

THE SANCTUARY

LESSON # 8

DUAL APPLICATION OF THE SANCTUARY

INTRODUCTION

All italics are in original text. All other emphases are the authors unless noted. All Scriptures are from the K.J.V. Bible unless stated otherwise.

In this lesson we will be looking at another sanctuary that Christ had in mind when cleansing the temple in Jerusalem. I am talking of the soul temple spoken of in 1st Corinthians.

1st Corinthians 3:16, 17. “Know ye not **that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?** If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, **which temple ye are.**”

NOTE: We have been counseled by E. G. White to study the sanctuary carefully, here is what she says in:

Evangelism 221:2, 3. “**The correct understanding of the ministration in the heavenly sanctuary is the foundation of our faith.** Letter 208, 1906.

“The subject of the sanctuary and the investigative judgment should be clearly understood by the people of God. **All need a knowledge for themselves of the position and work of their great High Priest. Otherwise, it will be impossible for them to exercise the faith which is essential at this time, or to occupy the position which God designs them to fill. Every individual has a soul to save or to lose.**”

NOTE: The sanctuary consisted of three parts, the court, the holy place or tabernacle of the congregation called the trysting room (Moffett translation), and the most holy place or the holiest called the shrine (Moffett’s translation). In

The Readers Digest Great Encyclopedic Dictionary gives the definition as follows: “tryst (noun) is defined as, 1. An appointment, as between lovers, to meet at a designated time and place; also, the meeting place agreed upon; rendezvous. ...”

It also defines trysting place as “a meeting place, as of lovers.”

NOTE: This is the holy place and this describes the situation revealing what our experience in that apartment or trysting room will be, a meeting place or an appointed place for those who have a love relationship with Christ and His Father.

Exodus 25: 8. “And let them make me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them.”

NOTE: God wants to be close to His people. Even closer than they realized. But first an understanding of His holiness and majesty must be impressed upon everyone. So, Sinai and the thundering and lightning, the loud voice the mountain shaking, and smoking with fire. It seemed like all nature was in an upheaval in order to impress upon the mind that God is holy and those with whom God is to dwell must be holy as well.

We have already seen in the previous lesson, how Christ had to leave His sanctuary in the soul temple (the Mind) of Adam. God loved us so much He did not want the race to die without a second chance. God loved us so much that He gave up His throne within man to another. Today God wants to rescue and restore man to the purity that will allow Him once again to dwell within man. His object is to restore man to the position Adam held with God before his fall. Less you might think this restoration doesn’t

THE SANCTUARY

LESSON # 8

take place until Christ comes, pay attention to the following:

Titus 2: 12, 13. “Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, **in this present world**; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.”

NOTE: The sanctuary and its services are a visual aid to show us how Christ will accomplish uniting His divinity in each individual who will allow Christ to work within. God’s ultimate goal, the union of divinity and humanity within each of us just as Christ and the Father are one so are we to be one with God and also each other.

John 17:19, 20. “And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That **they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us**: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.”

NOTE: understanding truth and obedience to the truth is the means of sanctification. You can see how the holy place is the trysting room. It is where we are to meet with God and become lovers of God, that will be restoration in verity.

In Ezekiel the new covenant is described as taking place within the mind and heart. This is illustrated in the sanctuary. God was trying to show Israel of old, and mostly, Israel of today, how this new covenant union was to be accomplished. Here it is in:

Ezekiel 36: 26, 27. “A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put **my spirit** within you, and

cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.”

NOTE: “A new spirit will I put within you.” Evidently, we are possessed with a spirit but not of God. The new spirit will cause us to keep God’s “statutes and ... judgments and do them.” Just one chapter over in Ezekiel it says:

Ezekiel 37: 26-28. “Moreover, I will make a covenant of peace with them; **it shall be an everlasting covenant** with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and **will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore**. My tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be **my people**. And the heathen shall know that I the LORD do **sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore.**”

NOTE: There is a covenant in Exodus 34:10-27 which was never ratified in the time of Moses. I believe this covenant was ratified by the blood of Jesus at the cross. This covenant is the covenant Christ will renew with His people at the end of time. Here is the first verse of that covenant:

Exodus 34:10. “And he said, Behold, I make a covenant: before all thy people **I will do marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation**: and all the people among which thou art shall see the work of the LORD: **for it is a terrible thing that I will do with thee.**”

NOTE: Let us look at a will of today. a parent wishes to divide his wealth among his children at his death so he makes a will. The will has no effect until his death, then it is of force, and cannot be changed, this is the same as God’s will and covenant with the people. Notice this will was never ratified by the blood of animals. Therefore, it was not ratified till Christ’s death on the cross. Now that He has died it is in effect, it has power to perform what He set forth in that

THE SANCTUARY

LESSON # 8

will. You should read all of Christ last will and testament for yourselves in Exodus 34:10-27. Now let us look at some specifics. "I ... will set my sanctuary in the **MIDST** of them" that is a most marvelous thing. To actually have God dwell within is mind boggling. The declaration is positive "I will," again in verse 28 of Ezekiel 37. "I the Lord do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore."

