

A Concrete of Testimony

Intro:

1 Jn 4:1-3

Why was this a litmus test for genuine faith?

You cannot live the christian life with a mere philosophy, a mere perspective change, a mere plan to change...to live the Christian life you need the very real person of Jesus Christ

Our hope is not in a mere philosophy, perspective, or plan...it is in a person

Problem:

Rom 6:1-14

You cannot live the christian life without confidence in a very real and particular atonement, a very real and particular forgiveness, a very real and particular relationship with a very real and particular God

This is the very real and particular testimony of a very real and particular tabernacle...

Main Idea:

Atonement is not an abstraction

Forgiveness is not an abstraction

A relationship to God is not an abstraction

Hope is not an abstraction

Implication:

It is a person

Col 2:1-15

Our hope is not a philosophy, not a perspective, not a plan

...it is a person

Application:

The tabernacle is a testimony of concrete hope

A mere philosophy cannot stand long under an onslaught propaganda news constantly sowing fear

A mere perspective cannot stand long under the weight of lost jobs and stolen dreams

A mere plan cannot stand long under the chaos of a world gone mad

The person of Christ can

The Christ the true tabernacle is the ultimate testimony giving us a concrete answer to killer viruses, tiny tyrants and racism.

Our hope is is not an abstraction. The tabernacle declared it. The Gospel proved it

Do you believe it?

Articles for further study:

<http://www.gracesermons.com/robbeeee/imputed.html>

<https://www.ligonier.org/blog/two-important-words-good-friday-expiation-and-propitiation/>

www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/what-is-truth/

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/conferences/the-gospel-2016-national-conference/gospel-as-historical-fact/>

<http://www.barabbas.com/sermons-book/?>

[sapurl=Lys00TViL2xiL21pLyt0Znc4N2p4P2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZQ==](http://www.barabbas.com/sermons-book/?sapurl=Lys00TViL2xiL21pLyt0Znc4N2p4P2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZQ==)

A Concrete of Testimony

Text:

Atonement is not an abstraction

Exodus 38:1 ¶ **He made the altar of burnt offering** of acacia wood. Five cubits was its length, and five cubits its breadth. It was square, and three cubits was its height.

Exodus 38:2 **He made** horns for it on its four corners. Its horns were of one piece with it, and he overlaid it with bronze.

Exodus 38:3 And **he made** all the utensils of the altar, the pots, the shovels, the basins, the forks, and the fire pans. He made all its utensils of bronze.

Exodus 38:4 And **he made** for the altar a grating, a network of bronze, under its ledge, extending halfway down.

Exodus 38:5 He cast four rings on the four corners of the bronze grating as holders for the poles.

Exodus 38:6 **He made** the poles of acacia wood and overlaid them with bronze.

Exodus 38:7 And he put the poles through the rings on the sides of the altar to carry it with them. **He made** it hollow, with boards.

Jn 1:29 (seems like an abstract statement)

2 chron 7:1-5 (atonement is not an abstraction)

num 29:12-23... (1 sheep = 4 gallons - visceral raw)

heb 2:14-17 (they really made it, their altar, their sacrifice (propitiation) was concrete, how much more is ours)

Forgiveness is not an abstraction

Exodus 38:8 ¶ **He made the basin of bronze** and its stand of bronze, **from the mirrors** of the ministering women who ministered in the entrance of the tent of meeting.

1 jn 1:5-9 (forgiveness might seem to be an abstraction)

rom 3:9-20 (James 1:22-25 look in the mirror guilt is not an abstraction)

Ex 20:22-26 (neither was forgiveness)

lev 1:1-9 (they were meant to really see their forgiveness - it was concrete)

Heb 9:11-14; 10:1-7, 19-23 (how much more is ours)

A relationship with God is not an abstraction

Exodus 38:9 ¶ **And he made the court.** For the south side the hangings of the court were of fine twined linen, a hundred cubits;

Exodus 38:10 their twenty pillars and their twenty bases were of bronze, but the hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver.

Exodus 38:11 And for the north side there were hangings of a hundred cubits; their twenty pillars and their twenty bases were of bronze, but the hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver.

Exodus 38:12 And for the west side were hangings of fifty cubits, their ten pillars, and their ten bases; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver.

Exodus 38:13 **And for the front to the east, fifty cubits.**

Exodus 38:14 The hangings for one side of the gate were fifteen cubits, with their three pillars and three bases.

