

1 October 2023

# Who Do I Desire? Feast of Tabernacles

Leviticus 23:33-37, 39-44

John 1:1-14; Revelation 21:1-8

Psalms 73:25-26

## Pressing Forward into 2023

## God's Eternal Purpose

“Be Holy for I Am Holy” (1 Peter 1:13-16)

## God's Desire for Fellowship

- Salvation: Renewal of **fellowship** between a Sinner and God. (Isaiah 59:2; 57:15; Micah 3:4; Ephesians 2:16-19)
- Christ died so that we might be **brought near to God**. (Ephesians 2:13; 1 Peter 3:18)
- Christ **reconciled** us to God. (Romans 5:9-10; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20; Colossians 1:21-22)

## God's Feasts (Leviticus 23:1-2)

- GOD is the HOST.
  - The Host shares His joy.
    - ★ God's joy is His Son.
  - The Host provides everything.
  - The Host does all the work.
  - The Host determines who is invited.
    - ★ Guests do not invite themselves!
  - The Host determines the time.
    - ★ Times and seasons belong to God.  
(Acts 1:7; Deut 29:29; Mark 13:32)
  - The Host determines the place.
- The GUESTS are God's special people.
  - They come to rejoice with the HOST.
  - They come to be recipients of all the Host provides.
  - They come to share in the joy of the Host.
- **Final feast on God's Calendar!**



## The Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem

- **A Festival of Great Joy** - 7 + 1 days.
  - The 8<sup>th</sup> day - a "new beginning"
- **Living in booths** - living in the Wilderness when God *dwelt* with them.
- **Light Ceremony** - the Pillar of Fire in the Wilderness when God *led* them.
- **Water Ceremony** - the rivers of water that God *provided* for them in the Wilderness. The parade to the Pool of Siloam and back.
- **A FULL MOON!**
- **Great Celebration:**
  - Rabbinical saying: "The man who has not seen these festivities does not know what a jubilee is!"
- The Temple was dedicated on this day!  
(1 Kings 8:2) by King Solomon, the king of Kings (1 Kings 10:23)

## God "Tabernacling" with HIS People - GOD WITH US.

- In the Garden (Genesis 3:8)
- In the Ark (Genesis 7:1)
  - "I will be with you!" (Isaiah 43:1-2)
- In the Wilderness - YAHWEH. (Exodus 25:22; 29:42-43)
  - A FAITHFUL God to an unfaithful people.
  - A covenant keeping God.
    - ★ BECAUSE of a promise He made in the past with *another*.
  - THE TABERNACLE: **Everything** about the Tabernacle pointed to Christ.
    - Christ is the ONE GATE. (John 10:7, 9; 14:6)
    - Christ's death on the Cross is pictured at the Altar of Sacrifice.
    - Christ is the Laver where saints cleanse themselves in His Word. (John 13:8; Ephesians 5:26)
    - Christ is our golden altar of incense - making intercession for all whom He died. (Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25)
    - Christ is our Table of Shewbread - "I AM the Bread of God/Life" - John 6:33, 48.
    - Christ is the ARK - the Lawgiver and Keeper
    - Christ is our MERCY SEAT - by His blood we receive mercy.
    - GOD in the HOLY of HOLIES - in Christ dwells the *fullness of the Godhead*. (Col 1:19; 2:9)
- God Tabernacled with His People in Solomon's Temple (2 Chronicles 7:1)
  - ✗ BUT in Ezekiel 10 - The glory of the LORD departed from Jerusalem.
  - ✗ Never to return UNTIL . . .
- God Came to Tabernacle with us in Christ.
  - Luke 2:11; Matthew 1:21-23 (Isaiah 7:14); John 1:1, 14
    - ★ IMMANUEL: "God with us!"
  - 1 Timothy 3:14-16 - God in the flesh!

