

**"Then the cloud covered the tent of the meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the Tabernacle," Ex 40:34.**

{*"For throughout all their journeys, the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and there was fire in it by night in the sight of all the house of Israel," Ex 40:38.*}



The desire of our loving God is to dwell among His people. *"Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation," Ex 15:13.*

The picture above vividly represents the glory of God as He visited Israel in the wilderness. Since the fall of man, this is the first step, or phase, in which God shall dwell with mankind. The LORD told Moses, *"And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them," Ex 25:8.*

Mercy, man's greatest blessing, was where God dwelt in the Tabernacle. *"And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony," Ex 25:22.*

The next phase of dwelling, after the Tabernacle, was in David's desire to build a permanent house for the LORD, which Solomon completed. But, it was David's kingdom that God established forever - a kingdom which Jesus re-established, being the Seed of David. *"...I will give you the sure mercies of David," Paul mightily preaches in Acts 13:34.*

Thus, in Jesus, God moves one step closer to dwelling permanently with His people by entering our flesh. *"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth," John 1:14.*

The "grace and truth" of Jesus allows New Covenant people to worship closer to God than those of the Old Covenant. *"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth," John 4:24.*

Yet, there is another phase within the New Covenant. As noted, God came down and dwelt among His people in the Old, and in the Person of Jesus in the New, but now, He will enter His people in the Person of the Holy Spirit. Those called out by Jesus to be His church, are baptized with the Third Person of the Trinity, on the DAY OF PENTECOST. The 120 in the upper room were added to, as Peter preached, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit," Acts 2:38.

Clearly, the body of Christ, the church, is where God settled within the New Covenant. In Paul's letter to the Ephesians, he says, 'Having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, the whole building fits together, growing into a holy temple (shrine),' "in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit," Ephesians 2:22 (read 20-22).

We understand that another phase comes in the resurrection. At this time, the words of Jesus ring forth, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God," Mt 5:8. This is "Thy Kingdom Come" and a time when all of man - his body, soul and spirit, joins with the Creator in fellowship in their new and glorified bodies.

Yet, the Bible gives us another time, in which God's Tabernacle comes down from Heaven. "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them," Revelation 21:3. Soon, JESUS is coming again and His people will meet Him in the Air. Let's all get ready.

TO LIVE AGAIN - THAT'S THE MEANING OF REVIVAL. Those who live, in spirit, love to meet with God. I am sending this Newsletter out one day early to let you know that Trinity Missionary Baptist Church will have a special meeting and you are invited to meet with us.

COME TO OUR SPECIAL MEETING ON  
Friday, FEB 4 and Saturday on FEB 5 at 7:00 pm  
Join in our REVIVAL and LIVE.

Steven Keeler of Los Angeles is the Evangelist.  
Sunday morning service is followed by a catered lunch.  
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