

The Distinctive Identity of The Church

Gen 6:14 Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. 15 And this *is the fashion* which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark *shall be* three hundred cubits (450'), the breadth of it fifty cubits (75'), and the height of it thirty cubits (45'). 16 A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; *with* lower, second, and third *stories* shalt thou make it (*as tall as the third story*).

Gen 7:19 And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that *were* under the whole heaven, were covered. 20 Fifteen cubits (22.5 feet) upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered. (*The displacement of the ark was such that the bottom of it would not scrape on the highest mountain.*)

- If Noah hadn't built the ark according to the pattern given to him by God there would have been some major problems with getting all the animals in, tipping or just bottoming out. A blueprint was necessary. And thus it is with the church that Jesus built.

Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock (*foundation that Jesus is the Son of God*) I will build My church; and the gates of hell (*Hades*) shall not prevail against it.

Heb 8:1 Now of the things which we have spoken *this is* the sum: We have such a high priest, Who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; 2 A Minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which **the Lord pitched**, and not man. 3 For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore *it is* of necessity that this Man have somewhat also to offer. 4 For if He were on earth, He should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law: 5 Who serve unto the **example** (*Gk.5262- an exhibit for imitation*) and **shadow** (*Gk.4639- outline**) of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was **about to make the tabernacle**: for, See, saith He, *that* thou **make all things according to the pattern** shewed to thee in the mount. **An outline of a study isn't the actual study. It just tells what's in the study.*

- While on Mount Sinai, Moses received instructions for other aspects of the law besides the Levitical law and the two tables of stone. The tabernacle was to be a tent that could be easily recognized from any other tent to the Israelites.

----- Furnishings of The Tabernacle

Exo 40:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 On the first day of the first month shalt thou set up the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation. 3 And thou shalt put therein the **ark of the testimony**, and cover the ark with the vail. 4 And thou shalt bring in the **table**, and set in order the things that are to be set in order upon it; and thou shalt bring in the **candlestick** (*lampstand*), and light the lamps thereof. 5 And thou shalt set the **altar of gold** for the **incense** before the ark of the testimony, and put the **hanging** of the door to the tabernacle. 6 And thou shalt set the **altar of the burnt offering** before the door of the tabernacle of the tent of the congregation. 7 And thou shalt set the **laver** between the tent of the congregation and the altar, and shalt put water therein. 8 And thou shalt set up the **court** round about, and hang up the hanging at the court gate.

----- Altar of Burnt Sacrifice- Separation From The World

Exo 27:8 Hollow with boards shalt thou make it: **as it was shewed thee in the mount**, so shall they make *it*.

- See Ex 27:1-7 to find the rest of the pattern for the altar of burnt sacrifice.

The Purpose of the Altar

Lev 17:11 For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it *is* the blood *that* maketh an atonement for the soul.

Heb 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Heb 10:1 For the law having a shadow (*outline*) of good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect (*Gk.5048- complete*). *Because it was only an outline!*

Heb 10:10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once** *for all*.

Joh 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the **Lamb of God**, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Luk 9:23 *...If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. (Death is separation. Jesus was saying that in order to follow Him a person needs to separate themselves from the world **daily!**)*

1Co 15:31 ... I die daily.

Col 3:1 If ye then be risen (*resurrected*) with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. **2** Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. **3** For **ye are dead** (*separated*), and your life is **hid** (*Gk.2928- covered*) **with Christ** in God.

Lev 6:13 The fire shall **ever be burning** upon the altar; it shall **never go out**. (*Even when moving from camp to camp.*)

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a **living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service (*Gk.299- ministratation of God, worship*).

- The life of the **Christian** is to be one of zeal and constant sacrifice because his sins have been covered by the blood of the **Lamb**.

Laver- Baptism

Exo 38:8 And he made the laver *of* brass, and the foot of it *of* brass, of the looking glasses of *the women* assembling, which assembled *at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Exo 30:17 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 18 Thou shalt also make a laver *of* brass, and his foot *also of* brass, to wash *withal*: and thou shalt put it **between the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar**, and thou shalt put water therein. 19 For **Aaron and his sons** (*Represent Christ and His followers.*) shall wash their hands and their feet thereat: 20 **When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation**, they shall wash with water, **that they die not**; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD: 21 So they shall wash their hands and their feet, **that they die not**: and it shall be a statute forever to them, *even* to him and to his seed throughout their generations.

Num 8:21 And the Levites were purified, and they **washed their clothes**; and Aaron offered them *as* an offering before the LORD; and Aaron made an atonement for them **to cleanse them**. 22 And **after** that went the Levites in **to do their service** (*Heb.5656- ministry*) **in the tabernacle** of the congregation before Aaron, and before his sons: as the LORD had commanded Moses concerning the Levites, so did they unto them.

