

The Chapel at Lecompton
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Tapes 1 and 2

Note: This is the transcript of the first two tapes of a 4-tape series. The remaining two tapes were recorded on Aug. 31.

The Feast of Tabernacles

One of the most dangerous things that a person can do is to take a single verse in the Bible and make a doctrine out of it. Men have done that a lot. They need to be very careful because God has put a spiritual picture throughout the Bible, a hidden message. The reason that He did, of course, was because He knows that He has an adversary who is a liar. God knew that He had an adversary who intended to use His own Word against Him by twisting what He said. We know that is true. From the very beginning of the battle, when the devil fought Eve, he said, "Hath God said?"

God understood that, in order to do battle with Satan (who knew His words and intended to twist them), it would be necessary to place a spiritual truth within the historical context of His Word, which He did. God is a spirit, and they that worship Him, must worship Him in spirit and in truth. The Bible is both spirit and truth and it is full of things hidden.

In the New Testament, He explained many of the spiritual things He had sealed and He also added parables. It is no wonder there is such confusion when man tries to understand the Bible from the natural mind. Jesus spoke to them in parables. The Bible says that without parables He didn't speak to the people. His own disciples asked, in Matthew 13, "Why do You only speak in parables?" They didn't understand what He was teaching either. He answered and said unto them, "Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. That sounds counterproductive to what you would think He wanted, because He had come to bring salvation. The important thing to remember is that during this time of His earthly ministry, there was no one who knew the truth well enough to teach it to any souls born by His words.

Like any wise father, Jesus is waiting for His disciples to be able to feed and lead and care for the babies. I think we recall His words to Peter on the Sea of Tiberius, "If you love Me, feed My lambs." He was also telling us that God has hidden His message and only He can reveal it. He hid it from the wise and prudent, the Bible said, and He has revealed it unto babes.

Luke 10:21 (KJS) In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in Thy sight.

What God is doing now is confirming Himself to his people. We're babies. The world is going to want to know how it is that you and I have this wisdom. I didn't go to a Bible school to

get this wisdom and you didn't go to a Bible school to get this wisdom. God gave us this wisdom. The world is going to want to know how they could go to Bible schools and do all the studying that they did and still not come up with the wisdom that God wanted His people to have. It is important that we know the Bible has hidden explanations and to know who God sent to reveal it. He wants to reveal it to those who will come just to Him. It is really important that we do it with all our heart.

Tonight, we are talking about the last of the Jewish feasts. We began this study on the feasts because the pictures that God gave us in the Old Testament are an important part of the picture that you and I are living today. There were seven Jewish feasts and we realize that four of them were fulfilled physically in the life of Christ. There is no debate on that whatsoever.

Unfortunately, not every Bible teacher understands that the first four Jewish feasts were fulfilled in the life of Jesus and His disciples. They should understand this. Something very specific happened to the Jewish people at those feasts, on the very day of each feast. In fact, the entire tabernacle, built during the wilderness journey, was full of the revelation of Christ's ministry. We have studied this and the other feasts before, but I think it is beneficial to touch on them so that we can see how they touch each other.

The Passover lamb is a picture of Jesus. Jesus is the Word of God become flesh. Let's look at John 1:1-14. I know I quote these verses all the time but they form that unshakeable foundation which revelation knowledge stands on.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. All things were made by Him and without him was not anything made that was made."

It is important that you study this entire portion of Scripture at home, on your own. Any time we address any Scriptures in our studies here at church, you want to remember that we read only a small portion for time's sake.

Let me emphasize verse 14: *"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us"*

We can eat the flesh of the Passover lamb every time we read our Bibles. God's Word is the flesh of Jesus. This is an important truth in the revelation of Jesus. That's why Jesus said, "Unless you eat My flesh and drink My blood, you have no life in you."

Our studies on the seven Hebrew feasts should be studied in the order they happened throughout the year. In Exodus, the people of God were commanded to eat the outside of the lamb, roasted in fire, and to eat the things from the inside as well. God placed allegories and spiritual insights into everything he gave man in the Old Testament and then He sealed it.

I want to go back to the subject for this evening -- the Feast of Tabernacles. The Feast of Tabernacles is a picture of the church coming into a full unity, speaking the same thing and in the same mind and judgment...the body of Christ on earth visible for all to see. We want to remember that the pattern for this tabernacle didn't come out of the mind of Moses. It wasn't the

dream of the Hebrew people, it came from God. Moses saw the tabernacle when he was up on the mountain with God. Turn with me back to the book of Numbers 29:12-32

Numbers 29:12 (KJS) And on the fifteenth day of the seventh month ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work, and ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days: And ye shall offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD; thirteen young bullocks, two rams, [and] fourteen lambs of the first year; they shall be without blemish: 14And their meat offering [shall be of] flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals unto every bullock of the thirteen bullocks, two tenth deals to each ram of the two rams, 15 And a several tenth deal to each lamb of the fourteen lambs: 16 And one kid of the goats [for] a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering.

On the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles, we are commanded to offer 13 bullocks along with the other appointments. I choose the Book of Numbers in describing the feast because it deals with “numbers”. Numbers must mean something to God since He made one book of the Bible dedicated to their revelation. “Seven” is God’s number for completion, finish, perfection. “Six” is the number of man. The believer is both a spirit and flesh. The new man is represented by the number “7” because the work that God ordained was finished before the foundations of the world. The outside man, or tabernacle for God to dwell in, is the number “6”. The bullock is the symbol of the believer whose surrender to God is called a sacrifice, when the real sacrifice was paid by Jesus Christ.

“Present yourself a living sacrifice holy and acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service.” Romans 12:1&2

When we add these numbers representing the outside man and the inside man, we get 13. I don’t want to oversimplify this message, but during the seven days of the feast we go from offering 13 bullocks to offering seven on the seventh day. Everything else stays the same in number, only the number of the bullock changes. What did we see change? We lose the flesh man in the process and we are left with the perfect man. It is in the promises of God, the tabernacle God ordained is His people! He intends to live in a temple not made with hands. This revelation is what got Jesus into so much trouble. “Tear down this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” God never wanted a temple made of stone. He always wanted to live in His people. Christ in you the hope of glory!

Colossians 1:27 (KJS) To whom God would make known what [is] the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: 28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: 29 Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

*(10minutes)The tabernacle is a picture of God dwelling with His people. It is one of the things most often repeated in the Bible. He was not only dwelling in the heavens, He was among His people. What He showed us in the first four feasts was the redemptive work of God and the indwelling Comforter/Teacher/Judge: the Holy Ghost. We were filled with wonder as we studied the Passover lamb. Jesus, the “Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world.” Jesus, born in

a manger where a sheep could be born. Jesus, whose blood applied to the door of our hearts would always make the Death Angel pass over a believer. Jesus was actually crucified on that day, the 14th day of the first month, by a priesthood who did not believe He was the promised sacrifice.

We saw the feast of unleavened bread, which represents having no teaching or doctrine about the things God said and told about in the Old Testament -- taking the Word of God as is, without teaching anything about it whatsoever. God commanded them to do that all the way through the Old Testament. He did that because, until the feast of Pentecost, when He sent the Teacher, we weren't supposed to have any teaching from the intellect of man added to the Bible. They hadn't been sent the Teacher yet. He forbade them until it was time. He forbade them to have any leaven in their homes. When we got to the feast of the first fruit, which was the resurrection, we saw that Jesus was going to be the first among many brethren who are going to come into resurrection life. Each of those things really did happen to Jesus.

The three feasts that happened at the end of the year are the ones that deal with us. You and I, then, would encounter these last three feasts. The feasts of trumpets was a feast of gathering God's people. It is not the same as the trumpets that will be blown when Jesus returns to the earth. There are differences in the sounding of the trumpets. There were two silver trumpets: one was to alarm of war and one was for the gathering of the elders, for a sounding of a particular gathering of the people. Each of those trumpet sounds did a different thing.

God sounded a trumpet and Israel was a physical picture of those feasts. The first of the physical feasts in the last days was the gathering of Israel back to herself as a nation. That happened in 1948. Nothing and no one can refute that. You and I can't change that. We didn't have anything to do with it. God drew His people back out of all the earth. He sounded a trumpet to draw them back. We know that happened. In fact, God promised in the Bible that He was going to sound a trumpet and gather all of His people back to herself as a nation. When she went back in 1948, God gave us the picture of the feast of trumpets.

The next of the last days feasts is the feast of atonement. The feast of atonement is a time of affliction. It was set up because affliction does something to the momentum of the church. Affliction does something to the momentum of the church, it always has and it always does. Affliction does not destroy God's people. It is written in the Scriptures, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers them out of them all. The reason is because affliction draws God's people into the Healer. Affliction or tribulation draws God's people closer to God, where there is no tribulation. Some of you say, "I have walked close to God and I have been known to have a little tribulation." However, what God is teaching us is that there is going to be a time of great tribulation on the earth.

He is teaching us to trust Him now. It is imperative that we trust Him; in fact, one dynamic that God kept repeating was imperative all the way through the Bible was that we have to have faith in Him. "He that cometh to God must believe that he is..."

Hebr 11:6 (KJS) But without faith it is impossible to please [him]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is and [that] he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

(13 minutes) You have to believe that He is. Without faith it is impossible to please Him. So He will allow a time of tribulation.

A little six-year-old boy was on the train tracks in Lawrence recently. He was with an eight-year-old and a 12-year-old. The eight-year-old and the 12-year-old saw the train coming. The engineer began to blow the whistle a mile away. The train was moving at about 50mph. The train was coming from the north and the little tike was at the north end of the trestle. He was just a few feet from the north end of the trestle. There was also an extra set of tracks that set across the length of the trestle but he, in his panic, began to run down the tracks south, away from the train. That is what fear makes you want to do, it makes you want to run away from what you are afraid of. Fear will make you want to run. That little kid began to run away from that train. He could never have outrun it. He could have simply gotten onto the other set of tracks. He could have gotten off of the trestle at the north end. There were all kinds of things that that little kid could have done but he tried to outrun a train, which was an impossible thing to do at 50mph. He died on those tracks.

God is telling you and I that there is a storm coming like a train. He is telling His people that if you panic when you see this train, you will make bad decisions. The worst decisions that you will ever make will be made under pressure. The devil wants to put you under pressure from the word “go”. The devil wants to put you under pressure so that you start making decisions because, when you get input against you, your brain says, “Start making decisions”. I know what I am talking about.

I drove into a flooded creek in the middle of a cold December night, years back, and my brain started telling me what to do. I wanted to get out of the car and get away from it. I wanted to swim. I couldn't have done that in the middle of the night. It was just a low-water bridge but I had my son and my wife with me, and neither one of them could swim as well as I could. There was barbed wire and debris everywhere. Of course, the water was at the edge of my window on my car. It filled the car with freezing cold water.

We had been at a meeting that night, and we were locked in on a road that we couldn't get out on. I didn't want to stay all night because the people had company from out of town and their house was absolutely packed. I tried to drive through that creek and I wasn't familiar with it. I wanted to make decisions; I wanted to do something right away.

What I did was just sit there. God had taught me to rest. So I just sat there and rested. It was a pitch black, desolate road, and the debris was filling up beside my car. I was on slick concrete. The drop off, when the river was dry, was about 10 feet on the other side. I knew that my car was going to be rolled over upside down into 15 feet of freezing water in the middle of the night. It was full of debris and there were barbed wire fences. I wanted to get out of there. I felt trapped. I am not really a claustrophobic person, but I felt like I was doomed. I took my belt off and hooked it into a loop because I knew that the three of us would have to have something to hang on to. I was making decisions that I knew were life-threatening decisions, but God had a way out.

A little girl who had been at the meeting was sweet on my son. She was watching down the road to see us turn on the highway. It was raining really hard. She went to her dad and said, "I don't think that they turned on the highway."

He said, "Lisa, I'm sure that they did. I am sure that you just didn't see that car."

She said, "No Dad I'm sure that they didn't turn on the highway."

I was in the car praying. She said, "Dad I think that we ought to go and look for them."

It was raining and this fifth- or sixth-grader was telling her Dad, "I think that you ought to go out in the rain and look for those people."

I'm sure he was thinking, "Why don't you lay down and go to sleep and leave me alone."

Finally, he believed her and he came down to find us and he panicked. I wasn't doing real well, but when he panicked....! He couldn't even see how bad the situation was but God knew how to deliver me out of that. If I had tried to get out of either of those doors it would have been disastrous. The one upstream was being held by the current and I couldn't have opened it. The one downstream would have been disastrous because I would have stepped off into a hole 10 feet deep, by that time, 13 or 14 feet deep. I had no choice but to sit where I was and wait for God to do something. You can't sit too well! Minutes are long when you feel debris smashing against the side of your car and you know that very soon three of you are going to be moving down a dark river towards a lake in Arkansas.