Exodus 38:15 And so for the other side. On both sides of the gate of the court were hangings of fifteen cubits, with their three pillars and their three bases.

Exodus 38:16 All the hangings around the court were of fine twined linen.

Exodus 38:17 And the bases for the pillars were of bronze, but the hooks of the pillars and their fillets were of silver. The overlaying of their capitals was also of silver, and all the pillars of the court were filleted with silver.

Exodus 38:18 And the screen for the gate of the court was embroidered with needlework in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen. It was twenty cubits long and five cubits high in its breadth, corresponding to the hangings of the court.

Exodus 38:19 And their pillars were four in number. Their four bases were of bronze, their hooks of silver, and the overlaying of their capitals and their fillets of silver.

Exodus 38:20 And all the pegs for the tabernacle and for the court all around were of bronze.

Mk 4:10-11 (Col 4:4; 1 thess 4:12 walk before outsiders - seems to be an abstract concept)

mk 11:15-17 (though they might have forgotten - they were really meant to see the boarders of their fellowship with Him - it was concrete)

eph 1:3-14; 2:1-13 (how much more is ours)

Hope is not an abstraction

Exodus 38:21 ¶ These are the records of the tabernacle, the **tabernacle of the testimony**, as they were recorded at the commandment of Moses, the responsibility of the Levites under the direction of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

Exodus 38:22 Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, made all that the LORD commanded Moses;

Exodus 38:23 and with him was Oholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, an engraver and designer and embroiderer in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen.

Exodus 38:24 ¶ **All the gold** that was used for the work, in all the construction of the sanctuary, the gold from the offering, was **twenty-nine talents and 730 shekels**, by the shekel of the sanctuary.

Exodus 38:25 **The silver from those of the congregation who were recorded was a hundred talents and 1,775 shekels, by the shekel of the sanctuary:**

Exodus 38:26 a beka a head (that is, half a shekel, by the shekel of the sanctuary), for everyone who was listed in the records, from twenty years old and upward, for 603,550 men.

Exodus 38:27 The hundred talents of silver were for casting the bases of the sanctuary and the bases of the veil; a hundred bases for the hundred talents, a talent a base.

Exodus 38:28 And of the 1,775 shekels he made hooks for the pillars and overlaid their capitals and made fillets for them.

Exodus 38:29 **The bronze** that was offered was **seventy talents and 2,400 shekels;**

Exodus 38:30 with it he made the bases for the entrance of the tent of meeting, the bronze altar and the bronze grating for it and all the utensils of the altar,

Exodus 38:31 the bases around the court, and the bases of the gate of the court, all the pegs of the tabernacle, and all the pegs around the court.

ex 30:11-16 (hope is not an abstraction - the were meant to see their hope - literally a gleaming testimony of redemption/hope - it was precious and concrete)

1 pet 1:13-20 (how much more is ours)

Application Questions

MESSAGE RECEIVED
(Do you understand what you learned?)

- What is the main point of this message? (Could you summarize it in your own words?)
- What is something new that you learned?
 - What was your knowledge in this area before you heard this message?
 - Any change you will make in your daily life based upon this new knowledge?
- What reference verse stands out to you and why?
- How did this message encourage you? Why do you think that is?
- Did the message pair with your weekly bible reading in any way?
- What is a struggle you had with this message? It's content or it's application?
- What are some truths that stand out to you in this message?
 - Any life testimonies that you can think of that are good examples of these truths?
- What character/attribute of God stands out to you the most in this message and why?
 - Any specific verse that puts this attribute on display?

MESSAGE APPLIED
(What are you going to do with what you learned?)

Culture

- What are the lies of the world/devil that we need to be aware of that are antithetical to this message?
- What do you think the cultural animosity is towards this message if we apply it rightly?

Church

- How do you see this message impacting the church corporately? (locally/globally)
 - What prayers would be good to pray for the church body based on this message?

Individual

- Is there a sin in your life that this message convicted you of?
 - Why do you think this was a blind spot in your sanctification before this message?
- How did the message address any specific life circumstance you are going through right now?
- Select two questions from the below list and write down your answer to them:
 - How does this message change or impact your:
 - Prayer Life?
 - Evangelism?
 - Bible Reading?
 - Christian Relationships?
 - Non-Christian relationships?
 - Parenting?
 - Role as a Husband/Wife?
 - Workplace?
- **How have you been changed by this message? What is your one memorable takeaway. If I ask you “How did God sanctify you through the preaching of this message, how would you respond?”**