Spring Series: God on the Move

Pastor Tony Dorsey

3/2-3/3

*God in the tabernacle (His Holiness)*

Exodus 25:21-22

Intro:

Last week Pastor Tim kicked us off in our new sermon series: *“God on the Move,”* in which he started off in Genesis where we can clearly see that since the beginning of time God has always had a desire to dwell/tabernacle with man; however, because of the FALL of man, sin had separated that relationship, but you can see throughout biblical history God’s desire to dwell with mankind.

SIMILAR TO THE CREATION ACCOUNT LAST WEEK:

John begins his wonderful gospel by explaining the importance of Jesus in the beginning-in echoing the creation story found in Genesis 1; and in verse 14 he makes it a point in saying that this same word, the word in which all things were created and without him nothing was made dwelt with us or tabernacled with us on earth. God incarnate steaming from the Latin word carne which means flesh ‘God in flesh’ and he was also called Emmanuel which means ‘God is with us’.

**Historical Background**

The book of Exodus begins about 350 years after the book of Genesis ends-we can see that the 70 Israelites who went to Egypt have now grown into a great multitude fulfilling the promise that God made to Abraham in multiplying his descendants (as numerous as the stars). The Name Exodus means (to exit) or in the Greek it means: *‘the way out’* and as we journey through this book, we find the Israelites exiting out of Egypt, with hopes of entering the promise land but find themselves wondering in the wilderness.

**Tabernacle and the meaning of the word ‘Dwell’**

Tabernacle: ‘place of dwelling’ a tentlike structure which was to be God’s dwelling place among His people.

Dwell: To dwell is to be fully present in a place or with a person. Dwell can also mean to “settle in” or “engage with” someone other than oneself. God gave Noah the same types of instructions, very detailed and specific all the way down to the type of wood being used. For Noah, Gopher wood was used to build the ark, and for the tabernacle-acacia wood. Acacia Wood: The acacia's significance throughout history is not just specific to the Bible. Both the ancient Hebrews and the Egyptians considered the tree to be a symbol of immortality because of its hardness, durability, and evergreen nature.

This should tell you how important it is for an all-powerful, all-mighty, Holy, and sovereign God to have a relationship with us. God was so disgusted with humanity in the days of Noah that the bible says He regrated creating them, and yet He still found a way to bring saving grace to Noah and his family so that humanity might live on.

**Tour of the Tabernacle/Person and work of Jesus in the Tabernacle**

PP-The Tabernacle Photo

Tabernacle: Represents Christ, God’s dwelling place with man.

PP- The Gate Photo

Gate: Christ is the way (John 14:6)

PP- The Brazen Altar Photo

Brazen Altar: Christ the sacrificed one, high and lifted up on the cross, our sins passed on to his innocent body, willingly laying down his life for us. (Hebrews 10:12)

PP- The Brazen Laver Photo

Christ is the cleanser, purifier, sanctification, washed by his sacrifice, (Heb. 10:22)

PP-The Door Photo

Christ is the truth (John 10:9) through Christ we find communion, fellowship

PP-The Golden Lampstand Photo

Christ is the light of the world, the Holy spirit is the oil, we are now the light of the world through Jesus Christ (Matt. 5:14)

PP-The Table of Shewbread Photo

Christ is our sustainer, communion with the Father, 12 tribes of Israel, 12 baskets left over after feeding 5,000 with 2 fish 5 loaves, Bread of life. (John 6:35)

PP-The Altar of Incense Photo

Christ is our intercessor, Mediator, and Advocate; interceding for us as our prayer our lifted unto God. (Heb. 7:25)

PP-The Veil Photo

Christ is our access to the Father, because of his sacrifice the veil is torn, there is no separation from man and the Father we now have direct access to the Father. (Hebrews 6:19)

PP-The Ark of the Covenant Photo

Christ is the Fulness of the Godhead Bodily. The Mercy Seat; The mercy seat symbolizes Christ as our mercy seat or propitiation for our sins

**Types of Offerings**

1. Sin offering (The primary purpose of this offering is not to atone for sins but rather to purify oneself for re-entering the presence of God. MANDATORY
2. Burnt offering (The purpose of the Burnt Offering was for general atonement of sin and expression of devotion to God.)
3. Guilt offering (The purpose of this offering was to make reparations for one’s sin.)
4. Grain offering (The purpose of the Grain Offering was a voluntary expression of devotion to God, recognizing His goodness and providence.)
5. Peace offering (The purpose of the Peace Offering was to consecrate a meal between two or more parties before God and share that meal together in fellowship of peace and a commitment to each other’s future prosperity. The portions unsuitable for eating were given to God. VOLUNTARY

**Types of Christ and the Tabernacle**

1. Jesus is Gate (John 10:9 NIV) *“****9****I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.”*
2. Each part of the tabernacle teaches us spiritual lessons of the Person and work of Christ and how Christ is the way to God.
3. Priest reminded people that sin had created a divided relationship between God and man; and the only way to atone for sin and draw near to God was through the priests appointed by Him.
4. Jesus is the High Priest of a better Covenant.
5. The ark symbolizes God’s humanity and deity (gold & wood)
6. The mercy seat symbolizes Christ as our mercy seat or propitiation for our sins
7. Table of showbread shows Christ as the bread of life
8. The golden lampstand symbolizes Christ as the Light of the world.
9. The bronze alter is a type of Christ wholly consumed for God
10. The golden alter (alter of incense) shows the fragrance of Christ to God. Eph 5:2
11. The bronze laver shows Christ washing and cleansing His people through the word of God.

Hebrews 8:5-7 ESV

**5**They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.” **6**But as it is, Christ[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews%208&version=ESV#fen-ESV-30082b)] has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. **7**For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second.

**How are you Dwelling with God??**

Because God is NOT a drive thru

* Worship
* Prayer
* Ministry
* Fellowship

Because you cannot dwell with God if you’re getting a to-go bag every time you come into His presence. You need sit with God, sit with His word, reflect in your worship.

One of the questions I use to ask my students when I did college admissions after I had given them a tour and went over their goals was: “What was your biggest take-away today?” So I’ll share mine:

The Table of Presence

Moms Table:

Man’s Table:

God’s Table:

The Aroma of Christ:

Let’s compare God’s table versus man’s table:

God’s table everyone is invited..you don’t need to be a certain color or have a particular status or educational background in order to make the cut to be at this table

At man’s table you need beverages in order to wash down the starchiness or the saltiness of the physical foods that we consume; however at God’s table, we don’t need any water, because in Christ we will never get thirsty or dry..Jesus said if you drink from the water that I will give you…you will never be thirsty again..which brings to me to what is waiting for us at the table of eternity

At man’s table things get old, moldy, if you don’t consume the hot meals fast enough, they can become cold and undesirable, some foods are difficult to digest etc…This is why you’re thirsty, dry, feeling dissatisfied, lack of nourishment, because you’re putting your faith at the table of men who are not perfect, and most importantly cant serve you anything eternally.

But if we look at Gods table, everything is eternal and everlasting…I don’t need salt and pepper because everything is seasoned to perfection, and it will never wither or get old. So the peace at the table will never go stale, the joy at the table will never get moldy, the love at the table will never get old and wither. Forever and ever Amen!

Tie-in the table of Shewbread with the Lords Supper

Pray