God is telling His people, you don't want to wait until then. You don't want to grow up that day. You don't want to learn by having God tell you to sit tight and relax when you've had zero experiences where He delivered you. If God had started that night telling me to sit tight and relax, and a flooded creek on a dark road in the middle of the night was my first experience with God, there would have been claw marks all over the inside of that automobile. If that had been the first time that God had to tell me to relax, I wouldn't have known how to relax. I learned to relax through little things. Then, little by little, they grew into bigger things. I never paid any attention to what kind of progression there was but, little by little, they grew. Then, one night, in the middle of a creek, my car stopped and God had to tell me, "You relax, you rest."

I was already going through a panic trial that I had been going through for about a year and a half or two years. Panic would set in on me and I would feel like I was losing my mind. Now, I was locked in a car in a creek! This wasn't just an ordinary battle that was going against me, this was a war in which the devil said, "I am going to kill him and destroy his family. I am going to make him lose his mind. I am going to get him in a thing that he can't get out of and I am going to put the pressure on him. I am going to make him sit there and think about the situation that he is in."

God said, "Just relax."

I said, "OK. It isn't easy but I am going to."

The man threw me a rope and I tied it to the spare tire attached inside my station wagon...

A kid gave me that station wagon. I have told you the testimony about the young man from Oberlin, Kansas, that gave me his only transportation, a Chevrolet station wagon with a rear window that rolled down. I rolled the window down in the back of the station wagon. A 19-year-old kid gave me that car during a revival when we were in western Kansas. I cried the night that he came. I took him home because he had no car. The first night, he hitchhiked to the meeting and I took him home because he lived about 30 miles away. Everybody else had gone and he was standing there talking to me about the Lord. I said, "How did you get here?"

He had his wife and baby with him. He said, "Well, we hitchhiked."

I didn't think that he had a car, so I drove him home. God was moving out there in that meeting and I drove him home. On the way home, he asked, "Brother Ricley, if you had any needs what would they be? What would your needs be?"

This is the kid that had I thought had no car. I said, "Well I need a van or a station wagon because we have winter meetings and we don't have a way to haul our equipment around."

He said, "Oh I just felt like asking."

Just before we got to his house, he said, "I have a car, Brother Ricley, I really didn't have gas money, that's all."

The next night he brought me the title to that station wagon; he brought me his car. I didn't know that God had him give me that car because He knew I was going to drive into that flooded creek and I needed a back way out. See, without a back window that rolled down, how would you get out of that car? How would you get your wife and kid out of a car? I couldn't have done it otherwise. The water was up to the windows. We couldn't have crawled out. That kid gave me his car. I cannot tell you how hard it was taking that kid home that night. It was a hard thing for me to do. He was a 19-year-old kid with a family and he gave me his car. But, I knew that he gave it to God.

I didn't take an orphan's shoes one time and God corrected me. He said, "What are you doing? He gave them to me."

I said, "Yeah, but it is killing me to take them."

He said, "It isn't going to be your choice how I provide for you. I will use widows and orphans."

He can shut up the finances. I had been in a revival in Texas and he shut up the finances and I didn't have enough to hardly get home. It's the truth.

God said, "You don't take what I give you and I'll shut it up."

Going through tribulation...resting in the love and mercy of God...the Feast of Tabernacles. We are going to come through the tribulation period intact because we have made the Most High our habitation. Is that right? There are a lot of doctrines that tell you how you are going to get through it, but Jesus said that He is sufficient for everything. Nothing besides Him is going to get you through. He made a way for us. He has made provisions for us.

The Feast of Tabernacles, if I can tell you in the clearest sense, is simply God finishing His work on the temple. It's God perfecting His body, the Church, as He brings us by His power into the full stature of the man Christ Jesus.

Jesus said, in John 14:1, *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also. 4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.*

This is proof that you and I are going to be united with God in a full fellowship, more than what we have ever known. In fact, we are going to be in such a fellowship with God that the Spirit of the Lord is going to descend on this gathering of God's people around the world. You and I don't have a corner on the market. All around the world, the glory of God is going to descend upon His people. Finally, the lost are really going to see Christ. Jesus is who men have needed to see all along. All the theologies won't do it. All the building programs won't do it. You could build the most beautiful church in Lecompton, Kansas, you have ever seen (if you wanted to waste money on it), but it still wouldn't show Lecompton, Kansas, the glory of God. I don't want to show the lost and damned a building, I want to show them God. I want to show them God in a people. I want to show them righteousness from a God who creates righteousness, not because we are something but because He is something. He has made the provision. That is what the Feast of Tabernacles tells me.

Somebody read me Col 2:16 (KJS): *Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holy day, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of Christ. 18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind...*

The reality is in Christ Jesus. These are shadows. A sabbath is a shadow of things to come. What was the shadow, then, of the sabbath? I just want to know. We are 6,000 years into this thing. What have you been taught that the sabbath was a shadow of? A day that you don't play baseball? What were you taught that the shadow of the sabbath was? I know what the sabbath was as a day, but I want to know what the shadow of it was. Because that Scripture said that the feasts were a shadow of something to come. That Scripture in Colossians said that the sabbath days were a shadow of something to come. I want to know what the shadow is. When you cast a shadow... these things were all a shadow. If I put my hand up here and cast a shadow, then that is all that I am doing. But, if you see nothing but the shadow, then you don't know what my hand looks like. However, if you are where my hand is, then you know that something cast that

shadow. I want to know what it is that cast that shadow. There is something so real that when you put a light upon it, it casts a shadow. The sabbath was resting in God. It was really a sign. Remember what God said? The sabbath was a sign that you knew who it was that sanctifies you. Who sanctifies you? Jesus does. I know that you can rest in that.

John 14:23 (KJS) Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and then my father and I will come and make our abode with him.

That is what the tabernacle is. It is God making His abode with us. Read me another verse, see if there is another good verse in there.

John 14:24 (KJS) He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me. 25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. 26 But the Comforter, [which is] the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. 27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. 28 Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

Do you see that sabbath in that? There is a rest there, a peace. He said not to let your heart be troubled. Don't let your heart be troubled. My mind was racing when I looked out that window and saw that water boiling up like it was in that car. Of course, once it filled the car with water, there was more to be dealing with. What the commandment to rest meant was that I had to stop thinking about the inevitable, because my mind told me that I had to make a plan. How do you make a plan? Well, you have to decide what is going to happen to the car. How are you going to decide what is going to happen to the car when it washed over to the side? Is it going to be upside down or right side up? What kind of plan are you going to make, having never been in a situation like that? What was happening was that, as my mind began to visualize my plan, it could also visualize my car upside down in the black water. My peace lifted. Can I tell you that? When my peace dissipated, it was gone and what I did was get my mind back on the Lord. I said, "Wait a minute, God has called me. God has chosen me and He loves me. I know that I have an advocate with the Father."

I began to go back to the relationship that I had that was a foundation underneath my feet. Not just possibilities, I was no longer discussing possibilities. When you discuss the possibilities, your peace lifts. When you discuss what is true, your peace comes back to you. God is going to rescue me. That is true. God is a rescuer. That's what He meant when He said that we must not let our hearts be troubled. My heart wanted to be troubled. Panic makes you do strange things. Good swimmers drown when they panic.

I want you to read with me Leviticus 23: 33-44. This is the exact account of course of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Lev. 23:33 (KJS) And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 34 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month [shall be] the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD. 35 On the first day [shall be] an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work [therein]. 36 Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: it [is] a solemn assembly; [and] ye shall do no servile work [therein]. 37 These are the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim [to be] holy convocations, to offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD, a burnt offering, and a meat offering, a sacrifice, and drink offerings, everything upon his day: 38 Beside the Sabbaths of the LORD, and beside your gifts, and beside all your vows, and beside all your freewill offerings, which ye give unto the LORD. 39 Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days: on the first day [shall be] a Sabbath, and on the eighth day [shall be] a Sabbath. 40 And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days. boughs of goodly trees 41 And ye shall keep it a feast unto the LORD seven days in the year. It shall be a statute forever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh month. 42 Ye shall dwell in booths seven days: all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths: 43 That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God. 44 And Moses declared unto the children of Israel the feasts of the LORD.

He told them to dwell in booths. That is not permanent housing, that is temporary housing. We see that God is showing us that there is a difference. When He brought them out of Egypt, each person then raised up a booth. Each family raised up a booth. What God was saying is that He is going to come into a personal relationship with you. He was not talking about building one great, beautiful cathedral. He was saying, "I am not interested in you taking all your money and building a gigantic, beautiful cathedral, a great temple to glorify Me. I want to dwell with you and I want you to dwell with Me."

That is dwelling in the booths. It is not a permanent thing for man. It is not some great edifice. We aren't building something that glorifies God. Men think that because He overlaid the temple on the inside with gold that He was trying to tell us that He wanted some grand palace. Gold wouldn't tarnish. Gold wouldn't corrupt. It was a picture of the nature of God. It is no accident that the inside of the tabernacle was overlaid with gold because it spoke of the nature of God. It also speaks about you and I coming into a relationship with him beyond the flesh. When the flesh has been consumed by the fire...that is why He said all these sacrifices were sacrifices of fire.

With those things that we have been talking about in mind, I want to mention this, too. In Matthew 24, Jesus alluded to the Feast of Tabernacles when He said, "Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take anything out of his house". The children of Israel built their booths on the tops of their houses. I can show you scripturally where they built these booths on the tops of the houses because there wasn't enough space in Jerusalem to build these booths. They didn't have backyards or front yards. When they built a booth to celebrate this tabernacle of God, it was on the roof of the house. When God told the children of Israel that this time of trouble would fall during a particular time, He tied it in with the Feast of Tabernacles. Of course,

we know that is a part of this dynamic that is preparing the tabernacle through that. I want someone to read in John 2: 1-9. And then I want someone to read me Ephesians 4:11-16. I know that you are all aware of those verses.

John 2:1 (KJS) And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: 2 And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage. 3 And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. 4 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come. 5 His mother saith unto the servants, whatsoever he saith unto you, do [it]. 6 And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. 7 Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. 8 And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of - the feast. And they bare [it]. 9 When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom...

John, as we know, is the gospel that tells us a depth about Jesus Christ; it is revealed knowledge. What John is giving us is a parable here that actually took place. What it says is that there is a wedding feast. Who is invited to the wedding feast? Jesus was invited, and His disciples and His mother. They were all invited to what? To a marriage. And what day was it? It was on the third day. Tell me why He told us on the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee. In the best manuscripts, it specifically tells us that on the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee. He wasn't talking about anything that was taking place three days before that. What He is reminding us of is that there were the seven days of creation. On the sixth day, God finished the work and on the seventh, He rested. Now there were 4,000 years from Adam to Christ, or four days with the Lord. Remember when we were talking about the days? I know that this may seem overly simplistic, but I want you to go back with me mentally. There were 4,000 years from Adam to Christ. In both the Psalms and the Book of 2nd Peter, it says that a day is as 1,000 years with the Lord.

Psalm 90:4 (KJS) For a thousand years in thy sight [are but] as yesterday when it is past, and [as] a watch in the night.

2 Peter 3:8 (KJS) But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day [is] with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

There were four days from Adam to Christ. The Passover lamb was killed on the fourth day of separation. I can show you that in the Book of Exodus. Jesus came on the fourth day of creation. If He is standing on the fourth day and He tells us that there is going to be a marriage in Cana of Galilee on the third day from Him, then what day would that be overall? It would be on the seventh day! Why could the marriage take place on the seventh day? Because the work is finished with the church. Because all the work is done on the sixth day. God is telling us that on the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee, and both Jesus and His disciples were called to the marriage.

You say, "Now, Brother Ricley, that is just a little bit too simplistic for me."

The Bible tells me that the church is going to come to a place of completion, and God isn't going to marry a bride that is not finished. He is not going to marry a bride that is fragmented and dead. He is not going to marry a bride that is not in unity. He is not going to marry a bride with spots and wrinkles or any such thing. He is going to have a church without spot or wrinkle; she is going to be mature and old enough to marry and He is going to court her and win her heart personally.

Ephe 5:27 (KJS) That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Many of God's people right now, in America, are in a courtship relationship with Jesus Christ. What takes place in that time of intimate relationship is that your whole world changes. Your relationship with everyone around you changes and you begin to get called into this marriage supper.