I ask, when does the Lord sanctify Israel (the church)? It has to be prior to Christ's Second Coming because He brings His reward to give everyone according to his or her works, so sanctification must have already taken place. One is not sanctified after probation closes; it must take place before. What is the promise? "I the Lord do sanctify Israel when My sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore." This cannot be speaking of the tabernacles built in Jerusalem by Solomon nor the one Zerubbabel built because these sanctuaries were not to last for evermore. And neither can it be the heavenly sanctuary because Israel does not possess that one until after the second coming of Christ, and not at the time of sanctification.

What is the key to this puzzle? It is revealed in the word midst. In Strong's Concordance, the definition for the Hebrew word "midst" is word #H8432 "tavek; from an unused root meaning to sever, a bisection, i.e. the center." Some other ways the word has been translated are "**between, in, into, middle.**" When midst is understood with the meaning of **sever or bisection**, the word takes on a very personal meaning. Now it's not a sanctuary in the center of the camp but a sanctuary in the middle of our very being. Remember that E.G.W. declared that every created being "from the bright and holy seraph to man, should be a temple for the indwelling of the Creator." See D.A. page 161: 1.

NOTE: This cannot be an on again, off again thing, no ups followed by depressions, because Christ has said we are to be sanctified forevermore. That means there will be no turning back! Christ will live inside us for evermore, that is for eternity. What a wonderful experience to look forward to!

Revelation 3:19, 20. "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

NOTE: This is the condition in which the 144,000 will be privileged to achieve for it says they are "without guile" and perfect before the throne of God.

Thus, Christ will have come to His sanctuary once again after such a long time being separated. This is the restoration of the daily we studied in the last lesson. Christ has promised to "never leave or forsake" us.

Hebrews 13:5. "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, **I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.**"

NOTE: There is a message given through Malachi that is the herald that prepares the heart for the acceptance of the Lord's coming to his temple. It is a most beautiful message, here it is:

Malachi 3: 1. "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: **and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple**, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: **behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.**"

NOTE: The messenger the Lord sends is Elijah and his messages are inseparably tied to the three messages of Revelation 14 6-12. **These**

THE SANCTUARY

LESSON # 8

are the cleansing messages that prepare the heart for the Lord's coming to His temple. See Revelation 3:20. Notice what happens when these messages are accepted;

Malachi 3: 2-4. "But who may abide the day of his coming? (Who will allow Him to enter)? **And who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver,** that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years."

NOTE: These verses fulfill the prophecy of Ezekiel 37: 28, the sanctification part. Christ the messenger of the covenant has established His sanctuary for evermore within us and has sanctified us by cleansing from sin.

How wonderful is God's Word, how marvelous are His revelations to us. How awesome is our God "For it is a terrible thing that I will do with thee."

Exodus 34:10. "And he said, Behold, **I make a covenant:** before all thy people **I will do marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth,** nor in any nation: and all the people among which thou art shall see the work of the LORD: **for it is a terrible thing that I will do with thee.**"

NOTE: What an exalted position He has in store for His children. When this happens the new covenant promise of Jeremiah 31:31-34, and Hebrews 8:10-12 will be completely fulfilled. Total sanctification will be realized in His children! Reread Ezekiel 37: 28 carefully.

Education P. 36: 2. "Through Christ was to be fulfilled the purpose of which the tabernacle

was a symbol--that glorious building, its walls of glistening gold reflecting in rainbow hues the curtains inwrought with cherubim, the fragrance of ever-burning incense pervading all, the priests robed in spotless white, and in the deep mystery of the inner place, above the mercy seat, between the figures of the bowed, worshiping angels, the glory of the Holiest. **In all, God desired His people to read His purpose for the human soul.** It was the same purpose long afterward set forth by the apostle Paul, speaking by the Holy Spirit. {Ed 36.2}

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17. {Ed 36.3}

Great Controversy P. 488: 2. "The subject of the sanctuary and the investigative judgment should be clearly understood by the people of God. All need a knowledge for themselves of the position and work of their great High Priest. **Otherwise it will be impossible for them to exercise the faith which is essential at this time or to occupy the position which God designs them to fill.**"

NOTE: "Through Christ was to be fulfilled the purpose of which the tabernacle was a symbol," if the sanctuary is a symbol of what Christ is to accomplish for us and if "**in all, God desired His people to read His purpose for the human soul**" and if understanding the "**subject of the sanctuary ... is essential at this time for us to occupy the place and to exercise the faith which is essential at this time.**" It is imperative that a study along these lines would be most important for His people to engage in at this time.

In the following lessons we will explore the aspect of the sanctuary service as being a metaphor

THE SANCTUARY

LESSON # 8

of God's purpose for the eradication of sin in the human soul. I want to reinforce this thought with a statement from:

Bible Echo, November 1, 1892: 8. "Jesus said, 'I and my Father are one.' He speaks of Himself as well as the Father when He speaks of omnipotent power, and claims for Himself perfect righteousness. **In Christ dwelt the fullness of the Godhead bodily.** This is why, although tempted in all points like as we are, He stood before the world untainted by the corruptions that surrounded Him. **We also are to become partakers of that fullness, and only in this way shall we be enabled to overcome as Christ overcame.**"

NOTE: God wants to give us what he gave to Christ, "all the fullness of the Godhead bodily."

