Jesus In The Tabernacle - There Is A Place Beside Me- Part 2

I want you to take a moment and visualize something with me in the Tabernacle in the Wilderness in the Most Holy Place..

- In the most Holy Place, you have the priest standing in the most holy place, and right on the other side of that angel covered veil is the Glory of God.
- And the priest, the Levitical priesthood is living/moving/operating/abiding in the place beside.
- Look at this! God is in the next room - All while the priests were functioning in the most holy place, He's in the next room.
- Eating from the table of show bread, He's in the next room.
- Dressing the lamp with oil, He's in the next room.
- Lighting the incense with fire, all the while cognizant of the fact, He's in the next room.
- Look at the Levitical priesthood, allowed to dwell in the place beside Him.
- He told Moses, “there is a place beside Me and I'll allow you to dwell in the next room.”
- And the only thing that separated Moses from God's glory was the cleft in the rock, And the only thing that separated the priest from the glory was the veil.
- And the only thing that separated the disciples from the glory was the flesh of Jesus Christ, which was His veil… Just in the next room.
- No wonder when Thomas touched the nail prints in His hands and His piercing on his side, he fell on his face and said, my Lord and my God, because he recognize He's in the next room.

See, that's what we're looking at when we're looking at the most holy place.

- We're you're looking at the place where the priest function, dwelled, carried out service, conducted ministry, and offered up sacraments with God in the next room.
- They were in the place beside Him.
- What a wonderful place. The place beside.

I wanna talk about how they got in the place...

- They got in the place through Aaron, who consecrated the priesthood.
- And you will notice that those rooms are equally distributed.
- Now if you think about the first room for a moment where the priest is as being a type of Christ who thought it not robbery to be equal with God and yet made of Himself no reputation, If we understand that those two rooms were just separated by a wall, each one equal to the other, yet making no reputation.
- And then you say, well, wait a minute. How can that be Christ, a type of Christ, when the priests are dwelling in there? In Him, I live. In Him, I move. In Him, I have my being.
- Do we not understand that because we are in Christ, there is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus who walk no longer after the flesh but after the spirit of God in Ephesians one that we are accepted in the beloved that Christ sent us in the place. He sent us in the place and allowed

us to function in a priesthood and call us out of darkness into the marvelous light that we should be a peculiar people, a royal priesthood, and a holy nation.

- And whatever ministry we have now, it is His ministry.
- The Bible says in Corinthians that we have received the ministry of reconciliation, And so we're able to enter in this ministry because Christ has allowed us to be in the place.
- There is a place beside me.

So tonight we're working with shadows and types. Are you gonna go with me tonight?

- let's go to Hebrews chapter nine.
- See, there are so many things about our salvation we can't really appreciate until we understand the tabernacle.
- Can you see why teaching on the Tabernacle is so important?
- As we continue to grow and mature in the Lord, we've got to build on this foundation.
- And if we don't have this foundation to stand on, so many things dealing with Revelation, dealing with eschatology (the study of the end times), dealing with the ends of the age, All of it, God's plan for Israel is gonna be hindered if we don't understand this, and we'll be weak saints.
- We'll be saved, but we won't know why.
- We'll be happy, but we won't really know what we're happy about.
- We'll still be dancing and shouting, and have joy, but it'll be based on little nothing.
- We'll be tossed to and fro. We'll be stumbling from church to church, from fad to fad, from thing to thing because we don't have an anchor in truth.
- But can we spend more time on this foundation? see, when we get a good foundation to stand on and to build our lives on, we're harder to destroy.
- When we have this foundation, what happens to us becomes a non-issue. What ever we're going through with a job, without a job, with a friend, without a friend, If we are built on a rock, hell can fight us, but we''ll still come up standing.

Now look at Hebrews 9:19-28

Let's talk about Hebrews for a second…

- Hebrews is the New Testament parallel to much of Leviticus and Exodus giving structure and credence.
- It refers over and over back to priestly function.
- The book of Hebrews is the gospel of the New Testament relating to the gospel of the Old Testament so that the Jews who were accepting Christ might see the continuity between Jehovah God and Jesus.
- It's worth noting that the theme of the book is often referred to as the book of better things.

