

New Life Tabernacle News Letter - 2012

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From the Bishop's Pen!

Continuing from March issue....

In Exodus 25:22 God said that He would meet with Moses from the mercy seat of the Ark. The Ark was to be placed in the Holy of Holies in the Tabernacle. The priest's performed service in the Holy part of the Tabernacle and the high priest could once a year go into the Holy of Holies to consult God.

The presence or the manifestation of God's Glory rested on the cover of the Ark between the two cherubim's.

The Ark of the Covenant became the symbol of God's presence and as long as they had the Ark they had God with them and whenever they went into battle they took the Ark with them to make sure that God is with them in battle. The people however became so used to the Ark, that the Ark became more of a **symbol** than the real presence of God's Spirit. Also the people took God's promise that He would abide with them forever to mean that God are bound to stay with them no matter what. However, when God makes a "forever" promise in the Bible, it is always with the condition that we remain faithful and obedient and keep His commandments. Despite all the warnings the people of Israel started to be disobedient to God but they still expected God to be present whenever they took the Ark with them into battle. But because of their disobedience God withdrew His presence and in the first book of Samuel the Philistines captured the Ark of the Covenant from the Israelites. In 1 Samuel 4:22 the famous words of Eli's daughter-in-law was captured; - "The Glory is departed from Israel for the Ark of God is taken." Sometime later David had the Ark returned to Jerusalem and in 2 Samuel 6:17 it is mentioned that the Ark was put in a tent that David had pitched for it in Zion. The Ark in its tent in Zion was known as the Tabernacle of David. Because of their repentance the Glory of the Lord again returned to the Ark. The reference to the Tabernacle of David was taken up in prophecy in Amos 9:11 where it says; "In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof" After the conversion of the Gentiles in the New Testament, James quoted this prophecy in Acts 15:16 saying; - "After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up"

After Israel entered the Promised Land and the construction of the Temple by Solomon was finished and the day of dedication was at hand, the priests moved the Ark of the Covenant from the tabernacle to the temple and the holy "Shekinah" manifested itself in a very physical way. God's glory moved from the tabernacle to dwell in the temple (1 Kings 8:10). God chose to allow His presence to again evident through the radiance and splendour of His glory to remain in the temple for centuries. Yet after the Jews had proven their determination to continue in false, idolatrous worship, the presence of God did eventually leave the Jerusalem temple prior to its looting and destruction by the Babylonians. Even when the second temple was rebuilt in its place after the return from Jewish exile, God's glory did not occupy it. Moreover, there is no record of the shimmering, luminous glory ever again occupying an earthly building. Ezekiel describes the departure of God's glory from the first Temple called "Solomon's" Temple, as a prelude to the final destruction of the Temple and the city of Jerusalem in 586BC. Ezekiel's description of the progressive departure of the Glory in Ezekiel 8-11 is recorded 14 months after Ezekiel is called to be God's prophet to the Exiles in Babylon. He was carried in a vision to Jerusalem where we can trace the step-by-step departure of the Glory of the LORD.

STEP 1: In Ezekiel 8:3-4 the prophet records that the Spirit... brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the north gate of the inner court, where the seat of the idol of jealousy, which provokes to jealousy, was located. And behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, like the appearance which I saw in the plain. Ezekiel 8 describes a series of four "abominations" involving God's Holy Temple, but as described in verse 4, the Glory of the LORD was still present, presumably in the Holy of holies although that is not specifically stated.

STEP 2: Ezekiel 10:4; Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub to the threshold of the temple, and the temple was filled with the cloud, and the court was filled with the brightness of the glory of the LORD."

STEP 3: Ezekiel 10:18-19; Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple and stood over the cherubim. When the cherubim departed, they lifted their wings and rose up from the earth in my sight with the wheels beside them; and they stood still at the entrance of the east gate of the LORD'S house. And the glory of the God of Israel hovered over them.

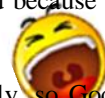
STEP 4: After addressing Ezekiel's fear's that all the remnant would be brought to a complete end with the prophetic promises of future restoration physically and spiritually, Ezekiel 11:22-23 records that; Then the cherubim lifted up their wings with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel hovered over them. And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city, and stood over the mountain which is east of the city.

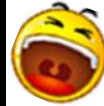
The Scripture then falls silent but the clear implication is that the glory of the LORD has departed from His dwelling place among man.

To be continued

To all Mothers - May God bless you this mothers day!!

- A new pastor was doing his rounds visiting the homes of his parishioners. At one house it was evident that someone was within but no one answered his repeated knocks. Eventually he wrote on the back of a calling card: -Revelation 3:20 and stuck it to the door.
The following Sunday he was surprised to find his card in the offering plate. Below his writing was scrawled: -Genesis 3:10.
He reached for his Bible and thereafter broke into gales of laughter.
Revelation 3:20 - ðBehold, I stand at the door and knockí ö
Genesis 3:10 - ðI heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was nakedí ö
- Here is the LOST CHAPTER IN GENESIS....
Adam was walking around the garden of Eden feeling very lonely, so God asked him, "What is wrong with you?" Adam said he didn't have anyone to talk to. God said that He was going to make Adam a companion and that it would be a woman. He said, This person will gather food for you, cook for you, and when you discover clothing she'll wash it for you. She will alw a y s agree with every decision you make. She will bear your children and n e v e r ask you to get up in the middle of the night to take care of them. She will not nag you and will always be the first to admit she was wrong when you've had a disagreement. She will never have a headache and will freely give you love and passion whenever you need it. Adam asked God, "What will a woman like this cost?" God replied, "An arm and a leg." Then Adam asked, "What can I get for a rib?" The rest is historyí
- Three Pastors from the south were having lunch in a diner. One said, "Ya know, since summer started I've been having trouble with bats in the attic at church. I've tried everything - noise, spray, cats - nothing seems to scare them away.
Another said, "Yea, me too. I've got hundreds living in the roof. I've even had the place fumigated, and they won't go away."
The third said, "I baptized all mine, and made them members of the church... Haven't seen one back since!"
- One summer evening during a violent thunderstorm a mother was tucking her small boy into bed. She was about to turn off the light when he asked with a tremor in his voice, "Mommy, will you sleep with me tonight?" The mother smiled and gave him a reassuring hug. "I can't dear," she said. "I have to sleep in Daddy's room." A long silence was broken at last by his shaky little voice: "The big sissy."





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What we Believe:

We are Apostolic Pentecostals

- We are Charismatic and Passionate about Jesus Christ
- We believe in One God
- We believe baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ
- We believe in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit
- We believe in living a Godly Life.