

The Gospel, 1844, and Judgment Lesson 11 3Q 2006

The Sanctuary and the Little Horn

SABBATH

Read memory Text Hebrews 8:1,2: “The point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, and who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by man.”

What is this text referring to? Who is the high priest referred to? Jesus.

He sat down at the right hand of the throne of Majesty – what is this referring to? The Father, this is one of the texts used to support Ford’s position that Christ didn’t enter the Most Holy Place in 1844 but upon His ascension. Thoughts about this?

Several problems with the argument of Ford, as well as those who oppose Him in our church:

First, When did Paul think Christ was returning? 2000 years later or imminently? And because Paul understood that Christ had a work to do in the MH place before Christ returned again, where would Paul assume Christ was if His return was imminent? Did God give Paul revelation on the day and hour of the Lord’s appearing? So was it left to Paul to consider when it would be?

HEB 1:1 “In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ² but in these **last days** he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.”

Secondly, what about where Christ is ministering? Where in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle built by God and not man. What is that? Is it a building in heaven merely? Or is it more? Any thoughts?

In the building of the sanctuary as a dwelling place for God, Moses was directed to make all things according to the pattern of things in the heavens. God called him into the mount, and revealed to him the heavenly things, and in their similitude the tabernacle, with all that pertained to it, was fashioned. {Ed 35.2}

So to Israel, whom He desired to make His dwelling place, He revealed His glorious ideal of character. The pattern was shown them in the mount when the law was given from Sinai and when

God passed by before Moses and proclaimed, "The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth." Exodus 34:6. {Ed 35.3}

But this ideal they were, in themselves, powerless to attain. The revelation at Sinai could only impress them with their need and helplessness. Another lesson the tabernacle, through its service of sacrifice, was to teach-- the lesson of pardon of sin, and power through the Saviour for obedience unto life. {Ed 36.1}

Through Christ was to be fulfilled the purpose of which the tabernacle was a symbol--that glorious building, its walls of glistening gold reflecting in rainbow hues the curtains inwrought with cherubim, the fragrance of ever-burning incense pervading all, the priests robed in spotless white, and in the deep mystery of the inner place, above the mercy seat, between the figures of the bowed, worshiping angels, the glory of the Holiest. In all, God desired His people to read His purpose for the human soul. It was the same purpose long afterward set forth by the apostle Paul, speaking by the Holy Spirit: {Ed 36.2}

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17. {Ed 36.3}

In the cleansing of the temple, Jesus was announcing His mission as the Messiah, and entering upon His work. That temple, erected for the abode of the divine Presence, was designed to be an object lesson for Israel and for the world. From eternal ages it was God's purpose that every created being, from the bright and holy seraph to man, should be a temple for the indwelling of the Creator. Because of sin, humanity ceased to be a temple for God. Darkened and defiled by evil, the heart of man no longer revealed the glory of the Divine One. But by the incarnation of the Son of God, the purpose of Heaven is fulfilled. God dwells in humanity, and through saving grace the heart of man becomes again His temple. God designed that the temple at Jerusalem should be a continual witness to the high destiny open to every soul. But the Jews had not understood the significance of the building they regarded with so much pride. They did not yield themselves as holy temples for the Divine Spirit. The courts of the temple at Jerusalem, filled with the tumult of unholy traffic, represented all too truly the temple of the heart, defiled by the presence of sensual passion and unholy thoughts. In cleansing the temple from the world's buyers and sellers, Jesus announced His mission to cleanse the heart from the defilement of sin,--from the earthly desires, the selfish lusts, the evil habits, that corrupt the soul. "The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant,

whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver." Mal. 3:1-3. {DA 161.1}

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." 1 Cor. 3:16, 17. No man can of himself cast out the evil throng that have taken possession of the heart. Only Christ can cleanse the soul temple. But He will not force an entrance. He comes not into the heart as to the temple of old; but He says, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him." Rev. 3:20. He will come, not for one day merely; for He says, "I will dwell in them, and walk in them; . . . and they shall be My people." "He will subdue our iniquities; and Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." 2 Cor. 6:16; Micah 7:19. His presence will cleanse and sanctify the soul, so that it may be a holy temple unto the Lord, and "an habitation of God through the Spirit." Eph. 2:21, 22. {DA 161.2}

Any Biblical evidence for this?

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"The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver." Mal. 3:1-3.

And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. 2Cor 6:16-18

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. Eph 2:19-22

you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:5

Thoughts? Is it possible the sanctuary which Christ is working to cleanse is the sanctuary of the Holy Spirit? Or is it merely a building in heaven? What evidence do we have?