The Bible tells me that there were six waterpots at the wedding. That is the number of man. The reason that there were waterpots there is that they were purifying after the manner of the Jews. That means that they had drawn the water earlier to let the suspended particles settle. They would draw off of the top and it would be cleaner water. What is the purifying after the manner of the Jews? The law. What did the Jews get purified under? Jesus tells us in this little parable that when He comes to the wedding feast, mankind is still going to be purifying themselves after legalism. Yes, men are still going to try to be purifying themselves after laws and creeds and do's and don'ts. Christianity is packed with do's and don'ts. You know that is true. I can take you all the way through the New Testament. What did Jesus turn the water into? Wine!

I want to tell you something about wine and water. The difference between wine and water is that when you have had as much water as you want, you will stop. But the more wine that you drink, the more you want. Do you understand what Jesus did? He changed the dynamics of the cleansing from water. People ask, "Well, was it alcohol?" Of course it was alcohol. The man at the feast said that you normally wait until the end to bring out the worst wine. If you were just drinking grape juice, your mouth would be tired of it by then. Why did he turn it into alcohol? Because alcohol has a cleansing effect. How many of you have ever seen a nurse rub you with alcohol before they give you a shot? Jesus said, "I am not going to just wash you with water. I am going to purify you. I am going to get rid of all the stuff that hurts you. I am going to get rid of all the bacterial stuff." There are two dynamics of wine. The more you drink it the more you enjoy it. Grace is an intoxicating thing. I am going to put inside of you a joy in serving Me. On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out. When the Holy Spirit was poured out they accused the disciples of being drunk. They were displaying the dynamics of joy that had been brought on by serving God. He was not making them feel like, "Oh yeah, I have to do this. I'd better do it right, too, or I'll be in trouble." It was, "Oh yeah! Oh yeah! I'll have to drink one more glass (at least) of that really good wine." That is what He is telling us.

Question: I remember being taught that He wouldn't have made the wine alcoholic because there was a fermentation process in making wine and He wouldn't make anything that decays.

Answer: Decay my foot!!!! He put yeast in it because it comes alive. It is alive. Cap a bottle of wine and see what happens to the cap. It will blow that thing to pieces. Men are afraid of alcohol because they think that because drunkards aren't allowed in the kingdom of God that Jesus wouldn't turn water into wine. He was telling us something bigger than that. Noah got drunk after God had brought him across. See, we have traditions and they have been brought in by men's teachings. The Bible tells me that wine is for a man of a sorrowful heart, but He says not to drink it in excess.

1 Pet 4:3 (KJS) For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revelings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries:

Ephe 5:18 (KJS) And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit

There is a spirit on it. What God is saying is that His Spirit is better at cleansing than water and we will enjoy it a whole lot more. It is man's doctrine that you can't even taste wine if you are a believer. Paul told Timothy to drink a little wine for his stomach's sake. A little wine, perhaps that is the key. God is telling us something that men could pollute. I don't care if men pollute it. It doesn't make any difference to me. God told me that He turned it into wine because it was alive. But you don't put new wine into old wineskins. If He was talking grape juice... See, we are trying to protect the dignity of God. You leave the dignity of God to God. You leave the holiness of God to God. He told the prophet to go out and hire a harlot

Hose 1:2 (KJS) The beginning of the word of the LORD by Hosea. And the LORD said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, [departing] from the LORD. 3 So he went and took Gomer the dainthter of Diblaim: which conceived and bare him son.

You better keep your mouth off of it. The Bible says that to the pure all things are pure.

Titus 1:15 (KJS) Unto the pure all things lard pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving [is] nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

What we try to do is make God holy by what we see. He told another prophet to go naked through the country. That sounds great just reading it, but day number one, I know he got up and felt real uncomfortable in the house. You know that is true. God probably sent him the elders of Israel to talk to him that morning too. Knock, knock. "Come on in."

"Oh, we'll be back later."

"No, come on in."

You know that is true. We try to protect the holiness of God. God told a prophet to make his food out of dung, human dung. You don't need to protect the dignity of God. He does strange stuff.

Jesus is giving us a picture of the wedding feast beyond where the flesh is in control, beyond where the flesh is going to ruin it. God has made provisions for His people. I know that alcohol is a destroyer. No one knows that more than I do. But I do have to tell you that I don't have to protect His dignity by saying that He did not turn that into living wine. He wanted you and I to know that if I had a taste of it I would want more, not less. I wouldn't get full of it. He wants you to know that it would do something to you. When you drink wine, you feel like your problems are really taken care of. Most recognize that is true. That is what God was telling us. This is going to be a joy to you, not a drudgery. Let's read Ephesians 4:11-16.

Ephe 4:11 (KJS) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: in: or, into) stature: or, 14 That we [henceforth] be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

The ministry edifying the church ends with the church becoming a single entity where the joints and the bones supply the needs, isn't that right? The body edifies itself. The fivefold ministry operates until we came to the full stature of the man Christ Jesus. Then what is going to happen to the fivefold ministry? It has finished its work. It's done. That is what the church world is not teaching. The fivefold ministries are supposed to finish their job in a generation. I am supposed to finish my job. If I am doing my job right, then I am supposed to finish my job. Do you know when my job is finished? When Christ courts you. When Jesus Christ personally courts you. He knows that you are old enough to be courted. Are you hearing me?

People ask, "Won't that lead to fanaticism?" Don't you trust Jesus? I don't know anybody that I trust like I trust Jesus. We have been trusting denominations to keep us in the end times so we don't get into some wild cult. You better quit trusting men and start trusting Christ because the only way that you can keep out of any cult is to trust Christ. It was the established church of the day that killed Jesus. They saw to it that He was crucified. It wasn't the heretics out in the wilderness. Those bimbos never accounted for anything in this game. If you think that finding safety in the establishment will do you any good then I will tell you that you are going to have to know the voice of Jesus Christ. Knowing the voice of Jesus Christ that is the only thing that will ever do you any good. Jesus said that His sheep would know His voice and another they will not follow. That is why He is telling you and I that we just need to know His voice. He has made a provision for this. People are looking for safety today. That is why the devil is showing all kinds of cults and occults these days. Do you know what one of the dynamics of a cult and occult is? They start controlling your mind. Do you know what one of the dynamics of the Word of God is? It will control your mind. It will change the way that you think. It will change you from what you were to something else.

When a buddy of mine on the police department came to the Lord out there in Nebraska, his wife came to him and said, "I want you back the way that you were."

He would tell you that he was a woman chaser, an alcoholic, and a chain smoker who spent lots and lots of nights out there on the streets howling. She said, "I want the old guy back:"

That is because when you meet someone that starts running after Jesus and you don't know Him, you feel strange about it. He was a different guy. He was not the same kind of guy that she married. If it had been her son then she would have thought that he got into some kind of cult. She would have really gotten worried. When you really get taken over by Jesus you don't do the things that the world does. You don't come in and flip on the rock n' roll. You have a heart that is pure and you don't want to be tainted by that stuff. A lot of mothers worry. My older brother's mother-in-law finally said to her, "If you are going to go to the movies then you can go out. But if you are going to church then you can't." She said, "This stuff is changing you.."

Let's go to Luke 13:31-35. We read these verses all the time. It's not redundant. I am not trying to be repetitious but I want you to get this inside of your heart so that it begins to make you understand. These things all tie together.

Luke 13:31 (KJS) 31 The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto him, Get thee out, and depart hence: for Herod will kill thee. 32 And he said unto them, Go ye. and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I shall be perfected. 33 Nevertheless I must walk to day, and tomorrow, and the day following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem. 34 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under [her wings, and ye would not! 35 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

What day was He perfected? Jesus said, "The third day I shall be perfected." Now what third day was He going to be perfected? Did Jesus have sin? Was He less than He said? He was doing the work of the church. But He said that He would be perfected on the third day. This goes back to the third day that the marriage in Cana of Galilee was on. Do you know that Jesus isn't perfect until He is married? Why? Because the Bible says that God made male and female in His image.

Genesis 1:27 (KJS) So God created man in his [own] image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Two of them. Do you know why? Because, when a man loves a woman, it is the image of God because God is love. God didn't make man in His image. I can read you the Scriptures. He said that He made male and female in His image. So which is He? Which would He look like? He looks like a man loving a woman. He looks like love. So the Bible said that God made male and female in His image. So, until Jesus marries His bride, is He finished? No. He is bringing the church into that full image of God, which is love. He said that the world will know that you are My disciples, by what? By love one to another.

He is not making it hard, He is just telling us, "On the third day, that work will be done. On the third day, I will be perfected. I will be finished because the church and I will be married and then I am finished with My work. Then I am really done."

He is not finished until He has you and I. You are the object of His love. You are not finished until you have married the object of your love. That is what God is telling us. He is bringing us into that relationship with Him. On the third day He is perfected. What did he end that statement with? He was talking to the Israeli people. He told the Israeli people they would not see Him again until ?what

Matt 23:39 (KJS) 39 For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

He didn't say to the Israeli people, "You won't see Me again until you see Me." He said, "You won't see me until you say blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." He said that Israel is going to see His church perfected. She is going to see the beauty of His work. She is going to understand the tabernacle because she is going to see His tabernacle finished. He is not going to send Jews a few Baptist ministers, a few Episcopalian, spread it out and give them a little shot of each. If I was at the Baptist convention and I said, "We need to have a mission to Israel."

They would say, "Praise God, then what kind of mission should we send them? Assembly of God?"

Oh, boo!" they would say. "Let's send them a good old Baptist convention."

Then I could jet over to the Assemblies and ask, "What shall we send them?"

"Send them an Assembly of God doctrine."

God says, "I am not sending them anything. I am not sending them anything until I send them nothing but the truth."

The Bible tells me that a house divided against itself will not stand.

Mark 3:25 (KJS) And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.

I'm telling you that God is going to undivided the house. The things that have divided are not the truth. Truth never divided the house, lies divided the house. God tells me that He is going to get the lies out of the house. That is why we are coming to the marriage supper of the Lamb. He said that He invited His friends, right? He invited His friends to the marriage and He said that His friends won't come. He said that 2,000 years ago. His friends aren't coming. Where do you think that His friends are on Sunday morning? In the honkv tonks or in the churches? I think they would be in churches, too.

Matt 22:1 (KJS) And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, 2 The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, 3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.

He said that His friends are not going to come to the wedding supper. They are not going to come there. Why not? I want to know. Because He said that He sent His servants to invite them and His servants will be preaching nothing but the truth. His friends all have their little doctrines so they are not going to come to the truth and marry the truth because they are already married to a doctrine. They have already been courted by some lying doctrine. They have married it with all their heart and when the servant comes and preaches the truth, they say, “Thanks, I am already married. Thanks, I have already been to a wedding and, besides that, I don’t think that you are preaching the truth.”

That’s why.

The bride is going to love Him because He is going to be the pearl of great price. But, first, the bride has to learn obedience. The Bible says that first she would call Him “my Lord” and second she would call Him “my husband”. That is in the Old Testament prophecies, in Hosea.

Hosea 2:15 And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt. 16 And it shall be at that day, saith the LORD, that thou shalt call me Ishi and shalt call me no more Baali. (Ishi: that is, My husband Baali: that is, My lord)

Let’s look at Abraham and Sarah. Sarai meant “God, my prince” and Sarah meant “princess”.

Gene 17:15 (KJS) And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be. 16 And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea., I will bless her and she shall be [a mother] of nations; kings of people shall be of her.

She had to marry him to become a princess. What was the difference? She had received the promise of God by faith and God had birthed a kingdom. So, that is what He is telling us. It is love, that is the bottom line.

Reve 10:7 (KJS) But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.

We have gone through all those verses many times. What is the mystery? Christ in you the hope of glory.

Col 1:27 (KJS) To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

What is the temple? God dwelling in you. That is what we started out reading here. He said that the mystery is going to be finished. During what? The voice of the seventh angel in the Book of Revelation. It is going to happen on the earth. He told us that is true. In Revelation 11, John is

given a reed and told to measure the temple. That could only be possible if the temple was finished. In chapter 10, it says that the mystery was finished during the days of the voice of the seventh angel. If the mystery that is finished is the tabernacle (Christ in you the hope of glory, the sounding of the voice of the seventh angel), then we suddenly have the spiritual tabernacle completed, right?

Reve 11:1 (KJS) And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure me temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein.

How can he measure the temple? It was finished in Revelation 10:7. You couldn't measure a temple that doesn't exist. He is telling us that the work is done and He has finished the temple during the voice of the seventh angel. The temple, then, should be finished. The mystery should be finished which He had declared to certain of the prophets which is Christ in you the hope of glory. In Colossians, of course, and Ephesians, all the way down through there. You can look those up. You can look it up in your ordinary concordance, where it talks about the mystery. Look up the word 'mystery' and it will tell you. There are a dozen verses for it. He said in the dispensation of the fullness of times He gathered together all things in Christ. Revelation 11 says that the temple was measured it's important that we understand this.

