

## **CRUCIAL ASPECTS OF GOD'S ECONOMY PORTRAYED IN EXODUS (4)—BUILDING**

### Message One

#### **The Vision of God's Building**

Scripture Reading: Exo. 25:8; Gen. 1:26; Exo. 40:34; Rev. 21:10-11; 1 Cor. 10:3-4; 1 Pet. 2:2, 4-5; John 1:14; 2:21; 1 Tim. 3:15; Eph. 3:17; Rom. 12:1-2; Heb. 8:5; 10:22

#### **I. God's building is the desire of God's heart and the goal of God's salvation—Exo. 25:8:**

- A. The tabernacle in Exodus reveals that the goal of God's economy is to have a corporate people as His dwelling place for His expression and representation in eternity—Gen. 1:26; Exo. 40:34; Eph. 2:21–22; Rev. 21:10–11.
- B. The entire direction of the book of Exodus is toward the building of the tabernacle:
  - 1. Through the Passover, the exodus from Egypt, and the crossing of the Red Sea, we experience God's complete salvation and are saved from the condemnation of sin, the world, and Satan—1 Cor. 10:1–2; cf. Exo. 1–14.
  - 2. In the wilderness, we enjoy the heavenly manna and the living water as God's rich provision to conquer the flesh and be brought into the kingdom of God—1 Cor. 10:3–4; cf. Exo. 15–18.
  - 3. At the mountain of God, we receive a revelation to know God Himself and the desire of His heart—to have a dwelling place on earth—Matt. 16:18; cf. Exo. 19:1–7; 20:1–17.
  - 4. The goal of God's full salvation is the building up of His dwelling place; God's chosen people are saved all the way from their fallen condition to become God's dwelling place—Exo. 40:1–2, 34–35; 1 Pet. 2:2, 4–5; cf. Eph. 2:1, 22.

#### **II. The type of the tabernacle is a full and complete revelation of Christ and the church:**

- A. The tabernacle typifies the individual Christ as the Head and the corporate Christ as the Body, the church—John 1:14; 2:21; 1 Tim. 3:15; 1 Cor. 12:12.
- B. God's building—as typified by the tabernacle—is the mingling of God with man to become the corporate expression and enlargement of God—Exo. 25:8–9; 1 Cor. 3:9; 1 Pet. 2:5; cf. Exo. 26:15–30.
- C. In order for Christ to have the Body, the church, as His enlargement, we need to have much experience of Christ—Eph. 3:17; John 14:20; 15:4a.

#### **III. We need to be delivered from the world with the satanic counterfeits of the building and be freed to participate in God's building—Exo. 1:11:**

- A. The world is against God's building, and God's building is opposed to the world—Gen. 12:8; Rom. 12:2; cf. Gen. 11:1-4; Exo. 32:1–6.
- B. If God's people are willing to be rescued from the world unto God, God can work out His purpose to have a dwelling place—Exo. 1:11; 40:1–2, 34–35.
- C. For the building up of God's dwelling place, our hearts must be lifted up to consecrate ourselves and all that we have to God—Rom. 12:1; Exo. 25:2; 12:35–36; cf. Exo. 35:4–9.

**IV. In order to see the vision of God’s building, we need to be brought into intimate fellowship with God under a clear sky and remain with God under His glory on the mountain of God—Heb. 8:5; cf. Exo. 24:9–18:**

- A. The children of Israel stood at different distances in relation to the mountain of God:
  - 1. The majority of the people were at the bottom of the mountain standing at a distance and trembling—Exo. 20:18.
  - 2. The nobles of the children of Israel went up the mountain and, under a clear and transparent sky, “beheld God and ate and drank”—24:1–2, 9–11.
  - 3. Moses was on the mountaintop being infused with God under His glory, remaining with Him to receive the divine instructions for the building of the tabernacle—24:13, 16; 34:29; Heb. 8:5.
- B. Among believers today, there are different degrees of fellowship with the Lord and different degrees of closeness to Him—2 Cor. 5:19–20; 1 John 1:3, 5–7.
- C. This difference in degrees can be illustrated by the tabernacle with the outer court, the Holy Place, and the Holy of Holies.

**V. God’s ultimate desire, as typified by the heavenly pattern of the tabernacle, is that we would “come forward to the Holy of Holies” and experience Christ in the deepest and most intimate way to become the dwelling place of God—Heb. 10:22; 3:6.**

**Focus:**

*In order to see the vision of God’s building as the goal of our salvation, we need to make a journey out of Egypt to the mountain of God where we behold God, feast with God, remain with God under the glory of God, receive the heavenly pattern for the building of God, and are ushered into the experiences of Christ to become the building of God.*

