broken down, *and* without walls.

Proverbs 21:19 *It is* better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman.

Proverbs 29:22 An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression.

Colossians 3:21 Fathers, provoke not your children *to anger*, lest they be discouraged.

Titus 1:7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

- Anger is ok if there is a legitimate reason.

Matthew 5:22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

Matthew 21:12-13 And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves, And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

John 2:13-17 And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise. And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.

Matthew 3:7-9 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to *our* father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

- There may be a fine line between proper anger and improper anger

Humans have emotions. We should have pathos in life. We should be passionate about that which matters.

Isaiah 59:17 For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance *for* clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke.

1 Samuel 11:1-3 ...all the men of Jabesh said unto Nahash, Make a covenant with us, and we will serve thee. And Nahash the Ammonite answered them, On this *condition* will I make *a covenant* with you, that I may thrust out all your right eyes, and lay it *for* a reproach upon all Israel. And the elders of Jabesh said unto him, Give us seven days' respite, that we may send messengers unto all the coasts of Israel: and then, if *there be* no man to save us, we will come out to thee.

Proper / Improper Anger:

Nehemiah 13:23-25 In those days also saw I Jews *that* had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, *and* of Moab: And their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people. And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, *saying*, Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves.

Nehemiah 13:31 And for the wood offering, at times appointed, and for the firstfruits. Remember me, O my God, for good.

Luke 9:54-56 And when his disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save *them*. And they went to another village.

- Anger for the wrong reason is sin.

Numbers 20:10-11 And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock? And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts *also*.

It is okay to get angry for the right reasons, but that anger must not become out-of-control. Don't spank your children when you are angry. Control your anger – you decide to contain it. Some will battle with this more than others.

The fruit of the Spirit is temperance. This means a self-control that makes a man *moderate* in all indulgences; teaches him to restrain his passions, and to govern himself.

Boards & Bars

Exodus 26:15-16 And thou shalt make **boards** for the tabernacle *of* shittim wood **standing up**. **Ten cubits shall be the length of a board, and a cubit and a half shall be the breadth** of one board.

Exodus 26:26-28 And thou shalt make **bars** *of* shittim wood; **five for the boards** of the one side of the tabernacle, And five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle, for the two sides westward. And **the middle bar** in the midst of the boards **shall reach from end to end**.

- The boards and the bars were literally the physical structure of the Tabernacle
Without the boards and the bars – there was no Tabernacle
- The boards and bars were fitly framed together
- The unity of them provided strength and support
- The boards were standing up side by side (Nehemiah)
- They were not seen from the outside – the emphasis was on the Shekinah Glory

➤ **The idea of boards and bars is from the Lord**

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Israel – light to the Gentiles / rejected their Messiah and God turned to the church – one body of both Jews and Gentiles. We have been grafted in – as Israel’s rejection produced the *church age*.

Romans 15:4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

➤ **The boards and the bars were literally the physical structure of the Tabernacle**

Without the boards and the bars – there was no Tabernacle (Draw picture of Boards & Bars)

The church is made up of people. Each one is needed to make up the body. A body with a missing part is handicapped. We need all of our parts – they make up the whole.

1 Corinthians 12:21-22 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary:

➤ **The boards and bars were fitly framed together**

1 Corinthians 12:14-17 For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body *were* an eye, where *were* the hearing? If the whole *were* hearing, where *were* the smelling?

➤ **The unity of them provided strength and support**

Ephesians 4:16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Strength given by 4’x8’ sheets nailed to walls and trusses form a tightly bound house frame. The boards and bars were fitly framed together – even so must the church be united.

Philippians 1:27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

Genesis 11:6 And the LORD said, Behold, the people *is* one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

Unity of purpose and vision gives the church strength.

➤ **The boards were standing up side by side (Nehemiah)**

Each part makes up the body as a whole.

1 Corinthians 12:18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

Each one doing their part for the Lord allows the work of God to be accomplished. See Nehemiah ch. 3

- **The boards and bars were not seen from the outside – emphasis was on the Shekinah Glory**
- Let the church be edified

1 Corinthians 14:5 I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater *is* he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

1 Corinthians 14:12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual *gifts*, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.