When you came into the tabernacle, into the outer court, there were four curtains that were there. The four curtains were colored blue, purple, scarlet, and linen, and they talk about Jesus. We are talking about everything in this tabernacle. We are talking about Jesus and His people and how we come together and how He works for us. The outer court is at the narrow end. It is 50 cubits wide and 100 cubits long. It meant that around this curtain were between three and five million Jewish people. There was a magnificent camp all the way around the tabernacle. When we get down to the narrowest end of the tabernacle curtain, we cut in half for the gate. What does that tell you? Narrow, narrow. You are already at the narrow end of the court. The broad side was 100 cubits long and the narrow side is 50 cubits. God said that this gate was going to be four pillars and it is going to be 20 cubits wide and it is going to have four colors: blue, purple, scarlet, and linen. Of course, that is talking about Jesus.

We are dealing with the first gate into the outer court of the tabernacle and the four colors of the coverings for that gate. Every object in the tabernacle means something to us. Why did God do this? Because it is impossible to make up doctrines that are lies when God showed us a picture in the tabernacle that will defeat every lie. Anything that a person tells you will have to line up with the tabernacle because God showed us truth as He knew it. Let me review with you the outer court covering. The linen that went around the outer court was white linen. The Bible says, in the Book of Revelations, that the white linen is the righteousness of the saints.

Revelation 19:8 (KJV) " And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. "

The covering was held up by 60 brass pillars. Brass, in the Bible, represents judgment. The pillars were capped with silver sockets. Brass means judgment and silver means redemption. That is God's promise of righteousness in his people. What were the two dynamics that God

used to bring you to righteousness? Judgment and instant redemption. When God judges sin in you, He has instant redemption. All you have to do is take it to God and He cleanses you.

There are all kinds of doctrines that tell you what righteousness is and how you can become righteous. The truth is that God showed us in the tabernacle that there are two elements to it. The brass held that linen up so the whole world could see it. What the whole world needs to see is the righteousness of God's people. That is really important because we are a representation of who God is. How many of you know that the church is supposed to be a representation of who God is? We are supposed to represent righteousness, a righteous kingdom. Of course, it was brought about through judgment (the brass), and the brass was capped with silver, which is redemption. It is simple isn't it? There's nothing really hard about it. The pattern stayed the same all the way through. God made the picture clear and stayed with the pattern all the way through.

Exod 38:16 (KJV) All the hangings of the court round about [were] of fine twined linen. 17 And the sockets for the pillars [were of] brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets of silver; and the overlaying of their chapiters [of] silver; and all the pillars of the court [were] filleted with silver. 18 And the hanging for the gate of the court [was] needlework, [of] blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen: and twenty cubits [was] the length, and the height in the breadth [was] five cubits, answerable to the hangings of the court. 19 And their pillars [were] four, and their sockets [of] brass four; their hooks [of] silver, and the overlaying of their chapiters and their fillets [of] silver. 20 And all the pins of the tabernacle, and of the court round about, were of brass.

Exod 27:9 (KJS) And thou shalt make the court of the tabernacle: for the south side southward [there shall be] hangings for the court of fine twined linen of an hundred cubits long for one side: 10 And the twenty pillars thereof and their twenty sockets [shall be of] brass: the hooks of the pillars and their fillets shall be of silver. 11 And likewise for the north side in length [there shall be] hangings of an hundred [cubits] long, and his twenty pillars and their twenty sockets [of] brass; the hooks of the pillars and their fillets [of] silver. 12 And [for] the breadth of the court on the west side [shall be] hangings of fifty cubits: their pillars ten, and their sockets ten. 13 And the breadth of the court on the east side eastward [shall be] fifty cubits. 14 The hangings of one side [of the gate shall be] fifteen cubits: their pillars three, and their sockets three. 15 And on the other side [shall be] hangings fifteen [cubits]: their pillars three and their sockets three. 16 And for the gate of the court [shall be] an hanging of twenty cubits, [of] blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework: [and] their pillars [shall be] four, and their sockets four. 17 All the pillars round about the court [shall be] filleted with silver; their hooks [shall be of] silver, and their sockets [of] brass. 18 The length of the court [shall be] an hundred cubits, and the breadth fifty every where, and the height five cubits [of] fine twined linen, and their sockets [of] brass.

I want to stop right there for a second and I want to go to the four faces of Jesus. I want to lay a foundation so that we are all at the same place at the same time.

I want you to go with me to the Book of Ezekiel, chapter one. We know that Ezekiel had a vision of one of the temples. He was carried into captivity by the Babylonians. I want to read from verse four. Ezekiel was by the River Chebar. I want you to read along with me.

Ezek 1:4 (KJS) And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness [was] about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire. 5 Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this [was] their appearance; they had the likeness of a man.

In the manuscripts, that is exactly what it says. I don't know what your translation says, but the Scriptures in the Hebrew say the appearance of the four creatures had the appearance of a man. They didn't look like men, they looked like a single man. That is what we are talking about in Jesus, the four faces of Christ. He had the likeness of man. Everyone had four faces and everyone had four wings. Their feet were straight feet and Jesus says, of course, that straight is the way and narrow is the gate. The soles of their feet were like a calf's foot

Ezek 1:6 (KJS) And every one had four faces, and every one had four wings.7 And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot...

The Jewish people understood that the calf's foot meant that it was edible; it was a clean animal and that was one of the criteria for eating an animal under the Levitical law. Under the law, the animal had to do two things, chew the cud and have a cloven hoof. Ezekiel saw something that was edible, something that was clean. It was not an unclean thing or an enemy that was coming against Israel. It was something that was good for Israel because it had a cloven hoof and it sparkled like the color of burnished brass. We know that it's Jesus because when John the revelator saw Jesus His feet were like burnished brass that had been in a fire.

Reve 1:13 (KJS) And in the midst of the seven candlesticks [one] like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. 14 His head and [his] hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes [were] as a flame of fire; 15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace and his voice as the sound of many waters.16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance [was] as the sun shineth in his strength.

When Daniel saw Jesus, His feet were again like burnished brass.

Dani 10:5 (KJS) Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz. 6 His body also [was] like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in color to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude. 7 And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves.

Whenever the Bible ever gives us a picture of Jesus His feet are like burnished brass. They had the hands of a man under their wings; we know that is the fivefold ministry.

Ezek 1:8 (KJS) And [they had] the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides; and they four had their faces and their wings. 9 Their wings [were] joined one to another; they

turned not when they went; they went every one straight upward. 10 As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man.

Jesus was a man. God said that He was going to be a man. He had the face of a lion. God said that He was going to be a King, the Lion of the tribe of Judah.

Revelation 5:5 (KJS) And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

They four had the face of an ox on the left side That is the servant. Jesus said that He did not come to be ministered to but to minister and give His life as a ransom

Matthew 20:28 (KJS) Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

The apostle Paul knew that Levitical law said not to muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn.

Deuteronomy 25:4 (KJS) Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out [the corn].

Did he speak that concerning the ox or for the sake of the ministry? Paul said it, no doubt, for the ministry's sake.

1 Corinthians 9:9 (KJS) For it is written in the law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. Doth God take care for oxen? 10 Or saith he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope....

Jesus was the minster. They four also had the face of an eagle. That is God, that is spirit. God told us way back in these Scriptures that, as you entered the tabernacle, the first color was blue. Blue is the color of the deity of God. That is the same as eagle face, and that represents the Gospel of John. That is why there are four gospels. Each of the four gospels tells you one of the specific attributes of Jesus. The gospel of Matthew tells you that He is a King. In fact, it is called the Gospel of the Kingdom. If you go back and look at the genealogy in Matthew, it takes you back to David, who was a king. It takes you back to Abraham, who established a kingdom. Most theologians will tell you that Matthew is the Gospel of the Kingdom. John is the gospel that shows us that Jesus is God. How does he start his genealogy of Jesus?

John 1:1 says: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He doesn't tell you anything about the manger experience, he just tells you that He always was and that He was with God from the beginning. God showed us that the purple represents the King and the blue is deity. The lion face and the Gospel of Matthew represent Him as the King. The scarlet was the servant or the ox face and that is represented in the Gospel of Mark. That gospel tells you what Jesus did. The linen is the picture of man. It is a man's face and that is the

Gospel of Luke. Luke was a physician. What better person to tell you about the physical attributes than a physician? In Luke, of course, it tells you how Jesus sweated great drops of blood. John, on the other hand, doesn't tell you about that. We see, as we look through this, that God gave us a picture in the Old Testament of this ministry of Christ. The first picture that He gave us in the Old Testament about Jesus was Adam, the perfect man. How many know that the Bible says that we are going to be bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh? How many know that verse?

Genesis 2:23 (KJS) And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

The Bible said that the church is bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh. Joseph was the picture of the Son of God in the book of Genesis. Joseph was the favorite of his father. He had the priestly garments and the coat of many colors. He was hated by his brothers and he was sold for silver. What was the name of the brother who sold Joseph? Judah. And you know that Judah is the Hebrew for Judas. So, 1,600 years before Jesus was sold, God told us the name of the man that would sell Jesus for silver. He went from among the Jews to among the Gentiles, and there he became king. But before he became a king what happened to him? When he first went into Egypt (and Egypt is religion), a woman wanted him that was not the true church. A false church sprung up. So God told us in the book of Genesis that the first major entity that was going to spring up worldwide was going to send truth into the dungeon; this entity was going to deny the truth and it was going to hold up the "garment" as though God had ordained for them to start the church. That was the Roman Catholic church. They say that Peter was supposed to be the first pope and they use that Scripture where it says, "... Upon this rock I am going to build My church..."

Matthew 16:18 (KJS) And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

That is a picture of Potiphar's wife the harlot church that sprung up. When she sprung up and said, "He came to me" then what happened to the truth? It went into the dungeon. It went into the dark ages.

Genesis 39:7 (KJS) And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me. 8 But he refused, and said unto his master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that' he hath to my hand; 9 There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God? 10 And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie by her, [on to be with her. 11 And it came to pass about this time, that Joseph went into the house to do his business; and [there was none of the men of the house there within. 12 And she caught him by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out. 13 And it came to pass, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand, and was fled forth, 14 That she called unto the men of her house, and spake unto them, saying, See, he hath brought in an Hebrew unto us to mock us; he came in unto me to lie with me, and I cried with a loud voice 15 And it came to pass, when he heard that I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled, and got him out. 16 And she laid up his

garment by her, until his lord came home. 17 And she spake unto him according to these words, saying, The Hebrew servant, which thou hast brought unto us, came in unto me to mock me: 18 And it came to pass, as I lifted up my voice and cried, that he left his garment with me, and fled out.

They went into the dungeon, they call it the Dark Ages. Even historically, that period of time it is called the Dark Ages. God showed us what would happen to His people in Joseph's story. When we come to the end of the story, there are seven years of plenty preceding seven years of tribulation. The Bible tells me that Pharaoh knew that something was going to happen but he didn't know exactly what it was. So he had to send for who? Jesus. He had to go back to the source of truth because he was the one who could interpret the things from God. Read me Genesis 50:23-25

Genesis 50:23 (KJS) And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation: the children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were brought up upon Joseph's knees. 24 And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. 25 And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence.

God is going to surely visit you and I want you to take up my bones from this place. When the children of Israel left Egypt and they picked up the bones of Joseph, the people of God became bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh. The Bible said that we are going to be bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh.

These four pictures, then, of the four faces of Jesus in the New Testament, every single one of these pictures will in some way show us, the people of God, that we are going to marry Him and be bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh with each of His four faces. When God created Eve what did Adam say to her? "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh". That is what we are establishing here.

God said that Adam was a perfect man. He was the picture of the perfect man, wasn't he? Luke said that Adam was the son of God.

Luke 3:38 (KJS) Which was the son of Enos, which was [he son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God.

What Adam said to Eve was, "You came out of me." God is giving us a picture of the church coming into the tabernacle -- that is what bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh is. We are becoming part of the tabernacle. You are going to be part of the tabernacle, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

2 Corinthians 5:1 (KJS) For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Let's go over to Hebrews 11. I want you to read me what the Bible says that Joseph did by faith, because Joseph did a lot by faith.