1. EGW stated that the pattern shown Moses on the mount was the pattern of character
2. EGW states Christ, when He cleansed the earthly sanctuary announced His mission to cleanse the heart from sin
3. EGW states that then entire pattern of the symbols of the sanctuary were God's way of symbolically showing His "purpose for the human soul."
4. Paul states that we are the Temple of the HS
5. Malachi states that when Christ comes to His Temple He cleanses the Levites
6. Paul states again in 2 Corinthians that we are the Temple of God and that God dwells in us.
7. Paul tells us in Ephesians that we are the building blocks of God's temple and God builds this temple upon the apostles with Christ as the chief cornerstone
8. Peter tells us that we are "living stones" again building blocks of a "spiritual house", i.e. a Temple for God

Any thoughts about this? Then what about our memory text which says Christ "sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, and who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by man."

2CO 5:1 "Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands."

What was the sanctuary Moses built called? "The Tent of Meeting" what did Paul call this body? A tent – and then he says we have a building

from God and eternal house in heaven not built by human hands, what is this referring to? How does this language compare to the Hebrews 8:1 text?

What is Christ working to do in His heavenly ministry? To cleanse us and prepare us to live with Him.

Every room in the soul temple has become more or less defiled, and needs cleansing. The cobwebbed closet of conscience is to be entered. The windows of the soul are to be closed earthward and thrown wide open heavenward that the bright beams of the Sun of righteousness may have free access. The memory is to be refreshed by Bible principles. The mind is to be kept clear and pure that it may distinguish between good and evil. As you repeat the prayer Christ taught His disciples, and then strive to answer it in the daily life, the Holy Spirit will renew the mind and heart and will give you strength to carry out high and holy purposes. --MS 24, 1901. {1MCP 327.4}

Why is this necessary and why after 1844? Our lesson title is the Sanctuary and the Little Horn.

Daniel 8:11 "It set itself up to be as great as the Prince of the host; it took away the daily from him, and the place of his sanctuary was brought low."

2 Thes 2:3,4 "Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God."

Could the little horn go into heaven and tear up a building in heaven? Does Satan want to be enthroned in a building or in the hearts and minds of intelligent beings? Has the little horn power been able to introduce lies into the minds of people such that the dwelling place of God has been brought low?

So why after 1844, can God cleanse the inner recesses of the mind/heart/soul without our consent? Without our voluntarily opening our minds/hearts to Him? The reason it was after 1844, is because God knew it would take this long until enough truth about God had been recovered and the lies of the man of sin had been revealed such that we would genuinely trust God and open our hearts to Him completely.

In the teachers comments on Sunday it says, “and the little horn has set itself to hide the true meaning and significance of the sanctuary.”

And, many, within our own church still don't see the true significance of the sanctuary.

TUESDAY

Read last two paragraphs.

How has the attack of the little horn power on the true plan of salvation infected Christianity and how does that infection persist into our own church?

The lesson cites things like, a human priesthood replacing Christ, the mass, the power of the church to forgive sins etc. But if we rid ourselves of the human priesthood, the mass, the power of the church to forgive sins, indulgences, and the other doctrinal distortions of the past, have we rid ourselves of the ultimate lie, the true distortion, the root evil to which all the other lies are tied?

What is the root evil? What is the underlying premise for which Christ had to die, for which the priest has to minister, for which the saints are pleading, for which the mass must be held and Christ's blood must be shed over and over again, for which sins must be forgiven, for which indulgences were sold? What is this underlying perversion?

That God needs to be appeased, propitiated, pled with, that the blood was shed to remove God's wrath, that Christ's death was designed to deal with God's offended sensibilities and get God to forgive us. And now we actually teach doctrines that have Jesus doing the work proscribed by the little horn, the work proscribed by Rome. Many have Jesus in heaven pleading His blood to the Father. And this underlying evil, this lie, still permeates and infects our church. And we don't deal with it or see it, why? Because we spend too much time throwing stones at others who hold doctrines different than ours rather than proclaiming the truth about God as revealed in Jesus!

Teachers comments states, “Satan has tried to replace the true worship of God with some kind of counterfeit.” What Satan wants is to replace God as the one worshipped with himself.

In the teachers comments it states “The earthly tabernacle, and later the temple in Jerusalem, was a powerful symbol of God's abiding presence with His people. It represented not only His presence but the process by which His erring people could be reconciled and restored into a right

relationship with Him. On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being the highest, how well do you understand the symbols connected with the sanctuary service?"

Thoughts or questions about any of the symbols associated with the sanctuary?

Lamb

High Priest

Moses

Twelve Tribes

The population of the earth

The brazen altar

The horns

The laver and water

The daily priests

The vessels

The holy place

The lampstand/ and bowl

The showbread and drink offering

The golden altar

The horns

The incense

The curtain

The shikinah

The angels

The manna/law/rod

The chest

The lid