

For His Glory and Our Well-Being

Part 3: Designed to Give Glory [6/14/26]

Please turn to: *1 Corinthians 6:19-20*

Sermon #1: “It’s All About God.”

- We glorify God because He deserves it and it’s good for our mental well-being.
- It’s not just “spiritual” but directly impacts every aspect of our lives, right down to eating and drinking.
- We reviewed the Hebrew people enslaved in Egypt, the 10 plagues, crossing the Red Sea, and the victory of God over Pharaoh.
- God intended to glorify HIS OWN NAME by defeating the 10 Egyptian gods.
- 40 years later when Hebrews enter promised land, news of 10 plagues bringing Egypt to its knees reached them...and they were afraid of Yahweh!
- Fast forward to Jesus: He glorified Father God not by overcoming Rome or the Pharisees, but by giving His own life on the cross for our sins and eternal life.
- Every country in the world knows His name—He’s the most famous Person ever! Never had TV, radio, social media, YouTube, or monetization.
- There’s a church in every country in the world!

Sermon #2: “It Depends on God and Not Us”

- If God gives His word and makes a promise, He keeps it...no matter what.
- Analogy to promising son ’57 Chevy was analogy to Prodigal Son.
- God keeps His word because of Him and not us.
- Not our behavior, righteousness, obedience, or faithfulness.
- Told Hebrew people He would 1) free them from Egypt and 2) deliver them to PM.
- Were HP faithful and obedient? No. Sometimes the opposite.
- Were there consequences to them along the way for their lack & rebellion? Yes.
- Yet in the end, God does everything He said He would.
- Why? It depended on His character to keep His word.
- Jesus said He would die for our sins, rise from the dead, and ascend to heaven.
- Did He keep these promises? Yes.
- Did Him keeping His word depend on the faithfulness, righteousness, and obedience of the Israeli people? That of His closest disciples? No.
- Jesus keeping His promises depends on Jesus...and no one else.
- ANY promise Jesus made in the Bible, He will keep!

TODAY we recognize that we were **literally designed and chosen to glorify God. It’s our purpose in life.**

Question: as far as our relationship with God, what is the purpose of Church? When we gather here on Sunday mornings, what are we supposed to be “doing”?

Now for a mind-being revelation:

[1Co 6:19-20 ESV] 19 Or do you not know that ***your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you***, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. ***So glorify God in your body.***

What was the purpose of the ancient Temple/Tabernacle? Did you know that the whole thing was God’s idea...He is the One Who approached Moses. In Exodus 25, the Hebrew people are camped out at the foot of Mt. Sinai and it was only 3 months from their freedom from Egypt. God then says this:

[Exo 25:8-9 ESV] 8 And let them ***make me a sanctuary***, that ***I may dwell in their midst***. 9 ***Exactly as I show you*** concerning the ***pattern*** of the tabernacle, and of all its ***furniture***, so you shall make it.

A few things stand out here, and I’ll save the best for last.

- God is the One Who wants an earthly “sanctuary.”
- He already has the design right down to all the “furniture,” decorations, what He wants them made out of, everything.
- The entire purpose is so ***He can live WITH us***, among us, in the midst of us. He wants to be with us.
- Did you know that Jesus’ OT name, Immanuel, means “God with us”?

Even though His purpose is to be with us, ***look how particular God is:*** He knows what He wants from His house...right down to the minor details. Everything has to be just right. How many of you are particular about your homes?

God gives both the **blueprints AND how He wants the insides** to be decorated and furnished, and the Hebrew people do exactly that.

Now let’s ask: **what role does the LORD have in mind for the Hebrew people concerning this tent/temple?**

[Deu 12:5-7 ESV] 5 But ***you shall seek the place that the LORD your God will choose*** out of all your tribes to put his name and ***make his habitation there***. ***There you shall go***, 6 and there you shall bring your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the contribution that you present, your vow offerings, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herd and of your flock. 7 And there you shall eat before the LORD your God, and

you shall rejoice, you and your households, in all that you undertake, in which the LORD your God has blessed you.

God wants His people to **gather in the Tent/Temple, make offerings, eat, and REJOICE**. The context of rejoicing was for them to focus on how God had blessed them: freeing them from Egypt, performing the miracles, providing food & water in the desert, giving them purpose, bringing them to their own land.

Rejoicing at the amazing truth that He's doing all this because He wants to be with them. He wants to close the distance between heaven and earth and live with His people.

Doesn't the same apply to Jesus? Why did He come down here in human form? Why allow Himself to be betrayed and crucified?

The tent/temple was constructed so that, **the closer you got to its “center”**, the closer you were to God. There were “stations” along the way, each of which signified something.