- It compares the former to the latter so that it might build a bridge from one to the other for us to see the continuity of the one God who manifested Himself in a multiplicity of ways.
- So, when Hebrews refers back to Moses, it refers to Moses only comparing him to Christ and compares Moses to Christ as the builder to the house. So that through us understanding what Moses has done, we might better be able to realize what Christ has done. Let's look at Hebrews 9:19-28 now…

Hebrews 9:19-28
For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you." And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and <u>without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.</u>

Pointing to Spiritual Truths
- So this passage of scripture is talking about things but it's using things to point to spiritual truths and it's talking about the ceremonies of the Old Testament and how Moses would sprinkle blood upon the the articles of the tabernacle, the ark of the testimony, the law, called different things at different times. Basically, the law.
- And it progresses in his thought from talking about the sprinkling of blood upon the law, and thank God they did sprinkle blood on the law because the Israelites had broken the law before they ever even saw it. You you understand?
- While Moses was coming down off the mountain, the very first commandment was, you shall not have no other gods before me, and they'd already built one.
- You should not build any graven image unto man and there was one waiting on him down at the bottom of the mountain. So he had to sprinkle blood on it, less God look upon it and kill them.
- And that's why we cannot claim to be justified through the law for Paul said by the law shall no flesh be justified.
- The only hope we have is to plead the blood.
- I know it's old fashioned/old school and not many do it anymore.
- I remember growing up how my own mom and the prayers mothers at church would plead the blood.
- Just pleading the blood. Pleading the blood. And that means to get up under and to allow to depend upon the blood for your covering.
- Not to trust in our own righteousness or our performance or anything that we did, but to rely totally on the blood of Jesus Christ.
- Because if God would look upon all the laws we broke for one moment, we would be completely destroyed - But thanks be unto God who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ.
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Then, this passage goes on to talk about how Moses sprinkled the articles or the instruments in the most holy place in the tabernacle.

- The sprinkling of blood was for the purpose of consecration. It consecrated it. It set it apart. It was saying, this is not just any table. This is a table of show bread. It is set aside for the exclusivity of God.
- God and God alone! Set apart by the blood being applied to it.
- The golden altar of incense was consecrated with the blood saying this is not for normal use- this is exclusively for the use of God.
- The candlesticks were consecrated with the blood. That means you didn't take these out and use them in your tent because your candles were broken.
- All of these things belong to God and to God exclusively
- That's what the king found out later in the book of Daniel when he started touching the holy grails of God and the hand of God began to write on the wall because anything that's been consecrated to God and we touch it, we're going to have trouble.
- On this premise lies the protection of the believer because we've been sealed with the blood of Jesus and that's why God says, touch not mine anointed.

So, every year, the priest would consecrate not only going into the holies of holies but he would consecrate the most holy place so that the place where the Levitical priesthood would dwell would be consecrated.

- That is to say to us that we dwell in a consecrated place.
- Remember when I talked to you about the Altar of Incense and how the smoke of the incense represented the prayers and the intercessory capacities of the church.
- So there they are (the priesthood) dwelling in smoke knowing that right on the other side of the most holy place, there was a burning flesh of a dying lamb who was killed for their sins but they didn't have to smell the stench of death because the altar of incense veiled that odor from the outside and put them in an insulated environment.
- So, we understood from that session that they were insulated by the smoke of the altar of incense.
- Now we understand from this lesson that they were consecrated by the blood.
- That the blood had been sprinkled on all of the instruments in the most holy place so that the priesthood dwelt in a safe place protected by the blood.
- Now, you have to be a little Hebrew to appreciate this because it was that blood protection that got them out of the hands of pharaoh.
- When pharaoh was trying to destroy them and the death angel was passing over that night, God didn't tell Israel to to trust in swords or shields.
- He didn't tell them to go out and fight, but he said, no - The death angel is passing by tonight and the only way you can be protected is to get up under the blood.
- So He said, when I see the blood, I will pass over you.
- So they escaped by the blood. So when you tell them now that you got to dwell in the blood, they had respect for the blood. For they understood that without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin.

