

#1

*The Tabernacle, Part 15:
What is the testimony of the Tabernacle?*

When the Tabernacle was completed, the Israelites knew that this was a place for God.

Everything about the Tabernacle was a witness of God's supply and the redemption He provided.

They could not look at the Tabernacle without thinking about God.

This must be the testimony of the church.

Our gathering together must be with this single goal in mind.

This was a place for God.

God told Moses: *Exodus 25:8 (NKJV)* And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

#2

Everything about the Tabernacle was a witness of God's presence and deliverance.

While they were in the wilderness, depending on God for manna from heaven and water from a rock, they built the tabernacle.

They could not say that they had been powerful, or wise enough to get to this place on their own.

They had been slaves in Egypt for 400 years.

God had brought them out of Egypt.

God made them strong.

God had given them wealth.

God was their deliver and protection.

The tabernacle caused them to remember what God had done for them.

They would look at the Tabernacle and remember the Passover Lamb and deliverance.

They would look back to the Red Sea crossing, God brought them through

They would remember Sinai, when God came down and told them how to proceed and live.

The tabernacle was the place where the pillar of fire would come down.

They would remember God's supply and goodness.

#3

The structure and materials of the Tabernacle reminded them of God's power and provision.

Every piece and part of the tabernacle indicated what God had done for them.

All of the materials that they gave were a result of what God had provided them.

They were suffering in Egypt when God brought them out.

When God brought them out of bondage He provided them with everything they needed to survive and thrive.

Everything they used to build the tabernacle was something God had given them.

God told their father Abraham that they would come out of Egypt with great possessions, *Genesis 15:14*.

Egypt was plundered when Israel left.

They came out with much wealth.

God provided them the material.

They did not plant the trees that supplied the wood.

They were blessed by God.

This was a personal place.

The witness had to do with individuals.

Everyone in Israel was personally involved.

They freely gave their offerings and sacrifices to make this happen.

They had contributed to make every joint and seam.

The walls of the Tabernacle rested on the base of silver.

They knew that silver was the redemption money.

Every one had to give one half shekel of silver for the ransom of their soul.

One hundred talents (7,500 pounds, Exodus 30:25-28) of that silver formed the foundation of the Tabernacle.

150 pounds of redemption silver rested under each board of the Tabernacle.

They gave to make this place for God to come down.

They made the animal sacrifices.

The curtains and materials constantly reminded them of their personal labor to make this place.

Many men and women worked together to construct this place for God's presence.

They made the curtains, and furniture.

They gave the gold, silver and cut the wood.

#4

There was a greater message in the Tabernacle than their labor.

If all that they saw was what they had done, they would miss the point.

The Tabernacle was not a memorial of their wealth, contributions, and labor.

The Tabernacle was a place for meeting God.

The greater message was about their redemption, atonement, and deliverance.

They could come to this place to find peace, safety, forgiveness, and covering.

This was a place for God.

They would come to the tabernacle and find the presence, power, and mercy of God.

The glory of God was associated with everything in the house.

This was a place of prayer, intercession, and service.

This was a place of worship.

It was a place to bring your guilt, shame, and pain and find release and forgiveness.

This was the place for the blood covering and atonement.

God told Moses a fire should always be burning on the altar, it shall never go out, Leviticus 6:13.

They were to always be ready to lay their judgment down and take up His atonement.

A place was to be perpetually prepared for them to come to God.

God intended to make atonement for them here.

In the Tabernacle Holy Place, outside the Veil, the Lamp was to burn continually, Exodus 27:20-21.

The children of Israel were to bring pure olive oil for the light.

The Light in the Holy Place required constant attention.

This is a place of worship, supplication, and praise.

There should always be the sound and aroma of worship.

Looking back at the tabernacle, we can see God's redemption, salvation, and fellowship at Christ's expense.

The silver sockets testify of redemption.

The gold covering over the boards testifies of our new nature.

The curtains remind us that the blood of Jesus Christ covers us.

The brazen altar reminds us of the Cross of Christ.

The fire on the altar tells us God is always ready to make atonement for our sin and judgment.

The laver tells there is a place where we have been cleansed.

The Holy place reminds us that God is here and dwells in the midst of His people.

The table of showbread tells us Jesus is the bread of life.

Prayer, intercession, and praise are the incense.

The light speaks of the work of the Holy Spirit illuminating and revealing the things of God.

#6

1 Corinthians 3:16 (NKJV) Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

1 Corinthians 6:20(NKJV) For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

We should never forget what it was like before we came to Christ.

On the outside is death and trouble.

On the outside, life is without hope.

On the outside is judgment because of sin.

We have been brought out of that to glorify God in our body and spirit.

We are here to accomplish His will.
We are called to a higher life.
We are representatives of God.
We are made to be a testimony of the Living Lord Jesus Christ.

The graphic images in the Wilderness Tabernacle testify of the fellowship and grace God has given.

We must remember where we came from.
We must remember what God wants to do in us.
Keep in mind the fellowship that we have is a result of God's work and grace.
God wants to abide in the midst of the unity of His people.

It is a Divine ministry of Grace that has brought the Church together.

When the church gathers together, it is imperative that the atmosphere be charged with the aroma of prayer and praise.

The smell of death and judgment must be shut out.

The roughness and crudeness of our previous life must be removed, changed, and covered with His grace, purity, and character.

The judgment ends at the brazen altar and the cross.

We are brought together by an act of God's great mercy, grace, and power.

When we gather together in the lovely His Name of Jesus Christ, He has promised to come down.

Never take this lightly.

This is a place of worship before the Living God.