Ephesians 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Ephesians 4:16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

Most body parts are in the inside – unseen. The outer body parts get the glory, but the real work done is the heart, liver, kidneys, blood vessels....

1 Corinthians 12:24 For our comely *parts* have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that *part* which lacked:

1 Corinthians 12:21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.

The church needs each member, but the emphasis is not on us as individuals, but on the Lord and His work. Let God be magnified and glorified in the church.

- Let the church edify the Lord

Ephesians 3:21 Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Jude 1:25 To the only wise God our Saviour, *be* glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

- The key to success is that the Shekinah Glory dwelt there

Exodus 40:34-35 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

2 Chronicles 5:13-14 It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers *were* as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up *their* voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the LORD, *saying*, For *he is* good; for his mercy *endureth* for ever: that *then* the house was filled with a cloud, *even* the house of the LORD; So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.

Acts 2:1-2 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

The church needs to be a place where God speaks to your heart. That is the key to finding a good church – one that the Holy Spirit leads you to and He speaks to you thru the preaching and teaching of the Word of God.

Hebrews 4:12-13 For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things *are* naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

1 Corinthians 1:18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

Sockets of Silver

Exodus 26:19 And thou shalt make forty **sockets of silver under the twenty boards**; two sockets under one board for his two tenons, and two sockets under another board for his two tenons.

Under each of the boards were sockets of silver. The boards rested upon these sockets.

Exodus 38:26-27 A bekah for every man, *that is*, half a shekel, after the shekel of the sanctuary, for every one that went to be numbered, from twenty years old and upward, for six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty *men*. And **of the hundred talents of silver were cast the sockets** of the sanctuary, and the sockets of the vail; an hundred sockets of the hundred talents, **a talent for a socket**.

Read Exodus 30:12-16 When thou takest the sum of the children of Israel after their number, then shall they give every man a ransom for his soul unto the LORD, when thou numberest them; that there be no plague among them, when *thou* numberest them. This they shall give, every one that passeth among them that are numbered, **half a shekel** after the shekel of the sanctuary: (a shekel *is* twenty gerahs:) an half shekel *shall be* the offering of the LORD. Every one that passeth among them that are numbered, from twenty years old and above, shall give an offering unto the LORD. **The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less than half a shekel**, when *they* give an offering unto the LORD, to make an atonement for your souls. And thou shalt take **the atonement money** of the children of Israel, and shalt

appoint it for the service of the tabernacle of the congregation; that it may be a memorial unto the children of Israel before the LORD, to make an atonement for your souls.

The boards each had two tenons – like feet. Under each of these tenons –were sockets of silver. These were bases for support for which the boards stood upon. They each contained 100 talents of silver – approximately 80 pounds in weight. The silver, which was atonement money, was used to make these foundational plates.

Romans 5:11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

The blood of Jesus Christ is our atonement – to be specific, faith in the blood

Romans 3:25 Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Romans 15:4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

What are the lessons we are to glean from the sockets of silver? The boards standing upon a foundation made from the atonement money pictures the believer standing upon the atonement of Jesus Christ.

1. The sockets of silver were made from the atonement money:

➤ **Each one needed atonement money**

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

1 John 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world.

Moses and Aaron were to bring their half-shekel no less than the others; the priests had to make the offering, just the same as the *people in the pew*; the rulers, as much as the common people. The lesson taught was, that every soul was guilty before God—all unclean in his sight.

Romans 10:12-13 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

➤ **Atonement money was the same for all**

It is true to say that all men equally are guilty in God's sight; but it would not be true to say that all are equally guilty. Yet the same atonement was required of all. "The rich shall not give more, and the poor shall not give less." This marks that one and the same atonement is required, whatever be the degree of a man's guilt, whether he be a highly moral upstanding member of society or "the chief of sinners."

Hebrews 10:12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Atonement for them—puts them "at one" with the Father (or *reconciled*). We were once enemies with God are reconciled to God by Christ.

