

**SERIES: PRESENCE DRIVEN**

**SERMON: WE HAVE ACCESS TO GOD'S PRESENCE**

**6-1-25**

**REVIEW:**

We are looking at the Tabernacle of David and specifically how it relates to the life of the church. We are hearing more about this recently and I believe this shift is part of the Holy Spirit's wooing of the church back to a purity of devotion to Jesus. Many leaders are starting to dream about what the Church could be if it was centered around the presence of God as David's Tabernacle was. I want to look at the Tabernacle of David as a model for changes we need to make in how we do church in this season.

James quotes a prophecy from Amos in .....

*Acts 15:16-17 After this I will return And will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down; I will rebuild its ruins, And I will set it up;<sup>17</sup> So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, Even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, Says the Lord who does all these things.*

(Explain)

It is clear that God's promises that He would "build again the tabernacle of David". And it was related to what He was just then beginning to do, visiting the Gentiles to take out from among them a people for His Name. The "tabernacle" referred to then, is the presence of God open to all, both Jew and Gentile, (*vs. 17 so the rest of mankind may seek the Lord*).

**WHAT WAS DAVID'S TABERNACLE?**

*Chronicles 13:3 and let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we have not inquired at it since the days of Saul,*

David made this vow that he would make the presence of God the center of his kingdom. So, he went to go get the ark. It was sitting out in a field. The very ark that was in the tabernacle of Moses. The Ark of the Covenant, the throne on which the glory of God manifested on earth above the golden cherubim. Inside, it contained Aaron's staff that budded, the ten commandments, and the manna inside. It was the convergence point between heaven and earth.

The Hebrew word translated "tabernacle" is *ohel*, which means "a tent (a covering, (dwelling) (place), home).

So, David set up a tent in Jerusalem and put the ark of God in it. Here is what is absolutely stunning about what was happening in that tent. In that tent there was night and day worship before the ark of the covenant. Day in and day out, singers and musicians would minister to the Lord in shifts.

*1 Chronicles 25 details .....twenty-four families, composed of twelve singers and musicians who were to “prophesy with harps, stringed instruments and cymbals.” They “were instructed in the songs of the Lord” operating under the direction of the fathers of their households, “for the music in the house of the Lord with cymbals, stringed instruments, and harps.”*

*At its start the Tabernacle was stewarded by two hundred eighty-eight singers and musicians (1 Chron 25:7).*

*By the end of David’s reign there were four thousand singers and musicians worshiping day and night before the ark (1 Chron 23:5).*

David’s Tabernacle is not to be confused with Moses Tabernacle where animal sacrifices and incense were offered. It was a completely different worship environment. In Moses’ tabernacle, there was a veil around the ark and no one could enter into the holiest place or they would be struck dead. One man, once a year, the high priest, could enter into the holy places.

But for thirty-three years, David put the ark in a tent, surrounded it with something he called the “sacrifice of praise” and all who entered could gaze with unveiled face at the glory of God. He knew, by divine revelation, that praise, worship, and adoration, was the incense God desired and would be the atmosphere that the glory of God would dwell in. There was no stage in the tabernacle; it was God in the middle and everyone surrounding His presence. No one was struck dead as they stood before the ark. for Thirty-three years gazing with unveiled face upon the glory of the Lord.

### **1.DAVID WAS A PROPHETIC TYPE OF JESUS**

David is often described in scripture as a priest, prophet, and king. Furthermore, David is believed to be the forefather of the future Messiah.

**Priest:**

David performed the role of a priest. David's priestly authority is described in 2 Samuel 6, where he brings the ark of God, dances before the Lord, wears a linen ephod, and sets up the tabernacle. He also believed in the priesthood of the king and occasionally performed tasks assigned to priests.

**Prophet:**

David operated in the anointing of a prophet. David is attributed with writing many of the Psalms, which are considered to be prophetic in nature. Some interpretations of Psalm 16 even suggest David was a prophet.

**King:**

David was recognized as the ideal king, and his reign was a period of great prosperity for Israel. David's primary role was as the king of Israel, uniting the tribes and leading them to victory. He established Jerusalem as the capital and oversaw the development of the nation.

And in these three offices of priest, prophet and king, David was a type of Christ, a type who pointed to the coming of the Ideal Priest, Prophet, and King - Jesus.

- > As Prophet, Jesus proclaimed the perfect Word of God.
- > As Priest, Jesus stands as the perfect Mediator between God and man, representing us and making us acceptable to God through His shed blood.
- > As King, Jesus Christ rules and reigns over the universe as the Sovereign Lord before whom we are all to bow and worship in service throughout all eternity.

