

# THE GIVER AND HIS GIFTS

## The Giver and His Gifts Series

### Part 7

March 27, 2022

Hebrews 8:1-6, “Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man. For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; thus it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law. They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the

tent, he was instructed by God, saying, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.” 6 But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.” May the Lord add His Blessing to the Reading and the Hearing of His Word; Amen!

Over the past several weeks, we have been working our way through a series entitled, “The Giver and His Gifts” during which we have been striving to unpack all that the Bible records about the Holy Spirit and all that which this topic of study entails. The Holy Spirit seems to be the most undertaught subject topic in modern Christianity and it is my opinion that we are not seeing the Power of God at its fullest because of the lack of solid Biblical teaching on this topic.

Church family, we cannot serve Jesus, live a sacrificial life, nor demonstrate the Power of Christ in the Earth apart from the Power and Presence of the Holy Spirit of God! We will be unable to do anything apart from the Spirit being alive and active in our daily lives.

The Apostle Paul spoke on this very topic found in 1 Corinthians 6:17-20, “But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. 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, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.”

I would like to point a few important themes in this passage of text; 1) when we are joined to Christ, we become one spirit with him 2) what we do in our body matters when it comes to sexual purity 3) our body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit and our bodies do not belong to us; they belong to the Lord 4) We are to glorify God in our bodies by governing the manners in which that we utilize our bodies.

The Apostle Paul says a great deal in 4 verses of Scripture; but the ultimate point I want to drill down on is found in verse 19, “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,”. Say this with me, “I am the Temple of the Holy Spirit” (Repeat)

And if we are the Temple of the Holy Spirit, what parallels exist that serve as a pattern of comparison between this prior statement and the Temple that Moses built. Let’s look back at the first half of Hebrews 8:5, “They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things...” What Moses built was a foreshadowing or an example of what was in Heaven or perhaps better stated as a pattern or example of what was to come so let’s dissect each part of the Tabernacle.

First off, the Tabernacle was a three-part structure: Outer Court, Inner Court, and Holy of Holies. Each of these locations had articles of furniture that were extremely important; remember, if the Tabernacle that Moses built was a foreshadowing then each article of furnishing was a foreshadowing as well. In the Outer Court, there was the Gate, the Altar of Sacrifice and Brazen Laver. In the Inner Court, there was the Golden Menorah (7-Branched Lamp Stand), the Altar of Incense, and the Table of Showbread. In the Holy of Holies, there was the Ark of the Covenant which had three contents found within it; The Ten Commandment tablets of Moses, Aaron's Rod that budded, and the Jar of Manna.

Let's define the purpose and intent of each of these. The Gate to the Tabernacle was guarded, highly respect, and there was only one gate to the Tabernacle (VERY IMPORTANT). The Altar of Sacrifice was a huge platform that was used to burn the sacrifices and it was from this Altar that Coals were pulled from for the Altar of Incense. The Brazen Laver was a large water container that was used by the Priests to wash their hands and feet before entering into the Inner Court of the Tabernacle.

In the Inner Court of the Tabernacle, you had three articles of furniture: Golden Menorah, the Altar of Incense, and the Table of Showbread. The Golden Menorah was a seven branched lampstand that utilized oil for its means of creating illumination. The Table of Showbread had 12 loaves of bread which signified provision.

The Altar of Incense was the Place of Prayer; the Priests would take coals from the Altar of Sacrifice and place them upon the Altar of Incense. The Priest would then take a specific mixture of different specified ingredients that would be pour upon the coals which would, though heat, release the sweet smelling aroma before the veil that separated the Inner Court from the Holy of Holies.

In the Holy of Holies, the Ark of the Covenant rested in this place with three contents contained within it; The Ten Commandment tablets of Moses, Aaron's Rod that budded, and the Jar of Manna. The Ten Commandments signified God's Divine Law, the Rod of Aaron signified God's Divine Authority, and the Jar of Manna signified God's Divine Provision.

Now why is all of this important? Because if we are the Temple of the Holy Spirit then it is our responsibility to host the Presence of God in our lives by way of oversight and function of our Temple.



## 1. The Gate - There is only one way into Fellowship with the Father and the Door is the Son!

- a. The Gospel of Saint John 10:7-9, “<sup>7</sup> So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.”
- b. The Gospel of Saint John 14:6, “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

## 2. The Altar of Sacrifice

- a. The Gospel of Saint Luke 9:23, “And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”
- b. 1 Corinthians 15:31, “I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day!”

## 3. The Brazen Laver - Sanctification (Washing)

- a. Romans 6:3-4, “<sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order

that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

b. Our Baptism into Christ is our means of washing in preparation for ministry in the inner court; you have to partake of His Sacrifice and His Baptism before you can minister before Him.

c. There is a Process of Progress - You can't have his presence if you haven't first seen the value of Sacrifice and Sanctification!

#### 4. The Golden Menorah - Illumination of Truth in our Inner Man

a. The Gospel of Saint John 16:13-15, “When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

#### 5. The Table of Showbread - Divine Provision

a. The Gospel of Saint John 4:32-34, “But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work.”

## 6. The Altar of incense - Intimacy of Prayer

- a. Psalm 141:2, “Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!”
- b. Prayer is vitally important in Hosting His Presence
- c. 1 Corinthians 14:2, “For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit.”
- d. You can't host His presence if you haven't first seen the value of tending to Truth (Illumination), the Offering of Prayer and Partaking of Supernatural Provision.

## 7. The Ark of the Covenant - Where the Presence of the Lord resides;

- a. The Ark contains the Law, the Rod, and Manna
  - i. Order, Power, Provision
- b. Hebrews 8:8-10, “8 For he finds fault with them when he says: “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, 9 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant, and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord. 10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house



of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”

- c. You will only sustainably host His Presence by seeing the value in the Door, in Sacrifice, in Sanctification, in Prayer, in His Provision and in Spiritual Illumination! His Presence is on the Other Side of Obedience to the Due Order!
- d. Church family, we are the Temple of the Holy Spirit and it is our utmost responsibility to Serve Christ by tending to our Temple and Hosting the Presence of the Holy Spirit by allowing Him to have His perfect Will in our Lives!