Hebrews 11:21 By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff. 22 By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

This is how he got into the book of faith. This is Joseph, who lived in a dungeon by faith, came up out of a dungeon by faith, became a ruler in Egypt by faith, stored up the grain by faith, delivered the people of God by faith, showed himself to his brothers by faith and saw his father Jacob by faith. The Bible says that it was by faith that he gave commandment concerning his bones. God doing is drawing our attention to those bones! When the children of Israel came up out of Egypt and picked up his bones, then they became bone of his bones and flesh of his flesh. If Joseph is a picture of Christ, then what does that mean to us? Joseph represented was God among us, it means we become one with the Spirit of God.

God showed it to us this way because the bone is the strength. What does the body of Christ need to stand up in America? Strength. We have tried everything else. We have tried wearing Nike shoes and phosphorescent trunks! We have tried everything that we can think of to get the world to see the church. The truth is that when we become bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh, then the world is going to see. What kind of flesh did He have? So Joseph gave commandment concerning his bones...

Now let's look at David, the lion face the Gospel of Matthew.

2 Samuel 5:1 (KJS) Then came all the tribes of Israel to David unto Hebron, and spake, saying. Behold, we have laid thy bone and thy flesh. 2 Also in time past, when Saul was king over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the LORD said to thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be a captain over Israel. 3 So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a league with them in Hebron before the LORD: and they anointed David king over Israel. 4 David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. 5 In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months: and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah.

1 Samuel 22:1 (KJS) David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard that, they went down thither to him. 2 And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

Jesus came from the lineage of David, that is obvious. David is the picture of the king. The people said, "We are part of you..."

The next picture, of course, is the picture of the ministry. All of God's people do ministry, but there are five offices ordained by God for the perfecting of the saints, what I call the fivefold ministry, or the ox, the servant. That was the Gospel of Mark and the picture in the Old Testament was Moses. He is a picture of the fivefold ministry. Moses was cut off from the land of the living just like Jesus, because they were killing all the babies when Moses was born just

like Herod killed all the babies when Jesus was born. Jesus' first miracle was turning the water into wine and Moses' first miracle was turning the water into blood. The Bible doesn't say anything about the early life of Moses except for one incident. It's the same way with Jesus. When we see Him, he was 12 years old. The pictures that God gave as parallels are astounding.

Moses' ministry took the children of Israel out of religion. Egypt represents religion. It cannot represent sin. I know that you have probably heard a lot of preachers say that it represents sin. The Bible says that the children of Israel told Moses they didn't want to come out of Egypt with him. If it was sin, then that means God drew people out of sin when they didn't want to come out of it. That can't be true. They couldn't possibly have been drawn by God out of sin and get out from under it and then say, "See, we didn't want to come out of Egypt and you made us come out." But, if they went into religion and they were looking for Christ and the truth and they got a lie, could God send for them then and lead them out by a deliverance? Sure, and it is hard to come out because you have friends there. You have people that you really love that are in the religious systems. Then the first thing that happens to you as God calls you out is that the devil comes and tells you that everybody in that church is going to go to hell. Wrong, wrong!

What God is telling you is that He is establishing leadership like He did in Moses. The leadership says that you must come out and get a hold of God, what good are you going to do learning the stuff of Egypt? You cannot be a part of God's true ministry in these last days if you have studied the ministries of Egypt. You will only be a ministry like Egypt's ministries.

Listen, Moses was 40 years in Egypt. What kind of leader was he? He was an Egyptian leader. And what is an Egyptian leader like? "If you give me any grief, I'll kill you." That is the attitude of religion -- excommunication. If you mess up with a Catholic priest, they will excommunicate you. The next thing you know, you're out of the church. What is that? It's death. How many churches do the exact same kind of thing? "You give us grief and you are going to die without us." That is the same attitude, the same kind of dis-fellowship, the punishment that comes. It is ruling over the people with a rod of iron. That is how Moses learned to rule the people of God. God said, "That is not how you are going to do it, Moses."

Moses was 40 years in Egypt and he was 40 years, exactly, in the wilderness, learning to do what? He was learning to shepherd sheep. God said, "I am not going to be behind My people, beating them with a rod like the Egyptians. I am going to be in front of My people, leading them. They are going to want to follow Me. They are going to want to go where I am going because they are going to be fed."

The churches that I have encountered in America are having terrible problems because the leadership is trying to teach the people what kind of authority they have. There is no doctrine growing today like the doctrine of authority under the ministry. That is the fastest spreading doctrine in America. They are teaching people that you have to listen to what the preacher says.

God made me a policeman in Nebraska and I wondered why He made me a policeman. But, He made me a policeman because I thought that everybody did what policeman told them to do. Oh, I was so wrong. Everyone who is up in daylight does what policeman tell them to do, but the people who stay out after dark do not. At about three o'clock in the morning, nobody minds the police. I don't know, it is just some kind of a phenomenon. I don't know what it is about those

hours. People that are up at three in the morning don't mind cops. What I found out was that any time I had to tell someone, "I am a policeman and you are going to do what I tell you," I was going to have to do more than show them a badge. Do you understand what I am saying? I was going to have to get physical to get the job done. Any time that you have to point to your badge and say, "I am the authority here," then they don't recognize your authority. If they did, they would have obeyed your instruction the first time you said something.

The churches are trying to establish an authority and they try to tell the people, "I am the authority." God made the leadership over His people what kind of authority? He made them an authority against Satan. However, the leadership today isn't keeping Satan out of the churches. There is all kinds of trash and junk going on in the churches and the preachers don't even know what is going on. God would tell them if they would ask. You must go to God and get the answer from Him. God will tell you what is going on most of the time if you will just ask.

We have stuff going on in churches that will go on for eight or 10 years, then, finally, a preacher will speak up or some other ministry in town will speak up. By then it has roots, it has grown into a full tree. The leaders want to say, "Cut that tree down." By the time you cut the tree down, as big as it is, it tears down people's houses. It would be better to get the stuff under control in the beginning. Saints don't let stuff grow out of proportion and then try and do something about it. God is telling us, "Let's get the leadership back who knows what the spirit of Satan is." When Peter stood in authority, he didn't beat the people of God. He was withstood the religious leaders who told him not to preach in the name of Jesus. Annanias and Sapphira died when they tried to bring a lie into the temple of God.

See how clean the temple was kept by a ministry that knew God's Spirit and heard Him when the liars were lying? That's what God is saying: "Let's go back to that kind of temple. Let's go back to a relationship where a holy God dwells in the temple." Christianity in America isn't ready for that. If you take a holy God and bring Him down into a congregation with a people filled with sin, they will die right and left. God is saying, "Let's grow in the Spirit and get cleaned up. I want to dwell in your midst. I have made some provisions for that."

Back to the tabernacle – when you entered the outer court, the other covering was linen. Linen was the picture of man. Ezekiel said it was man's face, and that was the gospel of Luke. The Old Testament picture God gives us is of Adam.

Genesis 2:23 (KJS) And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

So what He tells us is that Jesus was four distinct things. He was God and he was man. How could you reconcile that if the Bible says that God is not tempted with evil neither can be?

James 1:13 (KJS) Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man.

Jesus was tempted on the mount. Explain that to me.

John 14:8 (KJS) Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. 9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so lone time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?

The Bible tells us that there are four distinct things about Jesus. That is what God told us in Ezekiel. My Christ is going to be a man but He is also going to be God. He is going to be a King but He is also going to be a servant.

I want to ask you a question that is real important to you and I. Israel was looking for which two manifestations? The King God, the Messiah. What did they get? They got the servant man. Now, the Gentile church, which is she looking for? The King Messiah. What is the servant man but Christ in you the hope of glory? What would happen to the Gentile church if God formed the temple by bringing unity among the people who would hear His voice, and then said, "This is Me"? What are men going to do with you? What are you going to do with Christ in your brothers and sisters?" What did Jesus say? "The way you treated them is how you treated Me." See, Jesus knows how you would treat Him if He came out of heaven on a white steed. I can't think of any person I know who wouldn't bow to Him in that context.

If I owned the Holiday Inn, and I wanted to know how the Holiday Inn employees in DeMoines, Iowa, treated people, I wouldn't call them and say, "This is Mr. Ricley and I want to come and visit you on Wednesday." I would dress up in old ratty clothes, I would bust through that door and I would be so hard to get along with you wouldn't believe it! I would want to see how my employees treat the common, ordinary guy. If I announce that I own the place and I want to come and see it on Wednesday, they would all treat me like, "Yes, Mr. Ricley this, yes, Mr. Ricley that." Jesus doesn't want to know how the world is going to treat Him when He comes on a white horse. He wants to know how you are going to treat Him inside of a person. When Christ is in you, then the way I treat you is the way I treat Him. I am going to be guilty of treating Him the same way that I treated you. It is easy to say that I am going to treat Jesus a different way. The Jews were waiting for a Jesus to treat nicely, but they had been killing His prophets down through the ages. The Gentile church is no different. We have never treated our prophets any better than the Jews treated their prophets. We need to heed God's warnings to be careful, lest our theology have no room for the Christ. "If you didn't do that to the least of these, then you didn't do that to Me."

Matthew 25:42 (KJS) For I was an hungered and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: 43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. 44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? 45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me 46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

When were You hungry? I would have fed You. Jesus said, "I know you would have fed Me. That is not what I want. I don't want you to feed Me. I wanted you to feed the least of these. Christianity isn't built on how you treat Me."

See, you are waiting for a final cataclysmic event and the truth is that Jesus said, "I am going to come on the earth inside of a people." Christ means 'anointed'. Isn't that what it means? Christ in you, the anointing of God in you. What is the antichrist? It is against Christ, it is against that anointing. Jesus said, "I stand at the heart's door and knock." Where does Jesus want to live? Inside of you. Where is He, then? In heaven or in the earth? What's happened is that the Gentile church is waiting on an event. What event? They are waiting on the final point in time when Jesus returns to the earth in a physical body, in His glorified body, if you will, to take His people into heaven. That is the only event that they know to wait for. What they are missing is that the temple is going to be built on the earth and the Jews are going to see Christ in that many-membered body. Remember, Jesus said that Jews won't see Him until they say, "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." Jesus said, "I'm not trying to get you off the earth, I'm trying to glorify Myself so that the world can see Me. I want the Jewish people to see Me in a many-membered body. I want them to recognize Me and say, "This is My Christ." They're not going to recognize it when we're on the top of the world. Do you know when they're going to recognize it best? One thing they identify with best is persecution and tribulation. The Jewish people understand that. Has it destroyed them? No. All of the things the devil has tried to do to destroy the Jewish people and they aren't even under the covering of God since they crucified Christ. God's going to go back to them, but they walked away from the covenant. Has the devil been able to destroy them? No! That tells me that when God gives His word to somebody like Abraham, He's going to keep it forever. It's not contingent on men, it's contingent on His Word.

I'm anxious to see Christ in us because I want the Jewish people to be brought under the covenant of Christ. They had to do what they did for me. Did you know that? They had to go through the stuff they've been through for the last 2,000 years because God was provoking them to jealousy. He said the strongest love you ever have is love when you want something and you can't quite get it. He said, "I loved you so much and you wouldn't quite give Me your heart. I'm going to go to another people and I'm going to love them. And one day, you're going to wake up and say, 'He loves them more than He loves me. I want Him back.'"

He said, "I'm going to let you want Me for a little while." There's something about human nature. When it gets what it wants, it treats it light.

He said, "You're going to want Me so badly, and then I'm going to reveal Myself to you and glorify Myself to you."

That's what we're headed to. That's what I want to see. That's what we're rejoicing in. The four faces of Christ were shown to us in the four curtains that were at the gate of the tabernacle. Jesus is God, the blue, the eagle, the Gospel of John, and Joseph is the picture of this in the Old Testament. Jesus is the king, the purple, the lion, the Gospel of Matthew, and David is that picture. Jesus is the servant, the scarlet, the ox, the Gospel of Mark, and Moses is that picture. Jesus is the Son of man, the linen, the man, the Gospel of Luke, and Adam is the picture.

I want to go to Numbers 29:7-40. This is where it tells us about the Feast of Tabernacles from a little bit different perspective.