- **The fiery altar** is where people had their sins cleansed by the blood of an unblemished animal.
- **The bronze lavers**, aka “the sea of glass” were big tubs of water where a person washed the dust off their face, hands, and feet.
- **The Table of Shewbread** had no-yeast loaves of bread which represented the pure word of God—you would stop and eat it.
- **The Menorah** was the 7 pronged candle we see to this day represented the 7 spirits of God.
- **The Altar of Incense** was the place of worship.
- **The Holy of Holies** was where the Ark of the Covenant sat, and God hovered between the wings of the cherubim.

God didn't just move in after this was built...***the whole place had to be sanctified***...cleansed and consecrated. The priests would sacrifice an unblemished lamb and sprinkled its blood everywhere inside it, including on all the furniture I just mentioned. Then they came behind that with a special anointing oil and covered all the same things with that.

Then the Lord came into the Temple and **hovered over the Ark**. As soon as He did that, the priests immediately entered in and....

- Stopped at the fiery altar to have their sins cleansed.
- Stopped at the sea of glass to wash “dust”—the defilement of the world—off themselves.
- Ate of God's word at the Table.

- Contemplated God's divine aspects and character at the Menorah: His goodness, wisdom, love, power, mercy, etc.
- Worshipped the Lord and gave Him glory, burning incense.

God wanted a place on earth that mimicked His living room in Heaven.

Fast forward to Revelation 4-5, **John is caught up to God's living room and sees all the above:** the altar of fire, the sea of glass, the table, the menorah, and the altar of incense. He even sees the Lamb who was slain and its blood sprinkled on everything. The design given to Moses also had the likeness of a lion, eagle, man, and ox in the Sanctuary and John even sees them when he's in heaven!

What was the whole purpose of the tent/temple? For God to live there, and for the *human beings within and without to worship Him and give Him glory.*

Now let's go back to the first Scriptures I read to you today:

[1Co 6:19-20 ESV] 19 Or do you not know that ***your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you***, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. ***So glorify God in your body.***

The human body was designed by the **ultimate engineer:** The LORD Himself. He designed us down to the last detail, no matter how minor.

He built us exactly the way He wanted us...which means every one of us has PURPOSE.

What is our purpose? To be the temple of God: where He lives.
This is not symbolic! It's not an analogy.

The human body IS the Temple of God. **It directly mirrors the blueprints He gave to Moses**, right down to all the furniture and decorations.

THE OUTER COURT of the Temple is comparable to our external body—the flesh—and its ability to walk and act in this world.

THE INNER COURT is the mind, the heart; thoughts and emotions.

THE HOLY OF HOLIES is the place where the Ark of Covenant is, and where God lives.

- Our ears and eyes represent the gates to the temple, where things enter in.
- Our BLOOD represents the altar of sacrifice.
- Our **hands, feet, and face** represent the sea of glass and need to be washed from the defilement of the world.
- Our mouths and stomachs represent the table of bread, where we eat & digest the word of God.
- Our minds represent the Menorah which contemplates the characteristics of God, by which its renewed.
- Mouth/Lungs/Breath represent the incense altar where worship and glorifying God is done with the mouth.
- Our heart is the holy of holies where we've made covenant with God and He lives.

We were literally created to be in relationship with God...to be living room here on earth as it is in heaven.

We were literally created to glorify Him no matter what.

My purpose in life—our purpose as the church—*is to glorify God and be one with Him.*

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 (ESV) “Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?”

You and I are holy ground! Sanctified, cleansed, and anointed!

- Jesus died on the cross and shed His blood to cleanse us of all sin.
- The Holy Spirit came to live within us, and anointed us with His “oil”.
- Jesus washed us by the water of His word like the sea of glass.
- He feeds us His word, compared to shewbread.
- He renews our minds when we contemplate HIM.
- He gave us mouths and breath so that we can worship Him and give Him glory.
- He lives in our hearts and expresses Himself through it.

2 Corinthians 6:16 (NIV)

“What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: ‘I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.’”

Ephesians 2:19-22 (NIV)

“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is

joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.”

1 Peter 2:5 (ESV)

“You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

Back when the Jews still had their tent/temple, **they revered it as sacred ground**. More valuable than any other building, land, or anything. They sought and fought to preserve it at all costs b/c they valued it so highly.

We ARE the temple of God now! We are sacred ground! God has chosen us for this!

When He calls upon us to be holy and live righteous lives, it's more than a “command.” ***It's us living according to our divine design.*** It's us fulfilling the purpose He's given us.

What's more is that the Bible goes on to say that **each one of us are stones that comprise an even larger spiritual structure** known as the church! A glorious, beautiful, resplendent being that Jesus is preparing for marriage!

We've truly been given everything by our Lord! **What other response but than to glorify Him???**