

#1

*The Tabernacle, Part 14:  
Establishing a Place for God*

***Ephesians 2:17-22 (NASB95)*** And He came and preached peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,

#2

but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

*Paul is writing to the Church at Ephesus.*

*He's talking about how Jews and Gentiles come together in Christ Jesus.*

#3

***Ephesians 2:18-19*** "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built on the foundation"

*At this point Paul is dealing with the foundation.*

He is really not dealing with us.

He is demonstrating what we are built upon.

***Christ is the chief cornerstone.***

He is the beginning of the building.

***We are built on the foundation that the apostles and prophets have established.***

#4

***1 Corinthians 3:11 (NASB95)*** For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

#5

***Ephesians 2:21-22 (NASB95)*** *In whom* the whole building, *being fitted together*, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being *built together* into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

*This is important.*

*Did you notice that it said: “In whom” not “on whom?”*

Christ is the cornerstone and the whole building is fitted together in Him and grows up into a holy temple in the Lord.

We are connected in Him, not on Him.

He is the foundation in whom we are builded.

***Acts 17:28 (NKJV)*** for *in Him* we live and move and have our being.

***Ephesians 2:21-22 (NASB95)*** In whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

#6

*We are connected in Him.*

*Paul goes beyond what we are built into, and looks at how we are being built together for a dwelling place of God.*

*He is talking about how we fit together.*

***God told Moses to build the tabernacle out of Acacia wood.***

The Acacia tree is gnarled and is covered with thorns.

***The church is formed out of all kinds of people.***

We come from all kinds of backgrounds.

We have dysfunctional and perfect families.

We have rich and poor, good and bad.

We were all sinners.

***When we become part of the church, we become a new people.***

What we used to be has been changed.

We have been made new.

***All other ties have been broken.***

We are new creation.

Old things have passed away.

Our old connections and ways of living have been removed.

We have been made new.

***We have been tied together in Christ.***

**2 Corinthians 5:17(Amplified)** Therefore if any person is [engrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away. Behold, the fresh and new has come!

***In whom we are all fitted together.***

The King James says: ***we are fitly framed together.***

***This is the language of the Master Builder.***

This is talking about framing a wall.

This is how you and I connect together.

This deals with our relationship with God and one another.

We are the household of God.

**Ephesians 2:21-22 (KJV)** In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

The Greek word συναρμολογέω, soon-ar-mol-og-eh'-o; indicates that we are closely-jointed together, organized compactly.

#7

#8

*When we are fitly framed together, we become a habitation of God through the Spirit.*

The boards of the Tabernacle were skillfully fitted to each other to form a habitation of God.

*Within the Tabernacle, in the Holy of Holies, the Shekinah glory of God's presence dwelt.*

*The glory of God came down there.*

*God made provision for them to meet in this place.*

#9

### *The Tabernacle Structure*

The Tabernacle measured 45 feet long, 15 feet wide, and 15 feet high. (30 cubits X 10 cubits) (Holy place 20 cubits X 10 cubits)

(Holy of Holies 10 cubits X 10 cubits) (A cubit is 18 inches)

Two sides and one end consisted of upright boards, and the entrance had 5 pillars, (Exodus 26:26-37).

*The entrance consisted of five pillars of acacia wood covered with gold standing on bronze sockets.*

*Bronze (brass) speaks of judgment.*

All of the furniture on the outside of the Tabernacle was made with bronze.

The Brazen Altar was a place of sacrifice and judgment.

The Laver was a place of washing to be cleaned from defilement.

Once past the entrance the Priest only saw gold and silver.

The judgment is past.

*Once inside the Tabernacle the Judgment is behind.*

*There were 100 silver sockets that held 48 boards and 4 pillars for the veil.*

The boards were gold covered, and joined and fitted together by silver sockets.

***The silver sockets were made of the redemption money, (Exodus 26:26-28).***

The believer's foundation is the redemptive work of Christ, (1 Peter 1:18-19).

Each board was about 15 feet long, 2 ¼ feet (27inches) wide and 3 inches thick.

(10 cubits high, 1 ½ cubit wide, 1/3 a span wide – Exodus 26:15-30)

***Twenty*** boards were on the north side, ***twenty*** on the south, and ***six*** on the west.

The boards were joined together with ***five horizontal bars*** two on the top and two on the bottom with a middle bar going through the boards, (Exodus 26:26-29).

The two top and two bottom bars were held in place with rings of gold.

The two boards at the back corners of the structure provided rings for the bars and were firmly fitted together.

***\*\*\* (Start working with the loose boards.)\*\*\****

#10

***Ephesians tells us that we become a habitation for God in the Spirit.***

What the tabernacle was in the Old Testament we have become for God in the Spirit.

***The tabernacle was not one single piece.***

By yourself, you cannot become the Church.

The church has been fitly framed together.

***The temple of the Holy Ghost is the Church.***

***There is more to this than trying to fit in.***

***Here we are trying to have unity.***

We are individuals trying to be joined together.

You have your ways and they have theirs.

We are coming together, trying to have unity.

We are trying to form a habitation for God.

