

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

GOD'S DIVINE WAY TO HIS PRESENCE

The Bible says, **“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.”**... James 4:8. According to His Word, God has made a way for us to draw near to Him. We must not forget that when Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, man was separated from a Holy God. The Holy Spirit departed from the heart of Adam and Eve because of their disobedience to God's Word. Throughout the years in the Word, God reveals His plan on how He would undo the mess that Adam and Eve had done. His plan was first revealed in Gen. 3:21 - **“The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothe them.”** The two lambs that were slain for a covering on behalf of Adam and Eve's sin was a prophecy of a coming Savior that would one day die for the sins of the whole world. Everyone born after Adam is born separated from God. Ephesians 2:1 says, **“And you were dead in your trespasses and sins,”**. Jesus died on the Cross two thousand years ago to pay for the penalty of sin. But He also opened the door to the Holy of Holies for us to be able to draw near to God. Mark 15:38 says, **“And the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.”** The door to enter the Holy of Holies has been opened by Jesus' death on the Cross! The Tabernacle of Moses paints a clear portrait on how God would bring His prophecy to pass. We can see the spiritual insight of the steps that each piece of the furniture of the Tabernacle of Moses portrays. **Lets take a look at God's divine way to His presence:**



THE BRAZEN ALTAR REPRESENTS THE CROSS OF JESUS

The Brazen Altar was a place of sacrifice and it pointed to the future where Jesus would one day die on the Cross for the sins of the whole world. This altar was a meeting place for a Holy God and the sinner. The altar was the place where a substitute took mans place – the place of death. God provided His Son as our substitute to die in our place and we are delivered from the lake of fire by believing in Jesus as our personal Savior. 2Corinthians 5:21 says, **“For he hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”** The first thing that God did was paid the penalty for sin through His Son Jesus so that we could be in right standing before Him so that we would qualify to enter the Holy of Holies. Today the Cross is the only place a sinner can be made right with God because of the shed blood of Christ. Hebrews 9:22 says, **“And according to the Law, one may almost say, all things are**



cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.” Every Born-Again Christian has the opportunity to draw near to God by entering the Holy of Holies if he comes by His divine order. First, you must be born again.

BRAZEN LAVER SPEAKS OF OUR DAILY CLEANSING BY HIS WORD

Every Christian needs cleansing in his daily walk with God. The priest would go to the brazen laver for cleansing before he would enter the Holy place. Before we can enter into the Holy of Holies we must also go to the laver for cleansing. The Word of God is the laver for us today. At the laver, the sins committed after being Born-Again are taken care of. Jesus said, **“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”**(John 17:17) The penalty for our sins was taken care of at the Brazen Altar. (The Cross) The cleansing is taken care of at the Brazen Laver. (The Word of God) By going to the laver on a daily basis we are being cleanse by the power of the Word of God. Ephesians. 5:26 **“That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word.”** So before you can draw near to God as you enter the Holy of Holies, you must be clean.



THE GOLDEN LAMPSTAND SPEAKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Lampstand represents Jesus and the Holy Spirit and was inside the Holy place. The Golden Lampstand pointed to Jesus as the only Light by which we can have fellowship with God and serve Him. The oil in the lampstand represented the Holy Spirit, who gives us the revelation of the Word of



God so we can walk in the Light in a dark world. Jesus said, **“I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the Light of life.”** (John 8:12) The Holy Spirit reveals our sins through the Word of God so that we might confess and repent so that we will be cleanse. A true heart can boldly enter into His presence! **“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 us 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.” (Hebrews 10:19-22) When we are in God’s throne room, the Holy Spirit will reveal Jesus to us and He will give us revelation of His Word. Jesus will become more real to us! **“But when se, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify Me because it is from Me that He will receive what He will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from Me what He will make known to you.”** (John 16:13-15) There is no excuse for any Christian not to draw near to God in His Throne

Room. What is keeping you from drawing near to God? Sin? Fear? The pull of the world? The love of money? The door is opened and God is calling you and saying, Come in!

THE TABLE OF SHOWBREAD SPEAKS OF THE BREAD OF LIFE

The table of Showbread was also found in the Holy place. The Christian must daily eat of the Bread of Life so that he will not die spiritually. John 6:51 says, **“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”** If you eat the Bread of Life on a daily basis you will not die spiritually according to the words of Jesus, **“Whoever eats this bread will live forever”**. Dead Christians are the ones who are not feeding on the Bread of Life on a daily basis. Dead Christians are living in sin.



