

Southside Baptist Church  
Sunday Morning 10-2-22  
Christianity 101 Message 25 Part 10  
"Truth from the Tabernacle – Here I am to Worship"

1. Introduction:
  - a. Taking a look back:
    - 1) Last week - the last veil that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies:
      - a) Remember the colors?
      - b) The Veil – a picture of the body/life of Jesus.
      - c) God confirmed that man has access through His Son.
      - d) The torn Veil is an invitation to come beyond the Veil.
  - b. Taking a look ahead:
    - 1) Today – The Ark of the Covenant.
      - a) One piece of furniture made of two parts.
    - 2) The Ark represents the presence of God and His Throne on earth at this time.
    - 3) The Tabernacle is about WORSHIP!
2. God commands the Ark to be built: Exodus 25:10-22
  - a. Two important pieces:
    - 1) The Ark – a small chest of acacia wood overlaid with gold.
    - 2) The Mercy Seat – the lid or cover of the Ark.
  - b. God is the Initiator:
    - 1) How to approach God is not the result of the reasoning of man.
      - a) Romans 3:11 reminds us –
    - 2) God has brought and is bringing salvation to man.
      - a) The open Veil is an invitation to every nation, tribe and tongue to know God.
  - c. A sobering reminder of the Holiness and Glory of God.
    - 1) When the Ark was moved –
    - 2) When Israel turned from the Lord the ark was captured. I Samuel 4:1-11
    - 3) Application – When God's presence is no longer respected, revered and truly appreciated, then the glory of His presence is no longer witnessed.
3. The Contents of the Ark: Exodus 25:21
  - a. The Manna: Hebrews 9:4
    - 1) God's provision of bread for the Israelites in the wilderness.
    - 2) Remember that Jesus likened Himself to the Bread of Life – John 6:32
  - b. Aaron's Rod that budded: Hebrews 9:4
    - 1) Numbers 16 and 17 record this event.
      - a) God instructed a representative of each tribe to bring an almond shaped rod with the name of the tribe engraved on it.
      - b) The one that budded would be God's chosen high priest.
      - c) The budding and blossoming rod points to the resurrection of Jesus.
  - c. Ten Commandments: Hebrews 9:4
    - 1) The "tables of covenant" – God's spoken testimony of holy and righteous living.
    - 2) The purpose of the Law?
    - 3) The Law was hidden within the ark under God's Mercy Seat.
      - a) Romans 10:4 –

- 4) My new position Romans 8:1 –
- 4. The Purpose of the Mercy Seat: Exodus 25:17
  - a. We have something to CELEBRATE!
    - 1) God was intentional in placing these commandments under His Mercy Seat.
    - 2) God places these commandments inside the ark – a display of mercy.
      - 1) Application - Hiding the law under the mercy seat reminded the people that God could view the law unbroken and perfectly kept when approaching Him through mercy instead of law. On that day of atonement God saw the blood not the law.
    - 3) How deep, how wise, how high is the love of God?
      - a) The law required death for breaking it, but God would allow a substitute animal to die in the sinner's place.
    - 4) The Mercy Seat provided two important things:
      - a) God's holy character is maintained, and
      - b) Sin is punished through a perfect sacrifice.
    - 5) The law has one standard – perfection.
- 5. Today's Take Away:
  - a. What understanding about how to approach God will you take with you today?
    - 1) Have you come to God through the sacrifice of His Son?
  - b. The Truths from the Tabernacle helps us understand even more that we, the Church, truly have something to celebrate!