

## Sabbath School Lesson – The Sanctuary

Thoughts in Sabbath School Study: The Scriptures are of no private interpretation (2 Peter 1:20). Therefore, prayerfully request the Holy Spirit that you lean not on your own interpretation (Isaiah 55:8, Prov 3:5). Also consider the scriptures John 14:26, 15:26, 16:13-14, 2 Tim 3:16-17, Isaiah 8:20.

Study Guides: Webster's 1828 dictionary, Strong's Concordance and Lexicon. Writings from inspired writers, not limited to O R L Crosier, Ellen G. White, A T Jones, Steven N Haskell, Uriah Smith...Also suggest reading William Miller's rules of Scripture Interpretation.

Topic Verse: Exodus 25:8 And let them make<sup>1</sup> me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. 9 According to all that I shew thee, [after] the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make [it].

What made the sanctuary necessary? Genesis 3:1-15

What events had just preceded Exodus 25:8-9? Exodus 19 & 20.

What was God's purpose in giving Israel the sanctuary service? Exodus 32:30, Leviticus 4:26-35, 5:1-18

What was God's means, plan to accomplish the atonement, or at-one-ment with God? Dan 9:24-27, Eph 3:16-19, Luke 17:21, Ezek 36:21-30

How did the Jews Interpret/apply God's intend in giving Israel the sanctuary service? Jer 7:4, Isaiah 1:10-20, Exo 29:38-46

Israel missed this thought; and stopping only with the thought of His dwelling *in the tabernacle* in the midst of the camp, they came short of having His own personal presence dwelling *their individual lives*. Accordingly their worship became only outward and formal, rather than inward and spiritual. Therefore their own lives continued unreformed and unholy; and so those who came out of Egypt missed the great thing which God had for them, and "fell in the wilderness." Heb. 3:17-19. (From *The Consecrated Way to Christian Perfection* by A T Jones, Chpt 11)

Where did God say the problem really lie? Jer 17:9, Eccl 9:3, John 4:24

What was the problem with the Levitical priesthood? Heb 9:9-10, 10:1-4, Heb 9:13 sanctified to the purifying of the flesh

What was the true meaning or what was the Levitical economy really a symbol, analogy, representation of? Heb 8:1-5

How much better, superior is the priesthood of Jesus? Heb 9:11-16, 10:14-25

Closing Thoughts: *Perfection*, perfection of character, is the Christian goal—perfection attained in human flesh in this world. Christ attained it in human flesh in this world, and thus made and consecrated a way by which, *in Him*, every believer can attain it. He, having attained it, has become our great High Priest, by His priestly ministry in the true sanctuary to enable us to attain it.

Perfection is the Christian's goal; and the High Priesthood and ministry of Christ in the true sanctuary is the only way by which any soul can attain this true goal in this world. "Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary." Ps. 77:13.

"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh; and having an High Priest over the house of God; *let draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith*, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." And "let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for He is faithful that promised. (from Chapter 12)

This is precisely and alone the purpose of the priesthood and ministry of Christ in the true sanctuary. Is not that priesthood sufficient? Is not His ministry effectual to accomplish its purpose?— Most assuredly. Only by that means can it be possible for this thing ever to be accomplished. No soul can ever make himself finish transgression, or make an end of sins, or make reconciliation for iniquity, or bring in everlasting righteousness, in his own life. For that ever to be done, it must be done *alone* by the priesthood and ministry of Him who gave Himself, and who was given, that He might accomplish this very thing for every soul, and present every soul "holy and unblameable and unrepvable" in the sight of God (Col 1:22). (quote from chapter 16)

...But is this fair to our great High Priest, to His sacrifice, and to His blessed ministry? Is it fair that we should thus put Him, His sacrifice, and His ministry, practically upon a level with that of the "abomination of desolation," and to say that in Him and in His ministry there is no more power or virtue than there is in that of the "mystery of iniquity"? May the Lord forever save His church and people this day, with no more delay, from thus bringing down so low our great High Priest, His awful sacrifice, and His glorious ministry.