7: And ye shall have on the tenth day of this seventh month an holy convocation; and ye shall afflict your souls: ye shall not do any work therein: 8: But ye shall offer a burnt offering unto the LORD for a sweet savour; one young bullock, one ram, and seven lambs of the first year; they shall be unto you without blemish: 9: And their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals to a bullock, and two tenth deals to one ram, 10: A several tenth deal for one lamb, throughout the seven lambs: 11: One kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the sin offering of atonement, and the continual burnt offering, and the meat offering of it, and their drink offerings. 12: And on the fifteenth day of the seventh month ye shall have an holy convocation; ye shall do no servile work, and ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days: 13: And ye shall offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD; thirteen young bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year; they shall be without blemish: 14: And their meat offering shall be of flour mingled with oil, three tenth deals unto every bullock of the thirteen bullocks, two tenth deals to each ram of the two rams, 15: And a several tenth deal to each lamb of the fourteen lambs: 16: And one kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering. 17: And on the second day ye shall offer twelve young bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of the first year without spot: 18: And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 19: And one kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and the meat offering thereof, and their drink offerings. 20: And on the third day eleven bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish; 21: And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 22: And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering. 23: And on the fourth day ten bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish: 24: Their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 25: And one kid of the goats for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering. 26: And on the fifth day nine bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without spot: 27: And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 28: And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering. 29: And on the sixth day eight bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish: 30: And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 31: And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering. 32: And on the seventh day seven bullocks, two rams, and fourteen lambs of the first year without blemish: 33: And their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 34: And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, his meat offering, and his drink offering. 35: On the eighth day ye shall have a solemn assembly: ye shall do no servile work therein: 36: But ye shall offer a burnt offering, a sacrifice made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD: one bullock, one ram, seven lambs of the first year without blemish: 37: Their meat offering and their drink offerings for the bullock, for the ram, and for the lambs, shall be according to their number, after the manner: 38: And one goat for a sin offering; beside the continual burnt offering, and his meat offering, and his drink offering. 39: These things ye shall do unto the LORD in your set feasts, beside your vows, and your freewill offerings, for your burnt offerings, and for your meat

offerings, and for your drink offerings, and for your peace offerings. 40: And Moses told the children of Israel according to all that the LORD commanded Moses.

What most of Christianity has done when they read that is to move quickly on to something else! I can remember when the Lord was dealing with me about it. When I was 12 years old I started going through the Scriptures. I started in Genesis. When I got to Leviticus, I just jetted past all of this stuff because it didn't make any sense to me. That's what we've done with a lot of this stuff. We've run through it when God has said that it's there as a picture to us.

We don't have to understand this stuff to grow on in Christ. We're not talking about this because you have to understand the 13 bullocks, the two rams and the 14 lambs. You don't have to have an understanding of this to go on in God, but what I'm talking about tonight is that the Feast of Tabernacles is you marrying Christ. It's talking about you coming into a relationship with Him where you marry Him and come into the fullness of relationship, not off in heaven, but on the earth. What He's telling us in this Feast of Tabernacles is something important to us. The Jewish people knew that the Passover was one of their feasts but they didn't take any time to study it. They didn't care. They just ate, they had a big feast. They just went out and killed the lamb like told them to. They went down through it legally as much as possible, but they didn't pay any attention to what they were reading. Then, one day, they crucified their Passover Lamb. I don't intend to fall back into the same pattern. I don't want to go down the same road that Israel did. God told His people, "You perish for a lack of knowledge. You don't lack finances, you don't lack blessings. My blood's been shed. The thing you've really missed out on is that you don't know what I'm talking to you about. You don't know Me." That's what Jesus kept telling the Jewish people, "You don't know who God is." We've come back the same route. We've tried to throw away the Old Testament because we don't understand it. Jesus kept saying, "If you had understood Moses you'd understand Me." Once I read that, I said, "Wait a minute, that's true."

If we go back to Exodus 29, and it tells us about the offering of the bullocks. It was a whole burnt offering, a sin offering. It was a sin offering for the priests. It was not about sins against men but about sins against God. Do you understand that? There's something very important about our relationship with God in these bullocks, in the sin offering. The trespass offering deals with me sinning in things that affect other people, such as lying and adultery and things like that. When I sin against God, it comes under a different kind of heading. The Bible says to him that knows to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin. When you know God, you come under a place where you have to communicate with God. As God begins to communicate with you and He tells you not to do something and you go ahead and do it, you become disobedient. You enter into a sin. You don't have to commit adultery to do that, you have to do something that God told you not to do. I've had God deal with me on things that were between He and I. Those things would not constitute sin for anyone else unless God had dealt with them about it as well.

As an example, I got in the car one time to go see my older brother. He lived in Berthoud, Colorado, and I lived in Commerce City. God told me not to go. I was on the overpass to enter the Interstate and, as soon as I heard God, I turned around and jetted right back to my house. I'd learned to listen to what God told me to do. I didn't have to know the reason or understand why, I just had to obey. God's taught me to listen to the things He's told me to do because they are very important.

This sin offering of the bullocks has to do with me and my relationship with God.

Question: Can you explain what a non-sweet smelling offering means?

Answer: It was not something that was offered up to God as a sweet-smelling savor. It stunk. The sweet-smelling savors are an offering to God. If I give God an offering, it smells nice to Him. But if I've done iniquity, and I'm dealing with that iniquity in repentance, that doesn't smell sweet to God.

Now, let's read Exodus 29:10

Exodus 29:10 And thou shalt cause a bullock to be brought before the tabernacle of the congregation: and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the bullock.

This is why, in Hebrews 6, it talks about going on from the doctrine of laying on of hands.

Hebrews 6:1-2 1: Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, 2: Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

The Jewish people understood a different thing about the laying on of hands than we do. To most Christians, the laying on of hands means praying for sick people. I guarantee that the Book of Hebrews is talking about something deeper than a doctrine about whether I lay hands on people when I pray for them. When the Jewish priest laid his hands on the bullock, he was transferring his sin to that bullock. When they laid hands on people, they were actually imparting sin to them or taking their sin away. When Jesus touched the leper, He drew the sin off of the leper. He said, "I'm more than sufficient for this. I can take care of this sin." If God doesn't tell you to lay hands on someone, you need to be careful. Most of Christianity is running around laying their hands on people, and they're either imparting sin or drawing off sin. Now God is sufficient, but if you don't know what you're doing, you can get in a mess in a hurry.

Exodus 29:11: And thou shalt kill the bullock before the LORD, by the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

This was for the ministries. This was for Aaron and his sons.

Exodus 29:12: And thou shalt take of the blood of the bullock, and put it upon the horns of the altar with thy finger, and pour all the blood beside the bottom of the altar.

Where was the blood to go? They were to put it on the ground. That's exactly what we saw at the cross, the blood was poured on the ground.

Exodus 29:13: And thou shalt take all the fat that covereth the inwards, and the caul that is above the liver, and the two kidneys, and the fat that is upon them, and burn them upon the altar.

The only thing that you burn on the altar is the fat and the kidneys. What happens when fat gets hot? You get a big fire! The fat is a picture of the zeal. In Psalm 69:9 it says, "The zeal of thy house has eaten me up." What we kept from this bullock, which was a sin offering and not a trespass offering, is showing us that God has made a way for the purifying of the body. The kidneys are the purifying engines in the body.

God started out with 13 bullocks. That tells us that there is a sin offering made for us. That draws us in to a relationship with God. These priests, then, could come into a relationship with God. That's good news!

The priests had to do what God said and they had to do it right. They had to take the blood and apply it to the horns of the altar. That means that we're brought into a place of power in God, a place of authority, because sin doesn't have any hold on us.

Exodus 29:14: But the flesh of the bullock, and his skin, and his dung, shalt thou burn with fire without the camp: it is a sin offering.

In Hebrews 13:11, it tells us that Jesus suffered outside the camp. We know that Jesus is the sin offering. As we read down through this passage in Exodus 29, we see that God started with 13 bullocks and that the number of the bullocks offered each consecutive day decreased by one per day. What two numbers make 13? We know it's 6+7. The number 13 tells us that this sacrifice is going to be a perfect man. If 6 is the number of man and 7 is the number of perfection, we know this is true. After the diminishing of the bullocks each day, the number of bullocks on the last day was 7. What have we gotten rid of? We've gotten rid of the flesh, the man, and we keep the perfect number.

What we see here in the Feast of Tabernacles is that God starts out with 13 bullocks, with the flesh man and the spirit man. But not to worry, God's getting rid of the "man" in you and in me. He didn't do it in one day, He took time to do it. He takes time to do it in us. Our emotions and all of our fears are being taken off of us. When God starts taking those emotions off of you, you're going to wish He wasn't. But what these Scriptures tell me is that God really is going to deal with the "man". All the doctrines of men that tell me it can never come to pass mean nothing to me. I've got these Scriptures and I've got God's Word on it. God hid His theology in His Word.

Is it easier to re-tell the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego or Romans 3? God knows that it's a lot easier to repeat a story than it is to explain a doctrine or a theology. He told His story over and over again in the Old Testament. He told us the story of killing the bullocks and people remembered it. His theology is contained in these stories that we can remember. Chapters 3-7 of Romans are the bullock-killing chapters in the New Testament. Did you know that? Oh yeah, they kill the bullock. They deliver us from that place of sin.

God wants us to understand the stories spiritually, but it takes the Spirit of God to teach them to us. Jesus told us that Jonah's story is a picture of Him being in the bowels of the earth for three days and three nights. Now, if you go back and read the book of Jonah, are you going to

find some things in that story that don't seem consistent with Jesus? Yes! Sure, because Jonah disobeyed God. Men want to, somehow, have every single part of the stories fit together in a way that makes sense. However, we need to have the Spirit of God lead us and teach us. Without the leading of the Spirit, it won't make sense.

There are over 100 parallels between the life of Joseph in the Old Testament and the life of Jesus, but most of the church has never caught on to that. God put those parallels in there so that we could grasp who Jesus is. God told us, in Joseph's life, that Jesus would be the reason people end up in religious houses. Joseph's brothers went back to Egypt to find bread, to get fed. They were hungry and they went to where Joseph was to get bread. But, what happened? Leadership eventually arose that didn't have a personal relationship with Joseph, and the people of God, who were once free, became slaves in the same place where Joseph once was. It was the same place, but the leadership changed. The leadership in the church must know God personally, they must have an ongoing relationship with God based on knowledge of Him revealed by His Spirit. The church should have never become satisfied with people who can make a good sermon. The church has always needed men who would go to God for the word. Once we settled for men who could just make good sermons, and they can make some good sermons, we got in trouble. I don't make good sermons, as you know, but I've met God.

The second sacrifice, and this is a sweet-smelling savor, were the two rams. The first ram was a whole burnt offering and it meant complete consecration to God. Let's go to Exodus 29:15-16.

15: Thou shalt also take one ram; and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the ram. 16: And thou shalt slay the ram, and thou shalt take his blood, and sprinkle it round about upon the altar.

This is talking about consecration. It means that you can go on in God. This is not for sin, that was the bullock. This is a ram that was brought in.

Exodus 29:17: And thou shalt cut the ram in pieces, and wash the inwards of him, and his legs, and put them unto his pieces, and unto his head.

They put the ram on the altar, cut into many pieces. That's what the body of Christ is like. It also says that it was joined to its head. They killed it, they cut it up, and as they put it back together on the altar, they joined it to its head. That's talking about the church coming into the place where we grow up into Christ, who's the Head.

God is showing us that there's a place of consecration for us, and that place is meant to bring us into the place where Christ becomes the Head again. It's an ongoing thing. God is telling us that this blood of the first ram is sprinkled on the altar. That's for us because the altar was brass, meaning judgment. The brazen altar talks of the righteous judgment of God. What satisfied it there? The blood of Jesus.

Are we without judgment? No, the Bible says that if I judge myself He won't judge me. What do I judge myself with? The Word of God. If I judged myself with all the doctrines of men, I'd be running around like a crazy man.

The second ram was a peace offering. This shows us that, as we grow in our relationship with God, there is a peace offering we come to. It brings us peace with God. If you have sin in your life, do you have peace with God? I guarantee that you don't.

Exodus 29:18: And thou shalt burn the whole ram upon the altar: it is a burnt offering unto the LORD: it is a sweet savour, an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

When you offer yourself to grow on in God, that's a sweet smell to Him. When you're just learning to overcome sin and you're constantly dealing in that realm where sin is, that's a stench to God. But when you're growing in God, when you're pressing on toward the mark of the prize of the high calling in Christ Jesus, when you've laid aside the weight and the sin that does so easily beset you, and you run this race with patience, that's a sweet smell to God. Now, you're not giving Him what He gave you, you're giving Him what you can give Him. He gave us the blood atonement through Jesus Christ for our sins, but when I'm living for Him, I'm offering Him something that He won't buy. He will not buy me and make me serve Him. He wants me to volunteer to do that. He wants me to love Him just because I love Him. That's what He's talking about in these Scriptures. He's telling us that we can come into a consecrated life with Him. We can come into a relationship with Him and use that blood on the altar and it can be sweet between Him and us.

