

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

Message Seven

Experiencing and Enjoying Christ in the Holy of Holies

Scripture Reading: Eph. 2:21-22; Heb. 9:4; 10:19, 22; 2 Tim. 4:22; Col. 2:9; 1 Cor. 12:12; Exo. 25:16; 31:18; 2 Cor. 3:17; Exo. 16:32-34; Rev. 2:17; John 6:48, 57; Heb. 8:10; 4:16; 10:19; Rev. 22:14

I. The ultimate purpose of the tabernacle in our experience is that we would be ushered into the Holy of Holies to become the dwelling place of God—Eph. 2:22; Heb. 9:4; 10:19, 22:

- A. The outer court and the Holy Place are for God's people to come forward into the Holy of Holies—10:19, 22.
- B. The Holy of Holies as the dwelling place of God signifies our spirit, where God dwells; whenever we turn to our spirit, we enter into the Holy of Holies where we meet God, who is on the throne of grace—Heb. 4:12; 2 Tim. 4:22.

II. In the Holy of Holies, we experience Christ as the ark of the testimony with its contents in the innermost way to become the enlargement and expansion of Christ—Heb. 9:4; Col. 2:19; 1 Cor. 12:12:

- A. The ark was the sole content of the Holy of Holies; the ark contained the tablets of testimony, signifying Christ as the embodiment of God—Exo. 25:16; 31:18; Col. 2:9; John 1:18.
- B. The ark of acacia wood was overlaid with gold, signifying Christ as the mingling of divinity with humanity—the God-man—dwelling in our spirit—2 Tim. 4:22; 2 Cor. 3:17; Col. 2:9.
- C. The ark of the testimony contained three items, signifying the experience of Christ in the innermost way for His corporate expression:
 - 1. The hidden manna in the golden pot signifies our experience of Christ as our life supply in the deepest and most intimate way—Exo. 16:32-34; Heb. 9:4:
 - a. The hidden manna, signifying the hidden Christ, is a special portion reserved for His overcoming seekers, who overcome the degradation of the worldly church—Rev. 2:17.
 - b. We must spend time with the Lord daily by coming forward to abide in the presence of God in the Holy of Holies, where we enjoy the hidden Christ as a special portion for our daily supply.
 - c. The way to be incorporated into the tabernacle is to eat the hidden manna; the more we eat Christ, the more we are incorporated into the Triune God as a universal incorporation—John 6:48, 57; cf. 14:10a, 11a, 16-20.
 - 2. The budding rod signifies our experience of Christ in His resurrection as our acceptance by God for authority in the God-given ministry—cf. Num. 17:3, 5, 8, 10:
 - a. A rod is a piece of dead wood that has been cut and is also dried up; that such a dried up piece of wood budded, indicates the resurrection life of Christ.
 - b. Where there is resurrection life, there is authority; where there is authority, there is the life supply—cf. Num. 17:8.

3. The tablets of the covenant, which are the tablets of the Ten Commandments, signify our experience of Christ as our inward law of life—Heb. 8:10:
 - a. By imparting His divine life into us, God puts the highest law into our spirit, which spreads into our inward parts, such as our mind, emotion, and will, to become His laws within us.
 - b. The law of commandments regulates us from without by and according to dead letters; the law of life as the issue of Christ being our life enlightens and regulates us from within.

VI. The propitiatory cover of the ark signifies Christ as the meeting place of God and His redeemed people—Exo. 25:17-22:

- A. Christ is the One who propitiates, the One who appeases the relationship between God and us, the One who reconciles us to God by satisfying God's demand through Himself as the propitiatory sacrifice—Heb. 2:17; 1 John 2:2; 4:10.
- B. Christ is also the propitiatory cover with the shining of His divinity and the redeeming of His humanity, the place where we enjoy propitiation before God and where we can meet and fellowship with our righteous, holy, and glorious God to receive Him as grace—Exo. 25:21-22; Rom. 3:25; Heb. 4:16.
- C. Because of the blood of redemption, we can now have fellowship with the righteous God in the glory of Christ—Lev. 16:14-15; Exo. 25:22; Heb. 10:19; Rev. 22:14:
 1. The effectiveness of the blood of the sacrifices is not mainly at the altar in the outer court but at the ark in the Holy of Holies—Lev. 16:14-15.
 2. When God comes to us and speaks to us in the glory of Christ, He does not see the requirements of His righteous law, and He does not see our sins; instead, He sees the redeeming blood on the propitiatory cover.
 3. Whenever we meet with God in glory, we have the sense deep within that we are washed by the blood; this is the propitiatory cover in our experience—1 John 1:7; Rev. 1:5; 7:13-14.

Focus:

When we come forward to the Holy of Holies—our spirit—to experience Christ as the hidden manna, the budding rod, and the law of life, we are built into God and God is built into us so that we become the dwelling place of God in the universe, the eternal tabernacle, the New Jerusalem.