→ John 7 & 8

• **Christ Fulfilled the Light Ceremony**

- “I AM the Light of the World” (John 8:12)
  - Without “the LIGHT” a person is still in darkness.
  - Without “the LIGHT” there is no life.
  - ★ There was **no** Shekinah glory in Herod’s Temple. It was outside the Temple. (John 1:14)

• **Christ Fulfilled the Water Ceremony**

- “If anyone thirst let Him come to Me” (John 7:37-38)
  - The *dramatic* even of John 7:37-40.
  - *Only* thirst people will drink.
  - The water Christ spoke about was the Holy Spirit. (John 7:38-39)
  - Contrast John 4:13-14 with Jeremiah 2:13. What satisfies you?
  - The *pouring* of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament. (Isaiah 32:15; Ezekiel 11:19-20; 36:27; 37:14; 39:29; Joel 2:28-29; Isaiah 44:3-4; 1 John 3:24; Galatians 5:22-23)
  - Without water there can be no life.
  - Without the Spirit there is no life. (Romans 8:9-11)
  - **The testimony of God:** God has given us eternal life and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has **the** life. He who does not have the Son does not have **the** life. (1 John 5:11-12)

• God Came to Tabernacle with Us in His Holy Spirit

- John 14 & 16
- Promise of God - Acts 1:4; 2:33
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 2 Corinthians 6:16; Romans 8:11

• God Came to Tabernacle with His Church

- The Body of Christ - **Christ is the Head** (Rom 12:4-5; 1 Cor 12:12-27)

• God Will Tabernacle with His People for Eternity (Revelation 21:1-8)

- The promise of NEW heavens and earth! (Isaiah 65:17-18; 66:22; 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1)
- The New Jerusalem where God will dwell (tabernacle) with His special people for all eternity. **THIS IS OUR HOPE!**
- (Hebrews 11:9-10, 13-16) A city prepared by God!
- (2 Cor 2:9) Eyes has not seen, ear hear . . . what God has prepared!!!!
- (Rev 21:3-4) God with us for eternity!!!!!!
- (Rev 21:5) “I make all things new.” (Remember - the 8<sup>th</sup> day!)
- (Rev 21:24) Nations will come to worship. (Zechariah 14; Rev 21:22-25)
- (Romans 11:22-32) An ingathering of ALL of God’s special people!
- Heaven is for THIRSTY people. (Revelation 22:1, 17; Psalm 36:7-9)
- God’s glory and the Lamb are the LIGHT! (Revelation 22:5)

## Who Do You Desire?

- Disciples are obsessed with their God. (Psalm 73:25-26)
  - They “pant” after God like a thirsty deer. (Psalm 42:1-2)
  - They thirst for GOD in a “dry and thirst land”. (Psalm 63:1-3)
  - They hold and live by/on these promises! (Hebrews 11:13-16)
- Disciples, God’s Special people, long for, groan for, wait eagerly, watch for the time when we will finally be with our God forever!
  - We groan for - Romans 8:23-25
  - We carefully continually watch. (Luke 12:23-25; Titus 2:11-14)
  - We eagerly watch for. (Hebrews 9:28)
- Disciples long (groan) to put away their “tent” knowing that they have “building” waiting for us. (2 Corinthians 5:1-4; 2 Peter 1:13-14)
  - ★ Tents are for pilgrims/sojourners. (1 Peter 1:1; 2:9-11; Heb 11:13-16; )
- Disciples rejoice in their God despite their circumstances. (Habakkuk 3:17-18; the life of Joseph from our Bible study!)
- Disciples **continually examine** themselves, **confess** their sins, **repent** of their sins, **mortify** their sins, in order to be **prepared** to be “found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless”. (2 Peter 3:14; Genesis 17:1; **1 John 3:1; 2 Corinthians 7:1**)
- Disciples persevere to the end because they have the HOPE of being with their God. (Romans 8:25; Matthew 10:22; 24:13; Hebrews 6:11-12)

## Who Will Not Be Allowed into Heaven

- (Matthew 7:21-23; 1 John 2:17) Those who DO NOT DO the will of the Father. His will is that all His creatures obey His commands. (Matthew 12:50)
- (Revelation 21:8) The cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars.
- (Galatians 5:20-21) Those who practice adultery, sorcery (users of drugs and other intoxicating mind altering substances), hatred, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, dissensions, heresies, envy, selfish ambitions, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like.
- (Revelation 22:15) Sorcerers, sexually immoral, murderers, idolaters, whoever loves and practices a lie.
- (1 Corinthians 6:9-10) Fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, homosexuals, sodomites, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, extortioners.
- (Ephesians 5:3-6) Those who practice fornication, uncleanness, covetousness, filthiness, foolish talking, coarse joking.
- (Hebrews 12:14) Those who do not **pursue** personal holiness.

## Disciples Prepare Themselves to Meet Their God (1 John 3:1-3)