**The Tabernacle Part 1 May 10, 2015**

The place where God is revealed and made known

Heaven invading earth – “I will meet you there.”

**Exodus 25-40; Hebrews 9-13**

**Worship God with all Your heart:**

Key: A heart after God - “Lord, do all that is in Your heart to do.” “Not my will but Your will be done.”

Key: Worship God for who He is – HOLY. Rev. 4

Key: Worship Jesus for who He is and for what He has done for you.

**Exodus 33:7-23** – Moses meets with the Lord in the glory

**The Tabernacle:**

The tabernacle was a moveable 'tent of meeting' that God commanded Moses to build. God wanted to dwell among His people, the Israelites. He wanted to have fellowship with them and be able to communicate with them. It was a place of sacrifice, worship and encounter.

It was used approximately 400 years, from the time of the exodus from Egypt until the time of King Solomon, when the temple was built.

The tabernacle itself was built from the ‘spoils of Egypt’; the wealth and goods that the Israelites took with them when leaving Egypt’s captivity! The tabernacle was made from ‘freewill offerings’ from the people. Ex. 25:2-9. Some say it took almost a year to build.

It was the center of the Israelite camp and the 12 tribes camped around the tabernacle in a special arrangement.

**The tabernacle was separated in 3 distinct sections:**

Outer court – made to hold many people; a crowd – BODY - Praise

Inner court or Holy Place – made to hold a small group – SOUL - Worship

Holy of Holies – made for one – SPIRIT – Rest - Sabbath

“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your who spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.” I Thess. 5:23

The tabernacle and its courtyard were constructed according to a pattern set by God, not by Moses. Heb. 8:4, 5

**The tabernacle revealed JESUS**

Luke 24:27 “And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself.”

Heb. 13:8 “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever!”

John 1:14 – “And the Word became flesh and ***dwelt*** among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

***Dwelt*** – ‘to pitch a tabernacle or to live in a tent’

Jesus came and dwelt among His people Israel.

**By Grace – the New Covenant**

Since Christ, believers in Jesus Christ have become the ‘temple of the Holy Spirit’. I Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19. ‘Christ in you the hope of glory’. Col. 1:26-28

We are God’s dwelling place. His presence is among us. Ex. 40:34-38.We are a holy priesthood. I Peter 2:5, 9.

***It is God’s presence that transforms us into Christ’s image and reveals His divine nature and attributes.*** The presence is God’s nature, heart, ways, and thoughts. The shekinah glory is His presence manifested to us.

**I John 3:1-3 – “…and when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”**

The tabernacle shows a **pattern of worship** from God to us. Heb. 10:19-25

How does a sinful people approach a Holy God?

**1. The entrance - gate of the Court**

The entrance was a veil or hanging curtains embroidered with colors of blue, purple, scarlet and a base of white.

Exodus 27:10-16; 38:14-19

There was only ONE entrance to the tabernacle.

**The Gospel of the Kingdom**

You must be born again! John 3:16-18; John 3:3

Come to Jesus and receive Him as your Lord and Savior. Romans 10:7-10. Eph. 2:1-10

Jesus is the door. He is the only way to the Father. What He opens is opened.

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