**\*\*\**(Put the loose boards in the silver socket.)*\*\*\***

***In order for the Spirit to dwell in the midst of our unity, we must be together.***

We must be united.

We cannot have our individual agendas and form a habitation for God.

God will not dwell in the midst of confusion.

***God dwells in the midst of our unity.***

***There is nothing the devil wants to fight more than our unity.***

Satan knows that God dwells in the midst of our unity.

#11

***Psalms 133:1-3 (NKJV)*** Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head, Running down on the beard, The beard of Aaron, Running down on the edge of his garments. It is like the dew of Hermon, Descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the Lord commanded the blessing— Life forevermore.

#12

***When we are united, we become a habitation for God in the Spirit.***

When we are united, we are able to stand.

When we are united, we take a stand for God together.

***On Christ the solid rock I stand,  
all other ground is sinking sand.***

***Having done all to stand, stand therefore having your loins gird about truth.***

These boards are all standing.

They must stand for the same thing.  
They must represent the same thing.

***There is no connection.***

Nothing is holding them together.  
They are standing on their own ideas and faith.  
They are trying to represent what they think the church should be.

***We must be connected in our standing.***

When there is no connection there is no real unity.  
As soon as anything arises it is easy to see how disconnected they are.

***In the wilderness, there are all kinds of contrary winds that can cause the tabernacle to fall if it was not connected.***

***They had to be held together.***

***We cannot form a unified habitation for God, by the Spirit, until we are connected in our standing.***

We must be connected in our standing.

This must be more than doctrine or program.

It must be more than a good purpose or agenda.

***God does not dwell in a unity that is around our own agendas.***

*Everything about the tabernacle came out of the mind of God.*

***When we are not connected, we may come together and have a wonderful service.***

*At times it seems like everything is going great.*

***When we really need the indwelling manifestation and power of the presence of God, we are not able to do it.***

We have nothing to cause us to stand together.



*God said when you cover the boards with gold it is not enough to just stand them up there together.*

There must be something that unifies and draws them together.

They must become unified into one tabernacle.

*Even if we are standing for the same thing, we cannot accomplish what God intends until we have been fitly framed together.*

*\*\*\* (Put the boards together in the silver base.) \*\*\**

*When the building has been fitly framed together, nothing can tear it apart.*

*They are fitly joined together.*

*The boards of the tabernacle were joined together by the silver sockets and then by the five golden bars that went around the tabernacle.*

If each board had four bars that ran along the outside.

The fifth bar was pushed through the middle of each board.

*You need to see how tightly this tabernacle fits together.*

When they were finished with a construction, it became one tabernacle.

The various pieces were knit together.

*The silver sockets testify of redemption.*

Whenever you see silver in the tabernacle, *think of redemption.*

*In Exodus 30:12-13* they all paid a half of a shekel for a ransom for themselves to the Lord.

#13

The silver around the tabernacle was a constant reminder of the price of redemption.

**1 Peter 1:18-19 (NKJV)** knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

*Here is the parallel with the Old Testament price of redemption.*

The price of redemption in the Old Testament was gold and silver.

In the New Testament, the price of redemption is the blood of Jesus Christ.

The only thing that is going to cause you and me to stand together is when we have been redeemed.

#14

*When we have been redeemed, we have one thing in common.*

Redemption and salvation changes us.

The blood of Christ has redeemed us unto God.

*The uninterrupted connection of our conformity has to do with our redemption.*

These are they who have up washed their robes in the blood of a lamb and made them clean.

***The blood of the Lamb has redeemed me.***

When we stand together whatever one goes through, we all go through.

We may not all look alike.

We may not all act alike.

We may come from different backgrounds.

*The blood of the lamb has redeemed us and in Him we are made clean.*

*We all need to understand that we are standing on the same foundation.*

If you have been redeemed you are on the same foundation.

There is only one foundation.

The blood of the lamb has redeemed

*On Christ we stand, all other ground is sinking sand.*

The same thing that redeemed him redeemed her.

*Once we are established upon the sure foundation, God performs a miracle of transformation and we are made one body.*

It does not matter what we were, we have become one in Christ Jesus.

The same blood that redeemed you redeemed me.

We are able to take the same stand because it is the same blood.

We have a sure foundation in Christ.

*When the tabernacle was put together God's way it was strong and was a testimony of His presence.*

*When the Church is put together God's way we are mighty through God.*

**Ephesians 4:11-13 (KJV)** And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

*Did you notice that there are five bars  
that hold the boards together?*

The Church has been established on the foundation of Jesus Christ.

He has supplied the work of the ministry to draw us together.

#17

*It is upon the basis of unity of the church that we  
become a habitation of God by the Holy Spirit.*

The activity that takes place in here is a testimony of Christ.

It is filled with the aroma of praise and prayer.

The light of the Holy Spirit is here.

***The death on outside should never be remembered.***

This is a place of worship before the living God.

***We are a testimony of Christ.***

***We are a testimony of His redemption.***

***We are a testimony of His power to keep us.***

God wants to bring us together in unity so that His presence may come down.