

The Tabernacle

July 29th [One Seed Four Soils](#) We learned that “The Seed” in the Parable of the Sower = the Word of God, and that “The Word of God” = the Message of the Kingdom and therefore Christ wasn’t teaching us the common evangelical message that we were all once He was, rather He was teaching us the 4 basic responses of the Redeemed when they first hear the gospel of the Kingdom.

Remember the seed sown was exactly the same but it was the condition of the soils that varied. Only one of these soils produce lasting fruit and that’s the soil we are all endeavoring to be.

August 12th [Focus On The Kingdom](#) The central message of Jesus Christ, as well as his apostles was the coming Kingdom – that was all they taught. We saw that Christ’s coming Kingdom is going to be established here on earth at the time of his Second Coming. The Kingdom is not, as is commonly taught today in Christianity, the church, the Body.

August 26th [Jesus Christ Our High Priest](#) We answered the questions: where is Jesus Christ today and what is He doing? We saw from scripture that He is presently in The Heavenly Tabernacle in the Holy of Holies and is making propitiation for our sins. He will remain there until the last Trumpet sounds (Rev 11:15) then he will emerge as King of kings and Lord of lords to gather together all the redeemed and to establish his kingdom here on earth.

September 10th [The Twelve Spies](#) We saw the importance of foreshadowing in the Hebrew Scriptures and how the Children of Israel’s journey from Egypt to the Promised Land is a type of our pilgrimage here today towards the Kingdom to come. We saw that from the many redeemed Israelites that journeyed to Canaan that only 2 adults made it. The others perished in the wilderness because of their unbelief. Today a Rest still remains for us as God’s people; The Kingdom to come is Our Promise Land and we looked at some of the advantages that we have now over the Children of Israel.

September 23rd [Redemption and Salvation](#) We learned that both are not synonymous. Redemption is a calling of God and happens to us here on earth. Salvation is a future event and will be realized at the time of the Resurrection if

we are judged worthy, that's why Paul exhorts the Redeemed "to work out your own salvation with fear and trembling". We saw that true evangelism is to seek out the redeemed that are lost and to make disciples of them, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. (Matt 28:19)

October 7th [The Two Resurrections](#) The 1st resurrection coincides with Christ's Return and is for all those who are redeemed from the time of Adam until Christ comes back, we saw from Daniel 12 that there are 2 outcomes to this first resurrection: one resulting in age-lasting life and the other resulting in shame and age lasting contempt. The outcome is dependant on how we live our lives here. The 2nd resurrection is The Great White Throne Judgment which takes part sometime after Satan is thrown into the Lake of Fire.

October 21st /November 5th [The Judgment Seat Of Christ Part One / Part Two](#) We saw from scripture that Judgment takes place at the time of the resurrection and that all the Redeemed will then be judged according to the good and the bad. Those that have been faithful while here on earth, seeking "glory, honor and imperishability" (Rom 2:7) will rule and reign with Christ in His Coming Kingdom; on the other hand those who have been self-seeking, following evil and rejecting the truth will incur wrath and anger.

We also learned that God motivates us through reward and fear and that it is all by grace. We looked at The Parable of the Mina and how generously our Lord rewards us for being found faithful in very little.

[November 18th The Glory of the Lord](#) We looked at the Holiness of God and how no one could gaze on his face and live, we all got excited to read in Exodus that God allowed Moses to see His Glory by putting him in a cleft of a rock and showing him His back as He passed by. We also looked at the reverence shown to God by great men like Moses, Isaiah and the Apostle John. We learned from Exodus 20:20 that godly fear can prevent us from sinning.

The Tabernacle

Additional Study:

To read in detail about the Tabernacle, how it was constructed, and more on the priestly garments go to:

Exodus 25, 26, 27 & 28

For those of you listening via the internet, go to Page 3 in your notes and

[Click here to view the structure of the Tabernacle](#)

The Arc of the Covenant and The Mercy Seat

Exodus 25:10-16

¹⁰ "Have them make a chest of acacia wood—two and a half cubits long, a cubit and a half wide, and a cubit and a half high. ¹¹ Overlay it with pure gold, both inside and out, and make a gold molding around it. ¹² Cast four gold rings for it and fasten them to its four feet, with two rings on one side and two rings on the other. ¹³ Then make poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. ¹⁴ Insert the poles into the rings on the sides of the chest to carry it. ¹⁵ The poles are to remain in the rings of this ark; they are not to be removed. ¹⁶ Then put in the ark the Testimony, which I will give you.