You running this race is going to be sweet. Sometimes, as Christians, we set a mark for ourselves as to where we want to grow to in Christ. When we fail to meet it, we feel terrible about ourselves. But it can be like someone taking a really complicated class and not doing well in it. The student fears his parents will be angry at his performance, but the truth is that they are pleased that he stepped out and took on a challenge. They'd say, "You got a C? That's okay. You took something that challenged you and you did something with it." We think like that about God. We see this race, and sometimes we get discouraged because it doesn't seem like we're running fast enough. Truthfully, you can't tell how fast you're running. God wants to bring us into a place of peace.

Exodus 29:19: And thou shalt take the other ram; and Aaron and his sons shall put their hands upon the head of the ram. 20: Then shalt thou kill the ram, and take of his blood, and put it upon the tip of the right ear of Aaron, and upon the tip of the right ear of his sons, and upon the thumb of their right hand, and upon the great toe of their right foot, and sprinkle the blood upon the altar round about.

Now He's dealing with the working of the ministry. We lose our peace because of what we hear. You can lose your peace because of what the devil tells you or what someone else tells you. These Scriptures are about a cleansing process. Jesus washed the disciples' feet. The feet symbolize our walk. These Scriptures tell us about our seat of emotions, or what we hear. They tell us about our right hand, the motive behind our works. This is a peace offering. It brings a restoration of peace with God.

I feel like we're just skimming over the top of these verses. God's whole plan is woven into these stories. The whole point of what God has always wanted is for us to come into a

relationship with Him. The law didn't satisfy God. He didn't want to be separated from His people. He always wanted to be in and among His people and dwelling with His people. He's been moving toward us since Adam. He killed the sacrifice the day that Adam and Eve sinned in the garden and covered them with the skin of the sacrifice.

In Exodus 34:18, we go on to the lamb:

18: The feast of unleavened bread shalt thou keep. Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, as I commanded thee, in the time of the month Abib: for in the month Abib thou camest out from Egypt. 19: All that openeth the matrix is mine; and every firstling among thy cattle, whether ox or sheep, that is male. 20: But the firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb: and if thou redeem him not, then shalt thou break his neck. All the firstborn of thy sons thou shalt redeem. And none shall appear before me empty.

The lamb is for redemption. It's redemption for a lesser thing. There were 14 lambs, seven and seven, perfect redemption. The ass was a burden-bearing animal, a working animal. We have a choice with God. We can work our way to Him and be contented with that. There is going to be a ministry like that on the earth. There will always be men who are working their way to God. The Feast of Tabernacles tells me these 14 lambs represent God's redemption for me. That redemption process is not by works. I'm not going to be redeemed by God because I work my way to God.

The goat is the trespass offering. They put the sins of the people on the goat, the scapegoat.

Before the priests could minister, they had to kill the bullock. They had to start with this process that cleansed them. That's exactly what God is telling us. We have to start in our relationship with Him understanding that our lives are an offering to God. If our lives get tough, should we be surprised? When we're tried, should that be a newsflash? God wants us to understand that He built the Feast of Tabernacles on the principle of the whole burnt offering. God doesn't want part of you. This tabernacle won't come about because men give Him 50 percent of themselves. That's what religion does. God knows that if we only give Him part of who we are, we won't become what He has in mind.

When the offering was brought to the altar, it was fastened to the four horns. That means it was held here, it was captive to the altar. Some of you have felt tied to the brazen altar. God told the priests to keep the fire burning all night long. Do you think that when you lay down on the altar it will just consume you instantly? God says that we'll lay there all night long sometimes. Sometimes you will feel that fire burning you and you'll want to just get up and walk away, but this tells you that if you are really going to be a habitation of God, this is where you have to start. We've started with lesser things, but Jesus said, "Take up your cross and follow Me." The cross isn't going to kill part of you, the cross only quits when you die. You suffocate and you know you're suffocating. You can't breathe out and you stand on the nails so that you can breathe out. When they crucified people, they came and broke their legs at a certain point because then they could no longer stand up on the nails and exhale. It caused them to slowly suffocate. It felt like being inside a plastic bag. Jesus said that He is going to have a church without spot or wrinkle or any such thing. He could settle for a lesser church and, indeed, the whole world is looking at a

lesser church. The world has mocked it. The devil has brought every kind of abomination he can think of against the church and paraded it out in front of the church, asking, “What are you going to do about this?” This is happening in a country that’s supposed to be a Christian country.

God is saying, “That’s what you get when you are contented to do the work of an ass. When you do things after the way of the flesh. When you have big preachers, big programs, and big churches, and you get them after the way of the flesh, you have ‘zero’. If you want to be where I am, then you need to start moving in the right direction. You must start running after the prize, and that’s Me. Don’t make evangelism your prize. Don’t make the world your prize. Don’t make things your prize. Make Me your prize. When I become your prize and you let Me start courting your heart, you’re going to fall wildly in love with Me, and then you’re going to quit listening to what the world has to say and you’re going to grow up into the Head.”

There’s a consecrated blood that’s sprinkling the altar and that’s to cleanse your conscience. You have to come to a place where you’re clean and new in God. There’s something different that will happen inside of you because the power of God will be doing it. That’s what kind of church Jesus told us He will have. The devil says He’ll never get it. God says the devil better back away! God’s going to get it done.

Tape skips to the earthly ministry of Christ and discussing Moses’ ministry.

Exodus 40:33: And he reared up the court round about the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the hanging of the court gate. So Moses finished the work. 34: Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

This tells us that the work will be finished.

Numbers 17:12: And the children of Israel spake unto Moses, saying, Behold, we die, we perish, we all perish. 13: Whosoever cometh anything near unto the tabernacle of the LORD shall die: shall we be consumed with dying?

When we come into a place where God really inhabits us, the flesh dies! That’s good news! The flesh wants to get away from the place where it is brought to death by close association with the presence of God. God gets rid of the man and keeps the “perfect”. That’s why you were born again. God wants to get rid of the outward shell’s place of power. The outward shell is still going to there. You will still be walking around on the earth. The power of the outward shell is the seat of your emotions. When God gets done with you, you won’t bow to the seat of your emotions or to your appetites. When the Spirit of God grows inside of you to the place where it has control over your appetites and over your emotions, will you still feel things? Yes, you will. You will feel, but the feelings won’t be in control. Fear won’t be in control, the Spirit of God will be in control. The emotions are one of the problems with Christianity today. If we get filled with compassion, we start moving in the realm of compassion. Moving in fleshly compassion is not the same as God moving.

When Jesus went to the Pool of Bethesda, He only prayed for a single man. That man was a rascal, too. He went out and betrayed Jesus. There were sick people all around that pool, and Jesus only prayed for one man. He said, "I do what the Father shows me to do." Don't you think His human compassion was stirred for all the lame and sick in that place? Of course it was, but He had learned not to operate in His human compassion. When you and I learn to do what God tells us to do, power will return to the church.

There are times when God is putting someone through the fire to burn away the dross. If you deliver them out of it because of your human compassion, God will have to put them through it again another time. It would be better to let them go through it.

Colossians 2:8: Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. 9: For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. 10: And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: 11: In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: 12: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. 13: And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 14: Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15: And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. 16: Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ. 18: Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, 19: And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God. 20: Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,

God is bringing us to a place of reckoning the flesh as dead, beyond the rudiments of the world. Most of Christianity is still in the rudiments of the world. A church that dwells there is in the flesh, not the spirit. They that are in the flesh cannot please God. When the world starts talking about the rudiments, I understand that they are doing the best they can because that's the realm they dwell in, the do's and don'ts. The Bible says that thinking is all done away with once the flesh is reckoned dead. How do we fall back underneath that sometimes? Something happens to our ear. We let some other doctrine come in.

What Jesus slowly does is reveal Himself as the Pearl of great price to us. When you first begin to fellowship with the people of God, He is not your Pearl of great price. You don't see Him yet in that dynamic. That's why man approaches God through the gate of the tabernacle. From the gate, you cannot see what is going on inside of the tabernacle. You can't see the fullness of what a relationship with God is. In fact, it is hidden from your view intentionally. It is forbidden for you to see it until God knows you are ready to see it.

THE LAVER

The laver is a picture of the Word of God. It contained the water which we all know is the Word of God. Jesus explained that clearly to the woman at the well. The polished brass then allowed the Priests who washed there to see their reflection through the water. When we read the precious Word of God we need to examine ourselves by it. So the Laver, where the priests washed, was made out of brass. Now remember it was made out of the looking glasses or the mirrors if you will that the Hebrew women took out the land of Egypt. So it was out of beaten brass, highly polished and very reflective. I would like to add that when a Priest washed at the Laver he didn't see his wife's reflection, or his neighbor's, or his friend's reflection, he saw his own. Too often I think we set in an assembly hearing the Word of God and think about everyone but ourselves.

Exod 38:8 (KJS) And he made the laver of brass, and the foot of it Eofl brass, of the looking glasses of the women in the assembly, which assembled lati the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Most of us are familiar with the Tabernacle and the different dynamics of that

2.

Next to the Laver was the brazen altar. The brazen altar was where the sacrifices were burned before the Lord. The sacrifice killed was not enough, the dead flesh would rot and stink. In the church, every believer is both flesh and spirit. The new covenant commands us to mortify the deeds of the flesh. How we would say that today is slay or kill it. In the Church of Jesus Christ, we teach people to stop doing things that are in rebellion to God. But stopping a wrong behavior isn't enough to God. He sees what we want to do and He hears what we think. Cleaning up the outside will never satisfy Him. The brazen altar then is a precious promise of victory. Our God is a consuming fire! Only He can burn out of us those things we want rid of and leave us alive and full of joy. There are many things that we could discuss about these instruments around the tabernacle, but it will suffice to say that God gave us a pattern and most of the Christian community today needs to be reacquainted with it.

As we grow in God, He leads us to the laver. We look into the Word of God and we begin to see ourselves. At first, we are aghast! When you look into the Word of God and you see your flesh, you are aghast. We can't get discouraged and forget about the brazen altar. When you look in the laver and then move to the brazen altar, it tells you what God did. When you look at yourself through the Word, you should be encouraged. Rejoice that you've been delivered from that stuff because of what God did for you. The brazen altar took care of your iniquities and sin. That's what the redemption of Christ is. When you recognize that you have something in your life that needs to come out, how long does it take to get it out? The Bible says that if we will confess our sins He will be faithful and just to forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). If He promises to cleanse us, why do we keep trying to cleanse ourselves?

We look in the laver and see our flesh and we despair at who we are. The laver was made of the women's mirrors. It reflected. When you looked down in there, you saw you. When I'm preaching, and I get out the laver and the Word really gets beautiful, and you look into it, you know who you see, don't you? You husbands see your wives, and you wives see your husbands. Or maybe you see your buddy, Joe. But when you went to the laver, the only person you were

meant to see when you bent over to wash was yourself. That's because it's representative of the Word of God. God didn't provide any dimensions for the laver. The other articles and objects have dimensions given, but not the laver. That's because there is no formula to the Word of God. God speaks to you. God showed Moses the laver and Moses knew what it was going to look like. That means that His sheep know His voice. We must have ministries that know what the laver looks like. We must have ministries that know God. We don't have a formula for the Bible. Our human nature likes formulas. We like to be able to do steps "A", "B", and "C". God, however, wants us to walk and talk with Him. If we have a formula, we don't need Him. God didn't want men to figure out a formula and then sell it.

Moses finished the work he was given. That encourages me. It means the ministry is going to finish its job on the earth. In Ephesians 4:11-13, it tells us:

11: And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12: For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:

The tabernacle is all about the church coming to the full stature of the man Christ Jesus.

The second picture of Christ's earthly ministry is the king. Let's go to 2 Samuel 7:27, Matthew 11:27, and Proverbs 25:2

2 Samuel 7:27: For thou, O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, hast revealed to thy servant, saying, I will build thee an house: therefore hath thy servant found in his heart to pray this prayer unto thee.

David wanted to build a house for God. God told David that He was going to build David's house instead. He did that in Christ Jesus. The King's ministry is all about building the King's house. God is the King. Whose house are we? We are God's house.

Matthew 11:27: All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

The job of the Son was to reveal the Father. In the ministry of the King, we're dealing with revelation.

Proverbs 25:2: It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.

It's the glory of God to hide a matter. The King's job is to understand what God hid. Jesus understood what God had hidden.

We're going to talk about the final agenda of God. The picture of the bride is about becoming one flesh with Jesus. Our flesh is what stands in the way and God is going to deal with the flesh.

God shows us that over and over again. This is not a hope for God, this is something He is going to do. The Bible tells us that Jesus is going to present to Himself a perfect bride. The doctrines of men get this wrong. The doctrines of men make us the ones who are going to present ourselves to God.

