

USING GOD'S EYES TO SEE SALVATION

[I present this Newsletter in the same joyous and spiritual exuberance as when I was saved, in 1959. I did not fully grasp what happened but, I knew that God had been in the same place I was. I was gloriously saved. Jim.]

NOTE: Since, discussion on the Tabernacle (and, my writing ability) often ends up like some crayon colored pictures, hanging on the wall in Sister Barnum's children class - out of the lines and, all over the place, let me list some of important points of this study.

1. The **Exodus Tabernacle** is set in the barren desert, on bare ground.
2. **As a whole**, the Tabernacle represents two places; earth and heaven.
3. **Its Court** displays earth's redemption at the altar and, its daily cleansing, at the laver.
4. **Tent of meeting**, itself, represents heavenly activity.
5. **Moses** heads the physical Tabernacle; **Jesus**, the heavenly one.
6. **Sanctification for mankind**; which is typically accomplished within the Tabernacle, occurs as a whole. Sacrificial blood that is shed at the altar - the **very same blood** is carried **through, and to**, the Mercy Seat of God.
7. **Sanctification of the Tabernacle** comes by blood sprinkled on each station, beforehand; cleansing all vessels, making a holy and usable means for man to approach God.
8. **Tabernacle Earthly portion**: **Altar** = cross; **Laver** = washing by the Word.
9. **Heavenly portion**:
 - a). **Holy Place** (light to see and staining **bread** = Christ's life. **Incense Altar** = prayers by Christ, for man and, man's prayers to God, **through** Christ);
 - b). **Holy of Holies**: (**Ark** = Christ; especially, the Mercy Seat;
 - c). **Contents of Ark/Christ** - Law kept inside (a heart matter) and its requirements kept by Christ. **Manna** = Christ's life. His eternal, sustaining food;
 - d). **Aaron's Budding Rod** = Resurrected Christ and Life from the dead for mankind).
10. **Before a heavenly entrance**, earth must be cleansed by the shed blood of Christ.
11. **Priestly Order**: a. **Aaron** = Christ, The High Priest. b. **Witness-work of Servant Priests** = Church, "**To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus,**" Eph 3:21.

12. Tabernacle shows Governmental Order The desert setting represents Israel's past physical deliverance from bondage; as well as, the world's future redemption. It is a representation of Jesus Christ and His sanctifying work; where upon, man is allowed participation, through faith in the Redeemer.

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THE TABERNACLE SERVED AS "The example and shadow of heavenly things (He 8:5). FROM ITS STRUCTURE AND ITS ACTIVITY, GOD PRESENTS TO MAN A PREPARED SALVATION.

God sees the beginning to the end. He knows every need that the sinner has and, God prepares a plan of salvation with that in His omniscient mind.

It's as if God, Himself, looked through the eyes of a sinner when He gave Moses the instructional plans. "See, saith He, that thou make all things according to the pattern showed to thee in the mount" (He 8:5).

Like His creative handiwork of the world (Rom. 1), the presentation of the Tabernacle pattern becomes a witness of God; that He is, and that He cares about His creation, always offering salvation to fallen man.

A sinner may view the Tabernacle's magnificent witness and begin to ascertain that the Lord is graciously willing to reconcile. Surrounded by such glorious testimony, man is overwhelmed. He, finally realizes that God always provides and sustains - both the physical and spiritual worlds. Awakened spiritually, man knows that God will meet his need.

And, so it is; man inspects God's Tabernacle from his high position. He looks down into the valley below and sees all the activity going on around the Tabernacle. He knows nothing about it, except that God's people are gathered around the building, attending to its service. His interest increases.

As the scene progresses, God knows that man will come down to view the meeting place, closer. He knows that man will approach the Tabernacle, if only through curiosity. But, God wants man to enter in the Tabernacle construction; so that He may patiently and loving, walk man through the Tent of meeting.

The walk will be confusing, at first. Looking only through shadows of representation, much explanation is needed. But, God has time. Often, He uses years to bring man into a workable relationship. He likes the number: "1000," a whole lot.

After the walk and after each position is visited and explanation given, God asks man to exercise faith in His verbal word, first. God wants a sinner to believe what He says. Then, later on, the same faith will transport man into the Living Word - Jesus, His Son.

But, this is God's meeting place. It is holy. Therefore, before man can gain a full spiritual sense of the Tabernacle, and walk through its compartments by himself, barriers have to be removed. Curtains must be torn down and faith has to be exercised in the finished work of God, in His Son, Jesus.

The good news is, when Jesus enters the Tabernacle, man is taken "**from death unto life**" (Jn 5:24) by what is accomplished there. It is then that the picture of the Tabernacle becomes fulfilled, and exact meaning, realized.

The moment that Jesus finishes His work, Tabernacle meaning undergoes an eternal change. Objects of the Tabernacle give way to the efficacious work of Jesus. And, because salvation is a spiritual matter, all objects no longer have significant meaning for, salvation is written "**...with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart,**" 2 Cor 3:3.

As outward objects of the physical and material are removed by the Spirit of God, the Tabernacle's representation is finished. Man, now serves by faith in and through Jesus Christ, and looks "**not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen**" (2Co 4:18).

Man's view is now, upward. He looks to heaven "**...for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ**" (Titus 2:13); "**who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body,**" Philippians 3:21.

EVERY INCH OF THE TABERNACLE WAS SANCTIFIED Moses was commanded to sprinkle blood on both, the physical Tabernacle and all the vessels. But, figurative blood could not "**make the comers there unto perfect**" (He 10:1).

But, "**...by one offering He perfected for ever them that are sanctified**" (He 10:14). Our new and better standing is "**By a new and living way, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh**" (He 10:20). By His consecration of the flesh, Jesus made the walk through the Tent, a safe passage for man to enter.

When, we begin the Tabernacle walk, we find that Christ has already been there. So, faith in His obedient walk, secures our walk. When we get to the end, it will be Christ waiting for us. I can hear His call, now. Can you?

In the prepared sanctified walk, faith allows man's progression through the entire area of God's meeting place. He, may even, enter the Holy of Holies because his Mediator of the Covenant is sitting there, at the right hand of God.

While on earth, Jesus walked through every position presented in the Tabernacle. As He stopped at each station, the necessary work was performed; in which, all meaning the "types" represented were transformed into the new order of

spiritual reality. "He takes away the first in order to establish the second,"
Hebrews 19:9b.

Next week: Israel: A finished Work. We will show Israel from both directions - Her deliverance from Egypt's bondage and, Her future salvation. Both are pictured in the Tabernacle, under God's loving forbearance.