Isa 61:10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath **clothed me with the garments of salvation**, He hath covered me with the **robe of righteousness**, as a bridegroom decks *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorns *herself* with her jewels.

The importance of having a wedding garment and what that garment represents in this parable told by Jesus.

Mat 22:11 **And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: 12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. 13 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

- We can have this wedding garment when the dead rise up in the final resurrection to join in that great wedding feast in Heaven when Christ weds His bride, the church.

Rom 13:14 But **put ye on** the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to *fulfil* the lusts *thereof*.

Gal 3: 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have **put on** Christ.

Rom 6:4 Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that **like as** Christ was **raised up** from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy *is* he that **hath part** in the **first resurrection**: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be **priests of God and of Christ**, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. (*Baptism for the remission of sin in water represents a figurative resurrection. Those who have been raised up from that water now reign for a figurative 1,000 years with Christ in His spiritual kingdom, the church.*)

Jesus' Baptism

Act 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ **for the remission of sins**, and ye shall **receive the gift of the Holy Ghost**. (*But Jesus knew no sin.*)

Mat 3:15 And Jesus answering said unto him, **Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness**. Then he suffered Him.

- There was something in Jesus' baptism that was necessary to bring man back into a relationship with God. Jesus had to don flesh in order to become man.

Heb 2:16 For verily He took not on *Him the nature of angels*; but He took on *Him the seed of Abraham*.

1Jn 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not.

- Jesus (*Son of God*) became *Son of man*...

Php 2:7 But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

Heb 10:5 Wherefore when He cometh into the world, He saith, Sacrifice and offering Thou wouldest not, but a body hast Thou prepared Me:

...so that we (*children of man*) might become children of God.

Eph 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the **adoption of children by Jesus Christ** to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, 6 To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved (*we are accepted in God's sight, but only through Jesus Christ*).

1Pe 3:18 For Christ ...being put to death in the flesh, but quickened **by the Spirit**: 19 **By which** also He went (*past tense*) and preached unto the spirits (*now*) in prison (*lower part of the Hadean realm*); 20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing*, wherein few, that is, eight souls were **saved by water** (*separated from the world by the flood*). 21 The **like figure** whereunto *even* **baptism doth also now save us** (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: (**Christ, via Holy Spirit spoke through Noah, who preached to those who lived before the flood that did not heed the warning and were then, and now, in "prison".*)

2Pe 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born** (*Gk.1080-regenerate*) **of water and** (*of*) **the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God**.

- Just as the priests were not to enter the Holy Place of the tabernacle before being washed, no one can enter the kingdom (*church*) before baptism.

Tit 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing (*Gk.3067- a bath, that is, baptism*) of regeneration (*Gk.3824- spiritual renovation*), and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

- We are born physically (*generated*) but somewhere along the way we became separated from God and thus spiritually dead. Our rebirth (*regeneration*) is spiritual.

Holy Place- The New Testament Church of Christ

Heb 9:1 Then verily the first *covenant* had **also** ordinances of divine service, and a **worldly sanctuary**. 2 For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein *was* the candlestick (*lampstand*), and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary.

Heb 9:6 Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service (*Gk.2999- worship*) of God.

Church/Kingdom

Act 2:47 ... And **the Lord added** to the church daily such as should be saved.

- We don't "join" the church! If God doesn't add us to His Son's body we are not part of it.

Col 1:13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and **hath translated us into the kingdom** of His dear Son:

New Testament Priests...

Exo 19:6 *And ye shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation...*

- Here speaking to the Israelites, they were the priests under the First Covenant.

1Pe 2:9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him Who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light:

 ...and three acts of worship in the tabernacle which outline the worship in the church today.

Lampstand- Bible reading

Exo 25:40 And look that thou make *them* after their **pattern**, which was **shewed thee in the mount**.

- You can find that pattern here in Ex 25:31-40 and again in chapter 37:17-24.

Exo 40:24 And he put the candlestick (*lampstand*) in the tent of the congregation, over against the table, on the side of the tabernacle southward.

Exo 30:7 ... **every morning: when he dresseth the lamps**, he shall burn incense upon it. 8 And when Aaron **lighteth the lamps at even**, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations.

Lev 24:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Command the children of Israel, that they bring unto thee pure oil olive beaten for the light, to cause the lamps to **burn continually**.

- The only light inside the tabernacle, since there were no windows, came from the lampstand. It was not to go out. It is representative of the importance that the word of God has in the church today. It's what guides our every step. We're blind without it.

Psa 119:105 Thy word *is* a **lamp** unto my feet, and a **light** unto my path.

Psa 119:130 The entrance of thy words giveth **light**; it giveth **understanding** unto the simple.

Php 2:15 ...the sons of God, ... in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye **shine as lights** in the world; 16 **Holding forth the word of life...**

1Ti 3:15 ... that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the **church** of the living God, the **pillar and ground of the truth**.