This is important. Now, you have the priesthood dwelling in a bloody place.

- The priesthood was able to dwell in the place beside God because they were protected by the blood.
- They were in the place by the blood.
- There is a place beside me!
- The place was prepared. The priest would go in and sprinkle blood on the place so that the prepared people could dwell in the prepared place beside God.

What we're studying right at this moment is the preparation of the place for the people.

- The place was prepared by the blood.
- Now, see Moses as it is mentioned here coming in to the most holy place, generally, more Aaron coming into the most holy place to sprinkle blood so that the priest could enter in and be able to dwell beside God another year by the blood.
- If the place were not consecrated by blood, they couldn't come that close lest they die.
- But because the place was prepared by the blood, they could come in.
- Now, this is important - That means that the priest had to go in and prepare the place so that the priesthood could now come into the prepared place.
- Let me try to explain it this way…here are all the people in this room and pretend for a minute that I'm the priest and I'm talking to you - the priesthood.
- I'm telling you wait right here. I'm going in to take blood and sprinkle it, don't go in yet unless you die. I'm going in to sprinkle it in the place.
- Don't offer up no incense. Don't light any candles. Don't eat off the table till I sprinkle it with blood.
- I know you want me to stay here and hang around with you, but I can't stay.
- If I don't go in and prepare this place…
- I know you don't want me to go but I go to prepare a place for you. That where I am, you may be also!
- If I don't go to prepare the place for you, you won't be able to dwell where I am.
- But if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come and receive you. I will come and receive you unto myself that where I am There you may be also.

<u>Hebrews 9:23</u>

Thus it was necessary for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

- He said now on the earth, they were sanctified with the blood of bulls and goats because it was the pattern for which the heavens was a reality.
- It says, so a lesser tabernacle equates a lesser blood, BUT a better tabernacle requires a better blood.
- So the blood of bulls and goats could never be used in the eternal things. That blood opens up a new and living way. That blood allowed us to have access into this grace wherein we stand.

- That BLOOD! It was therefore necessary.
- It was necessary. It wasn't optional. We didn't have a choice, we don't vote about this, it was therefore necessary.
- There's no way we can get this close to God unless we come by the blood. If we don't come by the blood, we don't get to come this far.

Hebrews 9:24-
For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things,

- Now the writer of Hebrews said, Christ has not entered into the holy places made with hands which are the figure or the caricature or the metaphor or the simile of the true or the parable of the true or the pattern of the truth.
- Christ has not entered into an earthly tabernacle. The earthly tabernacle is just a sketch. A token. A symbol. You know, a model.
- You ever put together a lego set?- we have some in our house. Madden likes to put them together.
- I went to Europe last year and while I was gone I sent him the Nortre Dame Cathedral lego set. And while it's fascinating to look at, you don't walk in the lego model of Notre Dame Cathedral and worship.
- No. What would you do with it after you put it together? You put it on your dresser. You built it, and you look at it, but you can't worship in it.
- That's what the tabernacle was... It was a model, and yet the lego model can look exactly like the real one. And you can learn the structure of the real house of worship by looking at the model,
- So for what the writer is teaching in Hebrews is that the Old Testament tabernacle was a model of which the heavenlies is a reality.

Hebrews 9:24-
For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

Look at our high priest.

- Christ! Now to appear in the presence of God for us.
- Not for himself.
- See, if we read on over in Hebrews, they're talking about how every other priest had to enter in for himself because he had messed up too and then for his people.
- But Christ entered in once and for all and perfected forever them that are sanctified.
- See, all the other guys when they got ready to go into the holy of the holy, they had to offer up blood for their mess and then offer up blood for the people's mess.
- But because Christ didn't have any mess, He entered in...

