

The True Sanctuary

Hebrews 8 :1 – 10:18, part two

Sanctuary: From the Latin “sanctus,” meaning holy. A place set apart because it is associated with God’s presence

East of Eden

- Exiled from God’s presence because of sin
- The promise of restored relationship remained

Mediated Access

- Gracious, but still restricted and incomplete
- Anticipating the better yet to come

Ministry in the True

- Jesus’ priestly work opens the way for us to enter God’s presence

Sanctuary Restored

- In the incarnation, God comes near to us. In the ascension, Jesus brings us near to God
- What began in a garden ends in a city. We’ll find our ultimate sanctuary there

For Life Group Discussion

Hebrews 8 :1 – 10:18, part two

1. Do you consider the space where we gather on Sunday mornings a “sanctuary”? Why or why not? What adds to its sanctuary status, and what takes away from it?
2. Read Gen 1:27-31; 2:7-8; and 3:6-10, 24. What do we learn from these verses about the relationship in the garden between God and human beings? What was lost in the fall, and how is that reflected in the reactions of Adam and Eve and the actions of God?
3. Read Gen 17:7; Ex 6:6-7; Lev 26:12; and Heb 8:10. What do we learn from this covenant formula? What is God promising?
4. Read Ex 25:8-9; Heb 8:1-5; and 9:1-5. What was the purpose of this portable tent, known as the Tabernacle? What were its shortcomings and restrictions? And how did it anticipate the better yet to come?
5. Read Heb 6:19-20; 9:3-4; and 10:19-22. How does Hebrews use the imagery of the Tabernacle to describe the High Priestly work of Jesus?
6. Read Rev 21:1-5. How does life in the garden and the covenant promises anticipate this scene in heaven? What do you think it will be like to enter into this true and ultimate sanctuary?