- Christians, as the branches of the lampstand, are to hold up the word of God as our guide to save the lost.

Joh 17:17 Sanctify them through Thy truth: **Thy word is truth**.

Mat 5:14 **Ye are the light of the world**. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick (*lampstand*); and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father Who is in heaven.

Table of Shewbread- Communion (*Gk.2842- partnership, participation*)

Exo 40:22 And he put the table in the tent of the congregation, upon the side of the tabernacle northward, without the vail.

- To see the details on the pattern for the table of shewbread you can go to Ex 25:23-30.

Lev 24:5 And thou shalt take fine flour, and bake twelve cakes thereof: two tenth deals shall be in one cake... 8 Every sabbath he shall set it in order before the LORD continually, *being taken* from the children of Israel by an everlasting covenant. 9 And it shall be **Aaron's (high priest) and his sons' (priests)**; and they shall eat it **in the holy place (church)**: for it *is* most holy unto him of the offerings of the LORD made by fire by a perpetual statute.

Mat 26:26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, **Take, eat; this is My body**. 27 And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, **Drink ye all of it; 28 For this is My blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. 29 But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom.** (*Each time we communion, Christ, our High Priest, is in the midst.*)

Dan 7:14 And there was given Him dominion, and glory, and **a kingdom**, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve Him: His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Act 2:33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and **having received** of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost (*the kingdom, in Daniel's vision, the church*), He hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. (*Rev 12:10*)

Act 20:7 And upon the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread...

1Co 11: 26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come. (*Weekly, as did the high priest with the other Levitical priests.*)

Altar of Burnt Incense- Prayer

Exo 30:6 And thou shalt put it before the vail that *is* by the ark of the testimony, before the mercy seat that *is* over the testimony, where I will meet with thee. **7** And Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense **every morning**: when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it. **8** And when Aaron lighteth the lamps **at even**, he shall burn incense upon it, a **perpetual incense** before the LORD throughout your generations.

- To get the details for the pattern of the altar of burnt incense see verses 1-5.

Lev 16:12 And he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire **from off the altar** (*of burnt sacrifice*) before the LORD (*Shows where the coals came from.*), and his hands full of sweet incense beaten small, and bring *it* within the vail: **13** And he shall put the incense upon the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that *is* upon the testimony, that he die not:

Rev 5:8 ... golden vials full of odours, **which are the prayers of saints**.

Rev 8:3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him **much incense**, that he should offer *it* **with the prayers of all saints** upon the golden altar which was before the throne. **4** And the smoke of the **incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God** out of the angel's hand.

- The saints that Paul wrote to were "living". See 2 Cor 1:1 and Eph 1:1.

The Veil- Body of Christ

Exo 26:31 And thou shalt make a vail *of* blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work: with cherubim shall it be made: **32** And thou shalt hang it upon four pillars of shittim *wood* overlaid with gold: their hooks *shall be of* gold, upon the four sockets of silver. **33** And thou shalt hang up the vail under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the vail the ark of the testimony: and the vail shall divide unto you between the holy *place* and the most holy.

Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by** (*Gk.1223- through*) **Me**.

Heb 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, **20** By a new and living way, which He hath consecrated for us, through **the veil**, that is to say, **His flesh**; **21** And *having* an high priest over the house of God (*the church*); **22** 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.

Holy of Holies- Heaven and God's Throne Room

Heb 9:3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; **4** Which had the golden censer, and the **Ark of The Covenant** overlaid roundabout with gold, wherein *was* the **golden pot that had manna**, and **Aaron's rod that budded**, and the **tables of the covenant**; **5** And over it the cherubim of glory shadowing the **mercyseat** (*Gk.2435-an expiatory [place or thing], [specifically] the lid of the Ark [in the Temple]*); of which we cannot now speak particularly.

Jesus embodies the three items that were in the ark.

1. **Law-** (*the tables of stone, the ten commandments*)

Joh 15:12 This is My commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

Rom 13:10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love *is* the fulfilling of the law.

2. **Resurrection-** (*Aaron's rod*)

Joh 11:25 Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:**

3. **Eternal life-** (*the pot of manna*)

Joh 6:58 This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live forever.

Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) **6** And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus: **7** That in the ages to come He might shew the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

- Why was God so adamant about patterns during and before the Old Covenant? The tabernacle served as an outline by which we can identify the one true church that Jesus built almost 2,000 years ago. You too can become one of her priests by...

Hear: **Romans 10:17** ..."faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Believe: **Heb 11:6** ..."for he that commeth to God must believe that He is"...

Repent: **Lk 13:3** ..."except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Confess: **Mat 10:32** "Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess before My Father which is in Heaven."

Be baptized: **Acts 22:16** "And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

Remain faithful: **Rom 6:4** ..."even so we also should walk in newness of life."

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