

ENTER the HOLY PLACE

Exodus 26

1 John 1

1 Peter 2:1-11



Pressing Forward into 2023

- Catechism/Meditation

Eternal Purpose

What We Have Learned So Far (Romans 15:4)

The Tabernacle Proper

- The Holy Place and the Holy of Holies - under **ONE** tent.
- These two HOLY places were the “tent of meeting” proper or tabernacle proper.
- In these two places one entered into intimate fellowship with God. (Exodus 29:42-43)

Common Factors Throughout

- ① Sacrifice is necessary for access to God
- ② The two natures of Christ
- ③ A suffering mediator is necessary
- ④ A close connection between Christ and His people
- ⑤ Sovereignty of God and human responsibility

It's Construction

- It's Door - its colors - blue (Son of God); scarlet (Son of Man); purple (kingship; combining of the two natures of Christ)
- It's Boards: Wood overlaid with gold. Again a picture of the two natures of Christ. (Hebrews 2:14, 17; **Luke 2:11**; **John 1:1, 14**; **1 Timothy 3:16**)
- It's Sockets: Brass for the Door; Silver for the “Tent of Meeting”.
 - The Door: Before entering into intimate fellowship the worshiper is reminded again that this privilege only comes through the suffering Mediator.

- The Tent: Fellowship with God is only possible because of the finished work of redemption (Hebrews 9:12; Matthew 20:28; 26:28)
- It's Tenons: Literally "hands" - Meditate on Psalm 80:17; 31:15; Luke 23:46; Heb 1:3
- It's Coverings:
 - "white curtains"; "goat hairs" (Meditate on Leviticus 16:7-10 - sin offering); "ram skins dyed red"; badger skin.
 - CHRIST WAS MADE A SIN OFFERING FOR US! (2 Corinthians 5:21; Isaiah 53:10)
 - Under these - was a **beautiful tapestry** of cherubim on fine linen!
 - Unattractive from the outside (Isaiah 53:1-3; John 17:14)
 - Everything gold on the inside (John 17:22-24)
 - Only those who have been born-again can SEE the BEAUTY of Christ. (1 Corinthians 2:14; John 3:3-8)
- No Windows: no natural light inside the Holy Place - MEDITATE: John 8:12; Psalm 36:9; 119:105

It's Purpose - a place of service, study, prayer and fellowship.

- Introduction to the Furniture
 - **The Lampstand** - Living by the Light of God's Word
 - Christ is the Light of the World
 - Intimate fellowship with the Church
 - **Table of Shewbread** - Feeding on/Fellowshipping with Christ, the Living Bread
 - **Altar of Incense** - Christ's Intercession
 - Our Intercession
- **ONLY "IN CHRIST" IS OUR WORSHIP, PRAYER, FELLOWSHIP and SERVICE to GOD IS ACCEPTABLE!** (Hebrews 13:15; 1 Peter 2:12; 1 Peter 4:11; Eph 5:20)

A Holy Place: Only for Priests.

- The Holy Place was for priests and only priests.
- A priest is one who ministers to God and to God's people.
- A priest is one who serves God.
- A priest is one who stands between God and God's people.
- A priest intercedes for God's people.
- The Holy Place and the Holy of Holies was a picture of ABIDING in CHRIST. One abides in Christ through: walking yoked to Christ (the Word of God); walking in the light as He is in the light; intimate ("eating and drinking") fellowship with Christ; and continuous prayer.

Elect, Royal Priests and Our Priestly Duties (1 Peter 2:1-11; Note Exodus 4:16)