Romans 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

Colossians 1:21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

2. The sockets of silver were the foundation for the boards:

➤ It was the foundation of the boards

1 Cor. 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Cor. 3:12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

Salvation is the foundation we need. After salvation, we then build upon this – for rewards. Faith lives for the next life.

➤ It separated them from the desert sand

Galatians 1:4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

2 Timothy 2:19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

John 17:15-16 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

When Jesus washed the disciple's feet, He was teaching us that we get defiled by *just walking* on this earth. We need to daily cleanse ourselves.

➤ It was determined by God

Revelation 13:8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Acts 2:22-23 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also

know: Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

➤ **It provided means of solid support in an uneven world**

Matthew 7:24-25 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Our atonement of reconciliation puts us on solid ground. It is the foundation for a life of purpose. It separates us from the world and unites us with others who have this similar foundation.

1 John 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Psalms 133:1 A Song of degrees of David. Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* for brethren to dwell together in unity!

The Blood on the Mercy Seat

Exodus 26:30 And thou shalt rear up the tabernacle according to the fashion thereof which was shewed thee in the mount.

Leviticus 16:14-15 And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle *it* with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times. Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering, that *is* for the people, and bring his blood within the vail, and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before the mercy seat:

The O.T. sacrificial system pointed to the Lord Jesus Christ. The High Priests, the Tabernacle, the Mercy Seat, the Atoning Blood... all were fulfilled with the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on Passover.

It would make sense that the Lord Jesus Christ would save Israel on the Day of Atonement and step foot on earth on the Feast of Tabernacles. He fulfilled the Passover (His Blood), Unleavened Bread (His Body) and Firstfruits (His Resurrection).

1 Corinthians 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept.

The central theme of the book of Hebrews is *Jesus Christ, the once and for all sacrifice for sins.*

Hebrews 10:12 ...he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

Hebrews tells us that there is no longer a need for the Levitical system as Jesus Christ is a priest after the order of Melchizedek and the Aaronic priesthood is to be done away.

The instructions for the Tabernacle were given to rear it up. The purpose of the Tabernacle was in its sacrificial system laid out in the book of Leviticus. It all culminated on the Day of Atonement when Jehovah accepted the sin offering of the blood placed upon the Mercy Seat.

The High Priest had to follow specific instructions on the Day of Atonement to offer a sacrifice for the sins of the people.

Hebrews 9:6-7 Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service *of God*. But into the second *went* the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and *for* the errors of the people:

This atonement pictured the coming sacrifice of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ which was the complete and final sacrifice for sins.

Hebrews 9:11-12 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*.

Hebrews 10:11-12 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

The blood of Jesus Christ satisfied Holy Jehovah.

1 John 2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world.

As Jesus Christ was shedding His blood on Calvary, the veil of the Temple was rent in twain. As His body was 'torn in two,' so also the veil was 'torn in two.'

Hebrews 10:19-20 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

Matthew 27:50-51 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake...

When Jesus offered up Himself, the rent veil shows us that each individual can go thru Jesus Christ, our High Priest rather than going thru the earthly High Priest.

Hebrews 7:26-27 ...an high priest became us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.

Hebrews 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

Hebrews 4:14-16 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are, yet* without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Between the time Jesus died and arose on the third day, He offered His own blood in heaven on the Mercy Seat there.

Hebrews 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*.

Hebrews 9:24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, *which are* the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

Our salvation is based upon a *Blood Covenant*.

Matthew 26:28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Giving & the Tabernacle

Exodus 25:1-7 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, **Speak unto the children of Israel**, that they **bring** me an offering: of every man that giveth it **willingly with his heart** ye shall take my offering. And this *is* the offering which ye shall take of them; gold, and silver, and brass, And blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' *hair*, And rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood, Oil for the light, spices for anointing oil, and for sweet incense, Onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod, and in the breastplate.

Exodus 35:5-9 Take ye from among you an offering unto the LORD: whosoever *is* of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the LORD; gold, and silver, and brass, And blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine linen, and goats' *hair*, And rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood, And oil for the light, and spices for anointing oil, and for the sweet incense, And onyx stones, and stones to be set for the ephod, and for the breastplate.

God's people were to provide for the work of God. "Speak to the children of Israel..."