John 17: 21-23. "That they all may be one, as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us, that the world may believe that thou hast sent me and the glory which thou gavest me I have given them, that they may be one even as we are one. I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."

NOTE: In Christ dwelt the fullness of the Godhead bodily ... we also are to become partakers of that fullness." How much of the fullness of God did Christ have?

Eph. 3: 19, 20. "To know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with **all** the fullness of God. Now **unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think,** according to the power that worketh in us."

Eph. 4:13. "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God,

unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the **fullness of Christ.**"

NOTE: It is that same fullness, that oneness that Christ had with the Father, that same everything that Christ was, had, enjoyed, or acquired, we are too have, enjoy, and acquire!

Christ's Object Lessons, P. 420: 1. "From the two olive trees the golden oil was emptied through the golden pipes into the bowl of the candlestick, and thence into the golden lamps that gave light to the **sanctuary.** So, from the holy ones that stand in God's presence His spirit is imparted to the **human instrumentalities who are consecrated to His service.** The mission of the two anointed ones is to communicate to God's people that heavenly grace which alone can make His word a lamp to the feet and a light to the path. 'Not by might, nor by power, but by My spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.'" Zechariah 4:6. {COL 408.1}

Christ's Object Lessons P 420: 2. "The revelation of His own glory in the form of humanity will bring heaven so near to men that the beauty adorning the **inner temple will be seen in every soul in whom the Saviour dwells.** Men will be captivated by the glory of an abiding Christ. And in currents of praise and thanksgiving from the many souls thus won to God, glory will flow back to the great Giver." {COL 420.2}

NOTE: The sanctuary and its services are a revelation in picture symbols of the means Christ will employ to once again bring Israel to the position we must occupy before Christ can reclaim His throne within the soul. Christ's movement to the soul sanctuary is described in Malachi 3: 1. When this move is complete then it is that Christ will return visibly to take the saved to heaven. See Revelation 22: 11, 12.

THE SANCTUARY

LESSON # 8

With this in mind let us begin the study of the earthly sanctuary that Moses was given instructions to build at Mt. Saini.

PLEASE READ EXODUS 27: 1-16; 30: 18-20; 38: 8-18.

EXODUS 27, The Altar of Burnt Offerings;

Verse 1.....Make an altar of shittim wood 5 cubits square, its height 3 cubits.

Verse 2.....horns on each corner of shittim wood overlay it with brass.

Verse 3.....make pans to receive the ashes, shovels, basins, flesh hooks, and fire pans of brass.

Verse 4.....make a grate, a network of brass with four brass rings, one in each corner.

Verse 5.....the grate to be under the altar in the midst, top to bottom.

Verse 6.....make staves of shittim wood overlaid with brass.

Verse 7.....staves put into rings on the two sides to bear it.

Verse 8.....make hollow with boards, as shown in the mount.

EXODUS 30, The Brazen Laver.

Verse 18. the laver and its foot were made of brass. It was placed between the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar of burnt offerings. Water was placed in it.

Verses 19, 20. Aaron and his sons must wash hands and feet at Laver before entering tabernacle or offering burnt offerings at the altar or they would die.

Exodus 38:8. The Laver was made of the brass looking glasses of the women, signifying renunciation of vanity.

EXODUS 27, THE FENCE AROUND THE COURT AND ITS GATE.

Verses 9-11. The court was 100 cubits on the South and North sides with 20 pillars of brass on each side. Their filets and hooks of silver. These were for the hanging of the fine twined linen which formed the wall around the court.

Verse 12. In the west, fifty cubits, 10 pillars and sockets of brass.

Verses 13-15. On the east side, fifty cubits, 15 cubits on either side of the gate with 3 pillars and sockets of brass for either side.

Verse 16. The gate, 20 cubits, hung with fine twined linen of blue, purple, and scarlet with needlework, 4 pillars with sockets of brass to support the linen.

Exodus 38:18. The height and breadth of the gate was five cubits.

NOTE: There are many studies of the sanctuary that deal with dimensions and placement of the articles of furniture of the sanctuary. It is not the purpose of this study to deal with these aspects of the tabernacle.

In the following lessons we will explore the sanctuary as a **representation of the human body**, and **God's purpose to dwell within it in the same manner as He dwelt within the sanctuary in the wilderness.** Please study with an open mind and ask for the leading of the holy spirit.

In lesson #9 we will begin to explore the court of the sanctuary. And in particular, the gate will be our first consideration.

Let us pray:

THE SANCTUARY

LESSON # 8

Dear Father, I ask for Your holy spirit to guide our minds, that we may think the thoughts of God after Him. May we all understand the truth and implant it in our very being. Please forgive any sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son. Amen.

Your brother in Christ

Virgil Prindle