Hebrews 9:24-
For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

- Now, to appear in the the presence of God us.
- Did you catch that? NOW, to appear - right now.
- He appears right NOW in the presence of God for us
- When does He do it?
- NOW!
- When the High Priest comes into the presence of God, He comes in for the people.
- **He is our man in heaven. Our representative!**
- Just like we send our senators to the Washington DC to represent the needs of our respective states in the federal government, and whenever there's a problem in the government, they say call your senator.
- Christ is our man in heaven. He is there for us. Underline that for us (on our behalf).
- He's not standing as a mediator for Himself. He is standing now to appear in the presence of God for us.

Now, see, the thing we need to understand is that His coming into the presence of God is for us.

- On one side of this thought, Jesus our High Priest comes into the presence of God for us meaning on our behalf.
- Representing us like a lawyer represents us in the court of law - and he stands up before the judge here not because he's defending himself, but he represents the defendant or the plaintiff or whichever one you may be.
- And so whatever he stands and petitions, he doesn't petition it because he's in trouble, He petitions it because we're in trouble. And he is representing us.
- And so Christ is there in heaven <u>for us</u>. Okay?
- But there's a deeper part…
- It would help us to understand that if we were just with this isolated text alone, we'd be through but because He (Jesus) is the first fruits, the "for us" takes on a different meaning because He actually is a sampling of the church.
- Colossians 1 says He is the head of the church that in all things, He might have the preeminence and that He is before all things.
- He is the Sampling. He is the first fruits.
- When I learned this teaching, I was taught about a woman who makes a pot of soup. And how she takes a tablespoon of soup from the five quart pot to taste it to make sure it has enough salt in it.
- The reason she doesn't pick up the whole pot is that she understands that the sample represents the whole.
- If the sample is acceptable, then the whole is acceptable.
- So catch this, after his resurrection and just before His ascension, Jesus said to His disciples, don't preach yet. Don't witness yet. Don't say anything yet. I want you to wait to see if the sample is approved.

- Go to Jerusalem and wait - And he ascended into the heavenlies.
- Jesus was teaching His disciples in that moment “if I am accepted, You are accepted because I am going in for... You.
- So when He goes in now He said, if I go in and you don't hear a sound...
- Remember what we’ve talked about previously? The priest in the holy of holies would change garments, and the bell on the bottom of His garment would ring to let you know that He was alive.
- And so all of Israel had to wait for the sound.
- Because if there was no sound, it meant that the priest was dead. And it meant that that the cook had spewed the tablespoon of soup out.
- And if the tablespoon was rejected, then the whole pot is going to hell.
- But if the tablespoon, if Christ being a sample gets in and is accepted, then the whole pot knows that they are accepted in the beloved.
- I'm not accepted in my name. I'm accepted in the name of the Lord Jesus.

He says, now now listen. Now I'm in. So whatever you ask the father, ask him in the name of the one that got in because I'm your man in heaven.

- If you want things handled in Washington DC and you live in Arizona, You don't call the Florida senator because they’re not your senator
- Are y'all understanding what I'm saying?

Hebrews 9:25

Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world.

- Look at this. He's not gonna have to keep going in and coming out and going in and coming out and going in and coming out because his blood is stronger than that.
- See, the blood of bulls and goats would only hold up for a year, and then they had to go back in and offer it up again.
- And so you see lambs continually dying, the smell of flesh continually going on because the blood was weak, and the covenant was weak through the flesh.
- But when Jesus brought about a new covenant for us, it was a better covenant.
- It was so strong that the Bible said his blood is efficacious.
- It means it will never lose its power.
- That means His blood has never dried up. It has never evaporated. It has never dehydrated.
- That it had covered the mercy seat, and even the angels are still singing about blood that's 2,000 years old.

You remember how I showed you how the angels were leaning over the mercy seat looking down for the blood.

- All of heaven was waiting for the blood to hit the mercy seat.
- That's why in Revelation we don't hear the church shouting, we hear the angels say, worthy is the lamb that was slain.
- God delivered us scientifically, there was a structure to it. He didn't just get us out of trouble any kind of way.
- There was a strategy to how God delivered us.
- He blew the devil's mind.
- The devil thought he had us cursed to hell, but God put Him in check!