A Dead Christian cannot enter into the Holy of Holies. This is why we need to feed on Christ daily to be full of His Life. Jesus said, **“I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly.”**(John 10:10b) God has giving us the Bread of Life so that we can have His Life in our hearts on a daily basis. Are you daily eating of this spiritual Bread God has provide for us? Jesus said, **“For the bread of God is that which does down out of heaven, and gives life to the world.”** (John 6:33)

At the Brazen Altar (The Cross) we are made right with God by the shed blood of Jesus. At the Brazen Laver (The Word of God) we are cleansed daily in our new walk with God. The Lampstand (The Holy Spirit) shines His light in our hearts and exposes our sins so that we can confess and repent. A Christian with clean hands and a clean heart can enter the Throne of God. The Table of Showbread (The Bread of Life) is given to Christians so that he made feed on Jesus and have His Life to the fullest so that he can with boldness draw near to God.

THE ALTAR OF INCENSE SPEAKS OF JESUS AS OUR HIGH PRIEST

The altar of incense reveals Jesus as High Priest who is burning incense (Interceding) for us. This altar also speaks concerning our prayer life as Christians. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 says,



“Pray without ceasing.” We are to pray but also to intercede for others. It is our duty as Believers to burn incense in our prayer closet. The Altar of Incense was in the Holy Place, your prayer closet! Samuel said, **“God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you:”** (1Samuel 12:23) The altar of incense was in front of the veil before the priest would enter the Holy of Holies. A Christian cannot get any closer to God’s presence than when he comes to pray in his prayer closet. By the time he is praying in his prayer closet he is: Cleansed by His Word, Full of His Light, Full of His Life, a Heart on Fire for prayer and with boldness

to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus to spend time with Jesus! God has made a way through what Jesus did at the Cross for us to ‘Draw near to God’.

So lets with confidence enter our fellowship with God in His presence. God loves you so much and desires your companionship, so go in. The door is open because Jesus opened the door

when he died on the Cross two thousands years ago.

ARK OF THE COVENANT SPEAKS OF GOD'S PRESENCE

The ark of the covenant was inside the Holy of Holies. The Ark of the covenant represented Jesus Christ. Jesus is in the Holy of Holies waiting for you to draw near to Him. He wants to spend time with you because He loves you and values your companionship and fellowship.



Now we can draw near to God and spend time in His presence. **“Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,”** We can now enter into His presence and spent as much time as we want with God. He is in no rush! The sad thing today with many Christians is that they are too busy for God. Too busy to spend quality time with Him. We have replace Him with other things and that hurts His heart because He has made a way for us to be with Him. It cost the Life of His Son Jesus, but many Christians don't seem to care. God needs to be in first place in your heart. Repent of your selfishness and remove the idols you have in your heart.

Get right with God so you can draw near to Him because we are living in the last days and Jesus is coming back soon.

THE MERCY SEAT REPRESENTS THE THRONE OF GOD

The mercy seat was in the Holy of Holies and it was a lid that was on top of the Ark. The mercy seat also revealed the mercy that God could and would extend toward a sinful people, if they came by the prepared way. **“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood — to be received by faith.** He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished — he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.” (Romans 3:23-26) At the mercy seat the high priest would sprinkle blood each year on the Day of Atonement, it symbolized that God had been satisfied for sin through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ..” Because Jesus fully satisfied the Holy demands of God for our sin, God is completely just in extending righteousness to the one who places faith in Christ. This is why today we can boldly enter into the throne room of God and plead for mercy and spend time in His presence. **“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 us 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.” (Hebrews 10:19-22)

Jesus became our High Priest and **He Himself sprinkle His own blood** on the mercy seat in the Holy of Holies in heaven.

“But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by His own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who

through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!” (Hebrews 9:11-14) Draw near to God for the door has been opened by our Savior Jesus Christ! What is keeping you from entering God’s throne room? Sin? The pleasures of the world? Your unwillingness to change?

God has already made a way for every man and woman to draw near to Him.

THE CROSS OF CHRIST: Salvation and made right with God by His blood so we can enjoy our Christian life with Christ.

OUR DAILY CLEANSING BY HIS WORD: You walk the walk by practicing the Word of God and He will sanctify you. You will have clean hands and clean feet to draw near to God.

THE HOLY SPIRIT: He will guide you and reveal Jesus to you so that you can enter into His Throne Room. With confidence go into the Holy of Holies.

THE BREAD OF LIFE: So you can be a Christian full of His Life and boldly enter His presence.

JESUS AS OUR HIGH PRIEST: He is always interceding for us and imparts His spirit of prayer upon us. There at the Altar of Incense we are prayer warriors and so close to the most Holy place.

GOD’S PRESENCE: The Ark represents His presence and at the Altar of Incense you are praying in your closet and there His presence is manifested so that you may enter boldly to the Throne Room.

THE THRONE OF GOD: Once in His Throne Room you ask Him for mercy concerning any of your needs. God is there and He is enjoying His time with His child!

So my question for you today is. Why are you not drawing near to God? The door is opened and He is waiting for you to come in with boldness and confidence so you can spend time with Him.