So within the Arc were:

- The Testimony,
- The Jar of Manna and
- Aaron's rod that budded

Exodus 16:31-33

³¹ *The people of Israel called the bread manna. It was white like coriander seed and tasted like wafers made with honey.* ³² *Moses said, "This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Take an omer of manna and keep it for the generations to come, so they can see the bread I gave you to eat in the desert when I brought you out of Egypt.' "*

³³ *So Moses said to Aaron, "Take a jar and put an omer of manna in it. Then place it before the LORD to be kept for the generations to come."*

The record of Aaron's rod that budded can be found in Numbers 17. I suggest that you read the whole chapter to understand what it was referring to.

Numbers 17:10

¹⁰ *The LORD said to Moses, "Put back Aaron's staff in front of the Testimony, to be kept as a sign to the rebellious. This will put an end to their grumbling against me, so that they will not die."*

Atonement Cover is another word for the Mercy Seat and possibly a better one as it is not a "seat" as such but **a lid**.

God gave Moses the exact dimensions of the Ark and the Mercy Seat. The Mercy Seat was to be the same size as the Ark.

Exodus 25:17-22

¹⁷ *"Make an atonement cover of pure gold—two and a half cubits long and a cubit and a half wide.* ¹⁸ *And make two cherubim out of hammered gold at the ends of the cover.* ¹⁹ *Make one cherub on one end and the second cherub on the other; make the cherubim of one piece with the cover, at the two ends.* ²⁰ *The cherubim are to have their wings spread upward, overshadowing the cover with them. The cherubim are to face each other, looking toward the cover.* ²¹ *Place the cover on top of the ark and put in the ark the Testimony, which I will give you.* ²² *There,*

above the cover between the two cherubim that are over the ark of the Testimony, I will meet with you and give you all my commands for the Israelites.

The Ark was approximately 42 inches long and 27 inches wide. The Ark, with the Mercy Seat, was carried with wooden staves covered with pure gold. The staves were inserted into rings on the side of the Ark.

The Mercy Seat was where God met with man.

Exodus 25:22

²² There, above the cover between the two cherubim that are over the ark of the Testimony, I will meet with you and give you all my commands for the Israelites.

Moses continues his explanation of the Ark and the Mercy Seat:

Exodus 37:6-7

⁶ He made the atonement cover of pure gold—two and a half cubits long and a cubit and a half wide. ⁷ Then he made two cherubim out of hammered gold at the ends of the cover.

The wings of the cherubim's formed the Throne of God where Christ sits today. The earthly High Priest never sat down.

Hebrews 10:11-12

Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God.

However Aaron couldn't just enter the Holy of Holies whenever he wished:

Leviticus 16:2

² *The LORD said to Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron not to come whenever he chooses into the Most Holy Place behind the curtain in front of the atonement cover on the ark, or else he will die, because I appear in the cloud over the atonement cover.*

Remember what happened to his sons:

Leviticus 10:1-3; 8-11

¹ *Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu took their censers, put fire in them and added incense; and they offered unauthorized fire before the LORD, contrary to his command. ² So fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD. ³ Moses then said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD spoke of when he said: " 'Among those who approach me I will show myself holy; in the sight of all the people I will be honored.' " Aaron remained silent.*

⁸ *Then the LORD said to Aaron, ⁹ "You and your sons are not to drink wine or other fermented drink whenever you go into the Tent of Meeting, or you will die. This is a lasting ordinance for the generations to come. ¹⁰ You must distinguish between the holy and the common, between the unclean and the clean, ¹¹ and you must teach the Israelites all the decrees the LORD has given them through Moses."*

The Ark of God

2 Samuel 6:6-7

⁶ *When they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark of God, because the oxen stumbled. ⁷ The LORD's anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act; therefore God struck him down and he died there beside the ark of God.*

The Golden Altar of Incense

When God met with the High Priest above the Mercy Seat, He would appear in a cloud:

Leviticus 16:13-14

¹³ *He is to put the incense on the fire before the LORD, and the smoke of the incense will conceal the atonement cover above the Testimony, so that he will not die.* ¹⁴ *He is to take some of the bull's blood and with his finger sprinkle it on the front of the atonement cover; then he shall sprinkle some of it with his finger seven times before the atonement cover.*

Table of Shewbread/of the Presence

Exodus 25:23-30

²³ *"Make a table of acacia wood—two cubits long, a cubit wide and a cubit and a half high.* ²⁴ *Overlay it with pure gold and make a gold molding around it.* ²⁵ *Also make around it a rim a handbreadth wide and put a gold molding on the rim.* ²⁶ *Make four gold rings for the table and fasten them to the four corners, where the four legs are.* ²⁷ *The rings are to be close to the rim to hold the poles used in carrying the table.* ²⁸ *Make the poles of acacia wood, overlay them with gold and carry the table with them.* ²⁹ *And make its plates and dishes of pure gold, as well as its pitchers and bowls for the pouring out of offerings.* ³⁰ *Put the bread of the Presence on this table to be before me at all times.*

The purpose of the golden table was to hold 12 cakes of bread. They were placed there in two rows of six, each loaf representing one of the tribes of Israel.

Leviticus 24:5-9

⁵ *"Take fine flour and bake twelve loaves of bread, using two-tenths of an ephah for each loaf.* ⁶ *Set them in two rows, six in each row, on the table of pure gold before the LORD.* ⁷ *Along each row put some pure incense as a memorial portion to represent the bread and to be an offering made to the LORD by fire.* ⁸ *This bread is to be set out before the LORD regularly, Sabbath after Sabbath, on behalf of the Israelites, as a lasting covenant.* ⁹ *It belongs to Aaron and his sons, who are to eat it in a holy place, because it is a most holy part of their regular share of the offerings made to the LORD by fire."*

The Bronze Altar/Altar of Burnt Offering

This altar was situated in the Outer Court just inside the gate and was used for the sacrifices

Exodus 27:1-8

¹ *"Build an altar of acacia wood, three cubits high; it is to be square, five cubits long and five cubits wide. ² Make a horn at each of the four corners, so that the horns and the altar are of one piece, and overlay the altar with bronze. ³ Make all its utensils of bronze—its pots to remove the ashes, and its shovels, sprinkling bowls, meat forks and firepans. ⁴ Make a grating for it, a bronze network, and make a bronze ring at each of the four corners of the network. ⁵ Put it under the ledge of the altar so that it is halfway up the altar. ⁶ Make poles of acacia wood for the altar and overlay them with bronze. ⁷ The poles are to be inserted into the rings so they will be on two sides of the altar when it is carried. ⁸ Make the altar hollow, out of boards. It is to be made just as you were shown on the mountain.*

Further Study:

1 Kings 6 (the building of the Temple)

1 Kings 8 (when The Ark of God is brought to the Temple)

Hebrews 9-10:25

¹ *Now the first covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary. ²A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand, the table and the consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place. ³Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place, ⁴which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant. ⁵Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover. But we cannot discuss these things in detail now. ⁶When everything had been arranged*

like this, the priests entered regularly into the outer room to carry on their ministry. ⁷But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. ⁸The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still standing. ⁹This is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper. ¹⁰They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings—external regulations applying until the time of the new order.

The Blood of Christ

¹¹When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. ¹²He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. ¹³The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. ¹⁴How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! ¹⁵For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant. (skip to vs 19)¹⁹When Moses had proclaimed every commandment of the law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people. ²⁰He said, "This is the blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep." ²¹In the same way, he sprinkled with the blood both the tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies. ²²In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. ²³It was necessary, then, for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

²⁴For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence. ²⁵Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. ²⁶Then Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, ²⁸so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

Hebrews 10:1-25

¹The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. ²If it could, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. ³But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins, ⁴because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. ⁵Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; ⁶with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. ⁷Then I said, 'Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll— I have come to do your will, O God.' " ⁸First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them" (although the law required them to be made). ⁹Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. ¹¹Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹²But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. ¹³Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, ¹⁴because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. ¹⁵The Holy Spirit also

testifies to us about this. First he says: ¹⁶"This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds." ¹⁷Then he adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more." ¹⁸And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin. ¹⁹Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. ²⁵Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Our next meeting is on **WEDNESDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2010 @ 7.30**