**WHAT DOES THE REBUILDING OF DAVID'S TABERNACLE MEAN FOR US?**

**1. WE HAVE ACCESS TO THE HOLY PRESENCE OF GOD**

*Hebrews 4:14-16 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

There were three items in the ark: the golden pot of manna, Aaron's rod and two stone tablets on which God had written the Ten Commandments. (Hebrews 9:4) These items are actually symbols of man's rebellion.  
>The golden pot of manna represents man's rejection of God's provision.  
>The rod of Aaron represents man's rejection of God's leadership.  
>and the two stone tablets of God's commandments represent man's rejection of His standard of holiness.

But because God delights in mercy, He had these items put away in the ark and covered with the mercy seat, which had two cherubim on it. (Hebrews 9:5) And once a year, the high priest would enter the holy of holies which was the inner room of the tabernacle, covered with a thick veil, where the ark was and sprinkle the blood of the animal sacrifice on the mercy seat. This means that God's eyes, represented by the eyes of the cherubim, did not see the symbols of man's rebellion. As long as the blood was there on the mercy seat, He saw only the blood and accepted the people. Today, Jesus is our High Priest and He Himself has sprinkled His own blood on the mercy seat in heaven—the throne of grace.

*Hebrews 9:11-12 But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. <sup>12</sup> Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.*

*Hebrews 9:23-26 Therefore it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. <sup>24</sup> For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; <sup>25</sup> not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another—<sup>26</sup> He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.*

Interestingly, the number of times that the Old Testament high priest had to sprinkle the blood on the mercy seat—seven—speaks of Jesus' perfect sacrifice. And because His sacrifice is perfect and He is perfect, we who are in Christ have perfect standing forever before God!

**DON'T WORRY ABOUT FALLING SHORT OF HIS  
STANDARD OF HOLINESS.**

**HE DOES NOT SEE YOUR SINS.  
HE SEES HIS SON'S BLOOD ON THE MERCY SEAT.  
YOU HAVE PERFECT STANDING BEFORE HIM.**

You have access to His presence because of what happened when Jesus died on the cross. When Jesus gave out his last breath, the Bible says that the thick temple curtain in Jerusalem ripped open.

And that curtain used to the holy of holies...The place where God's presence dwelt in a special way The place where only the high PRIEST could enter once a year.....that curtain was ripped open. Signifying that now every believer (and not just the priests) can have access to God's presence.

**MOVE BEYOND THE VEIL INTO THE HOLY OF HOLIES.  
WE HAVE ACCESS TO ENTER INTO THE GLORIOUS  
PRESENCE OF GOD.**

## **2. WE ARE CALLED TO BE PRIESTS BEFORE THE LORD**

*1 Peter 2:9-10 "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; <sup>10</sup> who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.*

All believers are called to a priestly ministry through our faith in Jesus. This is the Biblical Truth that every Christian shares in Christ's priestly status. No longer is there a special class of people who have special access to God and do all the work of the ministry We all have the Holy Spirit, and so we're all priests.

**YOU HAVE ACCESS TO GOD LIKE A PRIEST .  
THE CHURCH IS THE PRIESTHOOD THROUGH THE NEW COVENANT OF  
JESUS' BLOOD.**

***VS. 9 says that you are a royal priesthood.***

**That means you are a child of the king.**

**And as the King's child, you have free access to your Father.**

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**In a castle, everybody else has to get permission through an intermediary to see the King. But as his child, you can run right up to His throne.**

**WE CAN APPROACH HIS THRONE WITH CONFIDENCE.  
WE ARE HIS CHILD.**

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**Just as in the Old Testament, the priests were born into that special class by being a child of the family line of Aaron**

**So now we are born into the priesthood, by being born again, and being a child of the King.**

**3. WE OFFER SACRIFICES TO GOD AS PART OF OUR PRIESTLY MINISTRY**

***1 Peter 2:4-5 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, <sup>5</sup> you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.***

**In the Old Testament, a priest would offer sacrifices to the Lord in the holy of holies.**

**You Are A Priest**

**#1: You have access to God like a priest**

**#2: You are to serve God's like a priest**

**WHAT SACRIFICES DO WE BRING TO THE LORD?**

**1) We Bring a Sacrifice of Praise**

***Hebrews 3:15 <sup>15</sup> Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name***

***1 Peter 2:9-10 "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;***

**2) We Bring a Sacrifice of Ourselves**

***Romans 12: 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.***

You are involved in spiritual service. And it begins with the presentation of your body as a living and holy sacrifice.

What does he mean by body? It means all of you. He wants: your feet, your hands, your mind, your eyes, your mouth, your ears. God wants it all for His glory.

Priesthood begins when you offer everything you are, everything you have, everything you hope to be, all your dreams, all your hopes, all your aspirations, all your faculties, and you say, "Lord, it's all yours." That's the kind of commitment that a priest is called on to offer.

**3) We Bring a Sacrifice of Prayer**

***Revelation 8:3-4 Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. <sup>4</sup> And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.***

Prayer is a spiritual sacrifice to God. It is a sweet aroma in the nostrils of God.