God has to show us that we can't get the job done. That's why He gave us the Sabbath. The Sabbath is meant to teach us who sanctifies us. When you enter into hard times and you can't get any answers, you just have to lean back on the Lord. Nothing makes you know you can't get things done better than a Sabbath. When you're really in a Sabbath from God, you will finally give up thinking that you can do anything outside of God.

In Christianity, we've become ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. The truth was too profound. Then we brought in all kinds of false doctrines that alluded to the things that were true, but they filled their doctrines with trash. People talk about perfection like they're going to climb the mountain and get God's kingdom all straightened out and get the earth all straightened out so that God will come back. The reason God created man on the sixth day was because He had finished all the other stuff! It would have taken God nearly forever to get things done if He would have had to answer to Adam!

"God, that's an awfully big animal. That great big horn on the front of it scares me. I wish You would make him smaller and put the horns on the small animals. Don't you think rabbits should be the ones with horns?"

Thankfully, God decided to make man last! Let's go to Ephesians 4.

Ephesians 4:11: And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12: For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: 14: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15: But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love. 17: This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, 18: Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: 19: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. 20: But ye have not so learned Christ; 21: If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: 22: That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23: And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24: And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

I guess that just shot a hole in all the doctrines I know of about do's and don'ts. God is doing something so much bigger than do's and don'ts. He did do's and don'ts for 1,600 years and they

were a failure. All of Israel failed and they had the law. They came up with a great big fat zero. They ran around trying to come up with ways to get around God's laws! God said, "I'm going to change your heart. I'm going to go the inside of the matter and change you there."

Those rams we read about were all cut into pieces. That represents total surrender. God is going to bring us to total surrender. We keep trying to figure out a different angle and a different way to fix things, until eventually we get so discouraged and wounded that we lay down and say, "I'm dying." Once we get to the dying place, let's let God bring us through to resurrection life. Let's not get stuck in the dying. The world needs to see a people conformed to the image of Christ Jesus. Paul talked about knowing Him in the power of His resurrection. How do you get to the resurrection? By dying!

John 17:20-23 -- 20: Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21: That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22: And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

God said that He wants us to be one in Him. Why? So that the world might know that God sent Jesus. How would you get the churches in Lawrence, Kansas, together? A brother came to me and told me that he went to the ministerial alliance in town with a proposal. He knew of a church that was composed of young people, that was an outreach to college kids. During the summer, they had only a couple of people, but they had over \$30,000 to work with. He knew of another church that was composed primarily of older people. He knew that the older people could give stability to the college kids, but they met in a building that was run down. The older folks lacked finances. He met with the leaders of those groups and talked to them about combining their resources to touch people for God. One of the brothers responded to the idea by saying that he was worried that the other leader would end up being the pastor of the whole thing. The second leader said that he didn't think the people on his board would go for it. Here are two men who could benefit from working together. They have no real doctrinal differences and they have needs the other could help meet, but they can't come together because they'd each lose their kingdom. I'm not faulting those brothers, but that's the way Egypt has always done things. Egypt is a kingdom. When you're establishing a kingdom, you have to keep it working smoothly. What we need to change is our thinking that the kingdom belongs to us. It isn't our kingdom, it's God's kingdom.

God has put many parts of His body in the hand of ministers, and those ministers have abused them. They have kept them for financial gain, they have bragged about how they take care of them, etc. I've watched what the world has done with this bride. God is going to call for His bride, and He wants her to be without spot or wrinkle. Men are saying, "It's okay if you have spots, it's okay if you have wrinkles. You'll always have them."

If that's what people are taught, they won't ever go beyond the spots and wrinkles. If people are taught that they have to fix themselves, they eventually find out that they can't. They try and fail. But if I could take them back to the blood and show them that God made a way through, if I

could show them that we died on the cross with Jesus and we were born again of incorruptible seed, it would begin to dawn on them that they aren't the ones doing the work. God is the one who does it.

If I tell you that you're going to go through some tough things that will cut your flesh off, you begin to understand things you've already been through or things that you are going through. Instead of getting down on yourself and worrying that you've missed God, you know what's happening and where you're going. The church needs leadership who knows where God is taking the church. God is raising you up to be that kind of leadership. You're learning these things because God wants to tell people all over the world exactly what you are being taught right now. God is moving the church out of its own agenda and towards His agenda. You will encounter all kinds of people who are anxious, people who have been hurt by men who established their own kingdoms. The people who will love you are the people who are dying in the gutter for want of truth. The people who will love you are the people who are in churches right now and are so starved for truth. They've been trying to go to every Bible study they can find and read every book they can find and listen to every radio or TV program they can find because they're hungry, but all they've ever ended up with is confusion. They've gotten more confused than they've ever been in their lives. They need to turn off all the programs and get ahold of the horns of the altar and go back to God.

In listening to all the good theologies and all the good intentions of men, we've ended up in confusion in Christianity. Jesus said, "I'm the Shepherd. If you'll come to Me, I'll show you My voice, but you're listening to all these other voices, so you're not learning My voice." If you took an infant and put him in a place where there were 50 adults, and all of those adults fed and nurtured that child, he would not know his mother. The church has grown up listening to every radio program and every TV program they can find, but they do not know the voice of their Father. They've never gone to the prayer closet and waited until God spoke to them and then they wonder why they aren't sure who's talking. Jesus said, "My sheep will know My voice," but you have to go back to God to hear it.

The devil knew that he could put all kinds of voices out there and that people would hear them and realize that they all say different things. He knew that once people realize they all say different things, it would terrorize them because they wouldn't know who was telling the truth. Once people get scared, they start backing away, not knowing where to go. Once people start running from the hodgepodge of doctrines, they don't know where to run. Jesus invites us to the prayer closet and promises to open His Word to us. He promises to talk to our hearts and to let us get to know Him. He will tell us things about our lives and then prove to us that He said it. Jesus will prove His Word to us over and over and over again until we come to know His voice. He doesn't expect us to know His voice on the first day, but He does expect us to go to Him and let Him teach it to us. By the time He's done, you will know His voice.

The church is 2,000 years old, but she's not the glory of what God wants. We've got churches on nearly every corner in America, but the people don't know that God loves them. That's why God is telling us to press toward Him first. If we will press toward Him first, we will learn His voice and we will have something to give those people. Men tell us to press toward humanity first. What do you take them if you don't know God's voice? They've already heard John 3:16.

They've already heard all kinds of things about Armageddon. The people on the streets know about God; they need to know God. If you and I just take them the dead letter of the Word, we aren't taking them anything. But, if we could walk up to someone at the market and say, "When you were 17 years old, something happened to you. Someone who you loved and trusted hurt you and you've never been the same since." They'd begin to cry and turn into a puddle of tears because they would know that what you are telling them is from God and God knows them. They don't want to hear John 3:16, they want to know that God knows them. We put Jesus way off in the cosmos somewhere. We forgot that He wants to talk to people like He did the woman at the well. He knows the number of hairs on your head! We've limited ourselves. The world doesn't need to hear about God, they need to know God.

God wants to talk to your heart. He wants to talk to your spirit. He wants to tell you something about someone before you ever get there. He'll talk to you if you'll listen. He'll tell you exactly what their need is. You won't have to guess. If you tell somebody what's in the very center of their heart, they're going to know that God knows them. Their eyes will be drawn right past you and will be cast on Jesus. The world will be drawn to Him if He is lifted up.

Egypt says we should just go out and win the lost. God says, "Come to your secret closet. Come to Me. Come to know Me and then take Me to the world." Bible schools turn out scholars every graduation day. They turn them out by the hundreds. The world doesn't need more men who know about the Bible. Twelve men who knew God turned Jerusalem upside down! We don't need great scholars and theologians. You don't need to know about the Bible, you need to take people Jesus inside of you. That means He's got to grow up first. That means you have to relax and let Him grow up.

If I came to your house and told your 8 or 10-year-old kids that they need to go out and get married, you'd be aghast. If I told your 14-year-old daughter that she ought to marry the first boy she has a crush on, you'd gasp. You'd get between her and that advice. But the church is telling Christians to get out there and walk like men of God before they're grown up in Christ. I say, you need to grow up. Once you come up to that fullness of Christ Jesus, God's Word will send you out. We make plans because we feel unproductive. When God's moving you into a place of knowing Him better, you're going to feel unproductive. God doesn't want you to feel productive, He wants you to lock away in Him. There's a time to sow, but there's a time to grow up, too.

If I told some of you farmers that you need to plant your seed in January, you'd think I was crazy. If I criticized you for letting the ground lay dormant, you would know that planting must be done at the right time. You have to plant at the right time and reap at the right time.

The church isn't wise enough to know what God's telling us to do. The harvest is white. But, if you don't hear God's voice, the devil will lure you into trap after trap after trap. Instead of doing things for God, you'll be so enmeshed in trouble, you won't be able to get out of your trouble. We need to relax and realize that we are headed towards God's agenda if we are shut away with Him.

Romans 7:4: Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

You're married to Christ to bring forth fruit. You've become dead to the law by the body of Christ, because He died on the cross for you corporately. Just like Adam's sin fell on us corporately, Jesus' righteousness fell on us corporately.

Why would God want to marry His bride in heaven? Where does He bring forth fruit? On the earth! The fruit of the church is the souls of men. The marriage makes the bride an instrument of perfect use in God's hand. Why would He do that in heaven? Why not perfect her on the earth and win the souls that you couldn't win any other way? What boss who was interested in reaping a harvest would leave his men untrained, not know his agenda, and expect them to get anything done correctly? Why would he bring them back to the place where the job has already been completed and then equip them to do the job?

Romans 8:18: For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19: For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. 20: For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, 21: Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22: For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. 23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

The creature itself is going to be delivered up from the corruption of bondage. There are all kinds of doctrines about the manifested sons, but don't throw the Bible out because people talk their stuff. That Scripture tells me that when the sons of God are doing what they are supposed to be doing, it will lead the body out of that bondage of corruption. The sons of God are they who are led by the Spirit of God.

God is telling you that you are sons. You've been chosen as sons. You wouldn't be here if that weren't true. God told me a long time ago that He would bring up some people who will go into the Holiest of Holies. He told me that He is setting a ministry in order that is going to begin to talk about spiritual things. God spoke that to me when I was 12 years old. I had no idea what He was talking about! He confirmed that promise to me three different times in my life. God told me not to gather people with advertising. He told me that He would bring a people who would be able to hear what I say. He said people would come in whom He didn't send, but who would see the cars out front and come to check it out. He said those people would not end up staying. God said that He would bring people who were going through things that I've been through, and who would know what I'm talking about. God told me that those people would be the ones whom He is drawing into a relationship with Him. God is going to bring those people into a depth of relationship that He desires.

The whole creation is waiting on the manifestation of the sons of God. The creation was made subject to vanity, not willingly. We did not willingly become subject to the things that we are under. Many of you are groaning right now because of the things that you are under. God said that He's going to bring forth some ministries who are going to be part of that leadership of God. When that begins to happen, they are going to lead God's people out of that bondage.

God isn't going to do things halfway. He's going to bring our flesh, our seat of emotion, way beyond do's and don'ts. We are going to have a love for Christ, for His purity and holiness, that we could get no other way.

Romans 8:29: For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

This points us back to the tabernacle. The things that we read about in the tabernacle view seemed complex, but here they are opened up in the New Testament. But the false doctrines that men have gotten by misunderstanding the New Testament can be straightened out by the view of the tabernacle.

Romans 8:33: Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

If we're going to be bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh, the devil will have nothing in us as he had nothing in Jesus (John 14:30). That's good news!

Closing prayer:

Jesus, thank you for the Word. Please bless these people. God, we just pray that You'd carry this Word into our hearts. We want nothing but the truth. Everyone in this place needs to know Your voice. Each of us need to look to You as the Author and Finisher of our faith. God, we pray that You would cause us to tune our ears to You and that the Spirit would open up our understanding. We want to be led by the Spirit of God. Jesus, I know that every person in this place is being drawn, right now, to a place away from their own productivity. Egypt wants Sarah, there's no doubt about it. These ministries must be careful, lest they lose the promise. God, there is this supernatural promise of a birth that You want to bring through these ministries. Oh God, everything less is satisfactory to Egypt, but not to You. God, don't let anyone in this place be satisfied with the world courting and winning their ministries. Don't let anybody in this place give up their Sarah so easily. God, make us jealous for You, loving the truth, and loyal to it with all of our heart, mind, soul, and body. God, fill every believer in this place. God, these people gathered here are called and chosen. God, they've been destined to be conformed to the image of Your Son. Bring them through the storm and into that everlasting life. God, let the tabernacle be formed in us. God, let us be sewn together, bone to Your bone and flesh to Your flesh. God, we pray it tonight, Jesus. Amen and amen. Thank You, God.