1 Corinthians 16:2 Upon the first *day* of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as *God* hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

They were to bring the offering. One is to come to church with their offering and not mail it in or send it via a third party.

Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it.*

The work of God is dependent on the giving of the people of God

What if no one gave – there would be no Tabernacle. The work of the church is dependent on people to faithfully attend and give. If no one attends and no one gives, there is no church.

The offerings were of many different types – gold, blue, goat’s hair, oil, stones....

2 Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

The Bible values giving

Largest chapter in the Bible is Psalms 119. The 2nd largest chapter in the Bible is Numbers 7. It contains 89 verses that list each gift given to the Lord in spite of the fact that the list could have been easily condensed instead of listing each one.

16 of Jesus’ 38 parables had to do with money. 288 verses in the gospel are about money – that is 10%.

Jesus did not look at the size of the gift, but rather the heart of the giver

Mark 12:41-44 And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called *unto him* his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all *they* did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, *even* all her living.

2 Corinthians 8:5 *And this they did*, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.

The gifts were to come from a willing heart (Exo. 25 & 35). The heart is always interconnected with giving. Giving to the Lord is to be an act of love – to give because you love the Lord. As someone has said, “You can give without loving but you cannot love without giving.”

When all give from the heart, it is more than enough

Exodus 36:5 And they spake unto Moses, saying, The people bring much more than enough for the service of the work, which the LORD commanded to make.

Exodus 36:6-7 And Moses gave commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, Let neither man nor woman make any more work for the offering of the sanctuary. So the

people were restrained from bringing. For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much.

God made tithing for everyone

Even a 10 year old knows what 10% is. Tithing is not based upon what you have; but rather a command to obey. The rich and the poor are all to tithe. The old and the young are to tithe. Some say that tithing is only for the O.T.. Jesus commended tithing and the N.T. model of grace is to be a greater responsibility than the law.

In Matthew 5, Jesus said, "Ye have heard in the law, but I say unto you." Each instance, grace is a greater responsibility than the law.

Matthew 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for **ye pay tithes** of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier *matters* of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: **these ought ye to have done**, and not to leave the other undone.

Jesus was scolding this crowd as they made sure they tithed on the smallest matters, but omitted that which really mattered in the spiritual life. The spiritual life is so much more than giving.

God is not impressed with our giving. Rather He looks at our hearts. We are to give willingly from a grateful heart.

The Creator has a plan whereby I can give back to Him. What a wise God we serve!

The Cloud

The cloud is a picture of the Holy Spirit in the life of a Christian.

1 Corinthians 10:1-2 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea...

It led them and stayed with them. The Holy Spirit wants to lead our lives and He will abide with us forever as we are sealed by Him.

Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

Ephesians 1:13-14 ...ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

John 14:16 ...and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

The Cloud Led Them

Exodus 13:21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:

Romans 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Exodus 40:36-38 And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys: But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the LORD *was* upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

Acts 8:29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

The Holy Spirit wants to lead our lives. The primary purpose of Him leading our life – from the perspective of the Creator – is that He would lead us to witness. God is mostly concerned with the lost.

The Cloud Stayed with Them

Exodus 13:22 He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, *from* before the people.

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

Exodus 14:24-25 And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the LORD looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians, And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee from the face of Israel; for the LORD fighteth for them against the Egyptians.

Romans 8:5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

The Cloud Filled the Tabernacle

Exodus 40:34-35 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

Our body is the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 3:16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

2 Corinthians 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

The Temple was a holy place. That which makes your body holy is Who dwells within it. The Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ dwell within your body.

Ephesians 5:30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

We Need to Value the Comforter

It is so easy to take the things of God for granted. Read Psalms 78:9-33.

The Holy Spirit is a gift from the Father. The coming of the Holy Spirit was promised over and over again. The speaking in tongues and sign gifts were to verify His arrival – not for us today to use.

Hebrews 2:4 God also bearing *them* witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

The baptism of the Spirit; the coming of the Spirit; the promise of the Father... many ways to describe the same event – the Holy Spirit coming to earth to indwell believers. Thank God for Him!