

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning 9-18-22
Christianity 101 Message 25 Part 8
“Truths from the Tabernacle – Here I am to Worship”

1. Introduction:
 - a. Taking a look back:
 - 1) Some things to remember when you look at the table of shewbread.
 - a) The dimensions. The 12 loaves. Who is the Bread a picture of? What was the purpose of the bread?
 - b. Taking a look ahead:
 - 1) We move closer to the Ark of the Covenant as we stand at the Altar of Incense.
 - 2) The Tabernacle is about worship.
 - 3) “**Worship**” – a practice that goes beyond religious ritual.
 - 4) Worship in a broad sense – we are describing a person’s walk and relationship to God.
 - 5) Specifically – Worship is acknowledging the reality and worth of God that I should bow my knee, surrender my heart, lift my hands and open my mouth to exalt, to lift up, to proclaim, to acknowledge with my life that God is alive, that God is worthy, that God is Holy and that God is dwelling with man even this very day.
 - 6) An altar is a place of sacrifice and giving, a place where one acknowledges his relationship to God and a place of accountability before God.
2. The Altar of Incense: Exodus 30:1-10
 - a. Consider God’s instructions:
 - 1) The altar was placed before the veil to the holy of holies.
 - b. The incense: Exodus 30:34-38
 - 1) Specific instruction as well as exclusive.
 - 2) Application – what is it that makes up the right mixture of worship in our lives?
 - 3) The incense burned on hot coals from the Brazen Altar.
 - 4) Application – Tabernacle – the emphasis is on worship first before and while you work.
3. Do you see Jesus in this Altar?
 - a. This altar reveals a blessing we enjoy:
 - b. Incense is a picture of prayer:
 - 1) If the altar represents Jesus, what is Jesus doing? There is a connection between prayer and incense:
 - a) Psalms 141:1-2
 - b) Luke 1:10; Revelation 5:8; Revelation 8:3-4
 - c. On earth we find that Jesus prayed often for people:
 - 1) John 17:9-10; Luke 22:31-32; John 17:15 and I John 2:1
 - d. Jesus our High Priest:
 - 1) Hebrews 7:25 –
 - a) Human priests died but Jesus lives forever.
 - b) “an unchangeable priesthood” –
 - 2) What is the conclusion of the matter?
 - 3) Intercession involves our Lord’s representation of His people at the throne of God.
 - 4) His presence in heaven signifies that His sacrifice has sufficiently paid the penalty of sin for every believer.
 - 5) An example of Jesus interceding can be found in John 17 –
 - 6) In contrast Revelation 12:10 –
4. The Prayer Life of the Believer: Exodus 30:6-8

- a. Link between Incense and Prayer:
 - 1) In which direction do you imagine your prayers going when you pray?
 - 2) We are acquainted with what prayer is and the power of prayer, but those declarations really fall short of being believable in the life of a prayerless believer.
- b. The Place of Prayer: Exodus 30:6
 - 1) The altar was specifically placed before the veil in front of the Holy of Holies where God dwelt. God chose this place.
 - 2) Hebrews 4:14-16 –
- c. The Persistence of Prayer: Exodus 30:7-8
 - 1) Aaron was to burn incense in the morning and evening. I Thess. 5:17?
 - 2) Do you remember what we learned from Revelation 3:20?
- 5. Today's Take Away:
 - a. Are you a believer who is content to live a prayerless life?
 - b. Did you come today prepared and ready to Worship?