

SERMON 4

“Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in the holy hill?” Psalm 15:1.

The former children of Israel sojourned in the wilderness for forty years, and they prepared a tent, according to the commands of God, which was thirty cubits in length and ten in breadth and height. Now this tent or tabernacle was set as a figure of that other tabernacle in which the latter Israel are to dwell, being the Spirit of God. Now, round this tent was a court, which was a figure of the law given to Moses, which did not admit men to the knowledge of spiritual things but only as it were to view the outside thereof; and the tabernacle itself was divided into two parts, the first called the Holy Place, being a figure of the gospel, by which man obtained a knowledge of spiritual things and holiness was required: but yet the body was not cleansed from the fall, and so died. This place being longer one way stood as a figure that perfection was not to be gained under the gospel, but the Holy of Holies was equal in size every way, both breadth, and length, and height, being a resemblance of that Holy Jerusalem, which John saw coming down out of heaven (Revelation 21:2), which was of equal size each way, showing that the inhabitants thereof would have both spirit, soul, and body made holy and without blemish (Ephesians 5:27). But between these two places hung a vail, which stood as a figure of the evil in the blood, and if this was not removed they could not pass from the Holy Place into the Holy of Holies. *“He who now letteth will let until he be taken out of the way”* 2nd Thessalonians 2:7.

“What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own” 1st Corinthians 6:19.

“At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you” John 14:20.

“I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God” Romans 12:1.

“And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth; and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length, and the breadth, and the height of it are equal” Revelation 21:16. Being the law and testimony, and the fullness of the Spirit would rest upon it, and keep all the commandments which were given to the Son of man to perform and make their mortal bodies like the body of Jesus after his resurrection. *“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you”* Romans 8:11. *“Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself”* Philippians 3:21.

In the holy place were kept the table of shewbread, the golden candlestick, and the golden altar of incense, being figurative of the two sacrifices, the one of the Jews being the animals, and the other of the Gentiles the bread and wine, which were to be partaken of as a figure of the sacrifice of Jesus as an atonement for the sins of the world.

The first, or holy place, is the life or place of the angels, their lives being lower than God, to minister unto man, between the mortal life and the immortal life – they are to be ministering spirits from the throne of God. *“Who maketh his angels (being then called that which they were to be in the resurrection) spirits”* Psalm 104:4. It was the first place from which the rebellious, *“The angels which kept not their first estate”* Jude 6, were cast, and they were permitted to go into the earth to prove the creation, that the works of God might be made manifest.

So there is the evil power, ;which is called the devil, to minister to the evil in man, and he attracteth the evil, which by man he sowed in the field – the field being the body of the woman, as the magnet attracts the iron.

“The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one” Matthew 13:38.

“Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the would that sinneth it shall die” Ezekiel 18:4. The evil in it. But in the second place, or Holy of Holies, was kept the ark of the covenant covered with gold, being a figure of the last

covenant that God will make with man, of which Israel will be the firstfruits, that their spirits, souls, and bodies be preserved blameless (1st Thessalonians 5:23) by God fulfilling in them His new covenant, putting his law within them and causing them to keep these laws forever (Jeremiah 31:33; Hebrews 8:10). For thus saith the Lord, “*That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon* (Babylon being called a city, is the body of the woman, wherein the evil was placed; “*And upon her forehead was a name written – Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the earth*” Revelation 17:5. The seventy years is the visitation of the ingathering of Israel from amongst the Gentiles) *I will visit you, and perform my good word towards you in causing you to return to this place*” Jeremiah 29:10. Which is the holy of holies.

“*He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him*” Psalm 126:6.

Jesus wept for man, and he went forth according to his words: “*If I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you*” John 16:7. And after he arose, his body became the tabernacle of God and ascended, fulfilling the text, showing who would abide in the tabernacle; but he promised he would come again and bring with him his sheaves, which is the Spirit that will make man the sheaf or branch of Him. “*I am the vine, ye are the branches*” John 15:5. They being immortal – equal with Him.

“*For lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb*” Judges 13:5.

As the angel ordered that no razor was to come upon the head of Samson – he being a type of Jesus – so will it be with those who are to abide in the tabernacle and dwell in the holy hill, according to the text – they not marring the temple of God, by His Spirit keeping His commands in them – by Him subduing the evil which was placed in the city (Genesis 1:28). “*The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, He will teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you*” John 14:26. “*Ye shall not round the corners of your heads, neither shalt thou mar the corners of thy beard*” Leviticus 19:27. He that does this mars the image of God, and his body seeth corruption, which is the first

curse that was pronounced on the body of man, unless it be removed by the body receiving the law of Christ (Romans 8:2).

And these are they who will abide in His tabernacle, and dwell in His holy hill, according to the text. The whole race of the first Adam and Eve is three days and a half; but the life of the latter Adam and Eve, which is the immortal Bridegroom and Bride, is eternal, they being born of God: “*Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days nor end of life*” Hebrews 7:3.

And these are the sealed number, the hundred and forty four thousand, which are redeemed from amongst men, being the firstfruits unto God and the Lamb (Revelation 7:1-8; 14:1-4): being called the bride, the lamb’s wife (Revelation 21:2). Being the new world, which the body of Jesus was the beginning of. “*For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee; and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee*” Isaiah 62:5.

And now the Spirit of truth, which Jesus said should come, is bringing all things to the remembrance of Israel which are written in the Scriptures, and is opening the seals, and showing unto them the Scriptures which have been hidden and are yet to fulfill, causing the uncircumcised in his flesh to become circumcised in heart and flesh; and he that marred the temple of God to mar it no more, and is pointing out the glory that is laid up at the right hand of God, which will shortly be given to all who receive his testimony and obey the command of his Spirit. And thus the Spirit is the Comforter, because it announces unto man the joyful tidings that his sorrows and woes will shortly terminate.

And that he will make the old earth new, and his glory will fill it according to the words of the prophets. And these are they in whom the Lord will delight, and their bodies will be of his tabernacle; and as he abides in his, so will they in theirs, and dwell in the holy hill, as said in the text, which is the new heaven and the new earth.