- Only PRIESTS have direct access to God. The ELECT are “made priests” by God. (Revelation 1:5-6; 5:9-10; 20:6; 1 Peter 2:9; John 15:16)
- PRIESTS were sovereignly chosen by God. In the Old Testament God chose the tribe of Levi and the family of Aaron to be priests. The tribe of Levi was under a curse! (Exodus 28:1; Genesis 49:5-7)
 - ★ The ELECT of God are sovereignly chosen by God. (Ephesians 1:4; Romans 8:33; 9:11; 11:5, 7; 1 Peter 1:2)
- PRIESTS are priests BY BIRTH. By His own will, GOD, our Father, begot us! (James 1:18) We are the children of God and thereby we become His priests! (1 John 3:1-3; 1 Peter 2:9)
- PRIESTS were CLEANSED by Moses. (Leviticus 8-9). God cleanses His elect. (**1 Corinthians 6:11**; Titus 2:14; 3:5; Hebrews 10:22)
- PRIESTS were clothed with clothes designed by God to set them apart from all others! Moses clothed Aaron and his sons. The ELECT are CLOTHED by GOD with His own righteousness. (Philippians 3:9; **Isaiah 61:10**; Luke 15:22)
- PRIESTS were appointed to service. (Exodus 28:41; 29:44;) The ELECT are saved “unto good works”. (Ephesians 2:10; Titus 2:14)
- PRIESTS were anointed by Moses (Exodus 28:41; 29:7, 21, 29; 30:30). The ELECT are anointed by God by the Holy Spirit. (2 Corinthians 1:21; 1 John 2:20, 27)
- PRIESTS were called to STRICT OBEDIENCE. Nadab and Abihu, sons of Aaron, priests, were struck down dead when they failed to abide by God’s Word. (Leviticus 10:1-3) The ELECT are called to obedience. (1 John 2:3-4; John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10; 1 John 5:3; 1 Samuel 15:22; Matthew 7:21-23; John 8:31; 1 Peter 1:13-16)
- PRIESTS were called to regular prayer. Priest were called to pray in the morning and in the evening EVERY DAY during the daily sacrifice. Priests made intercession for God’s people. (2 Chronicles 7:14; Hebrews 4:16)
- The ELECT are a **royal priesthood** obligated to “offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable through Jesus Christ” (v. 5). Some of these sacrifices include:
 - ① We offer up our **bodies** as living sacrifices. (Rom 12:1; 6:13, 16, 19; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
 - ② We offer up the “sacrifice of **praise**”. (Hebrews 13:15)
 - ③ We offer up our “good **works**”. (Hebrews 13:16; Ephesians 2:10; Titus 2:14; Colossians 1:10; 3:17, 23)
 - ④ We offer up our **financial** offerings. (Philippians 4:18)
 - ⑤ We offer up our **prayers** as sweet incense. (Psa 141:2; Rev 5:8)

Fellowship with God Is Living with/for God

- We fellowship with God by living our lives in His light as Christ is in the Light. We live our lives on every words that comes from the mouth of God. We use His word as a light unto our path and lamp to our feet. (1 John 1:6-7; Psalm 43:3; 36:9; 119:105; Proverbs 6:23) If we are not living according to the light of God's Word we are in darkness.
- We fellowship with God by "feeding" and "drinking" Christ daily. (John 7:37-38; 6:47-59)
 - **Eating and Believing** (John 6:47-59)
 - (v. 47) **MOST ASSUREDLY** he who **believes has** everlasting life. Belief is a **fruit** of everlasting life (salvation) **NOT** the cause of it.
MEDITATE ON THIS!!!
 - (vv. 35, 48) "**I AM the Bread of Life**" First of **seven** "I Am's" in John.
 - (v. 51) "If anyone **eats** of this bread (ME) he will life forever."
 - Eating = Believing: Appropriating the "Bread of Life"
 - Jesus makes it CLEAR – Those who do not **continually** "eat" **have no life** in them. They are **DEAD**. (v. 53; Ephesians 2:1, 5; Colossians 2:13; John 3:36; 1 John 5:11-12)
 - Jesus made it CLEAR - Those who do **continually** "eat and drink" HIM abides in Him and has eternal life. (v. 56; 15:1-10) Abiding in Christ is abiding in His Word. (John 8:31)

Saved to Fellowship and Serve

- We were saved to SERVE God. (1 Thess 1:9; Psalm 2:11; 100:2; Hebrews 12:28-29; Luke 17:7-10; Romans 6:22; 1 Peter 2:16; Philipians 2:5-8; Deuteronomy 10:12-13)
- We were saved to have INTIMATE FELLOWSHIP with God. (1 John 1:3, 6-7; John 14:20-24; 17:11; 1 Corinthians 1:9)
- We were saved to "eat and drink" (intimate fellowship) Christ daily!
- Appointed to be priests to *minister to* God and His people. (1 Peter 4:10-11)

As each one has received a gift, **minister** it to one another, as **good stewards** of the manifold grace of God. . . . If anyone **ministers**, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, **that in all things God may be glorified** through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.
(1 Peter 4:10-11)