

## PRAYER STUDY #51

### The Tabernacle

Fifty-one chapters in the Old Testament are devoted to the tabernacles, showing their importance to us. Numerous scriptures in the New Testament refer to the temple. These were the places where the people met with God and entered into His Presence. Thus, these places type the Body of Christ and His presence in us. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:7-*But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that, the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.*)

*Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.* 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 3:16-17

*What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.* 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:19-20

*...Christ in you, the hope of glory.* Colossians 1:27

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Review of the Tabernacles from *Praise and Worship* by AL & Joyce Gill

**The Tabernacle of Moses:** *The pattern, or blueprint, for the Tabernacle of Moses was given in exact detail by God. Tabernacle means a tent and it was in use as the children of Israel moved through the wilderness. The Tabernacle of Moses was the place of Old Testament worship. It was the temporary dwelling place of the Ark of the Covenant. It was there the Presence of God dwelt and the priest ministered before the Lord. Often when the children of Israel turned to sin, the Ark would be captured by their enemies. Moses' Tabernacle came to settle in Shiloh.*

**The Tabernacle of David:** *Because David was a man of war, God did not allow him to build the temple. God gave the plans for the temple to him, and David gathered the materials from which the temple was built. The Ark, of the Covenant resided in David's Tabernacle after it was returned by the Philistines and before Solomon's Temple was built. The primary purpose of the Tabernacle of David was to demonstrate the worship of God in a unique way. The Tabernacle of David can be seen as a "window" looking into New Testament worship. The window is framed by a typical Old Testament tent or tabernacle, but the inside was completely different. The priests entered the gates with thanksgiving and the courts with praise because the Ark of God's Presence was in full view. There was no Holy of Holies with its*

concealing veil and the only sacrifice offered was the sacrifice of praise. This "window" lasted forty years until Solomon's Temple was built. Then the window was closed and the Ark of the Covenant was transferred to Solomon's Temple. The animal sacrifices were resumed.

**Solomon's Temple:** *Solomon's Temple was designed much like Moses' Tabernacle. It was to have been the final residence of the Ark of the Covenant. The staves for moving the Ark were taken away. This was a permanent dwelling made of marble and gold, not a temporary tent. However, over the years, Solomon's Temple was allowed to fall into disrepair. When Israel was defeated and foreign kings would demand high tributes to be paid, the golden vessels were taken from the Temple to meet these demands. The gold was stripped from the walls, columns, and doors. At one time Manasseh built altars to false gods in the Temple, huts were built to house the sodomite activities in the Temple courts and "sacred" horses were stabled in the inner court. Finally, Solomon's Temple was completely destroyed by the Chaldeans who took everything of value to Babylon and the burned the Temple to the ground.*

**Zerubbabel's Temple:** *This Temple was built around 520 BC and was not as grand as Solomon's Temple but was larger. It lacked much of the furniture that was in Solomon's Temple. The Ark of the Covenant had been lost.*

**Herod's Temple:** *When Herod gained control of Judah, he rebuilt Zerubbabel's Temple. Herod did not build from a heart of worship. He had a passion for building and built many magnificent buildings during his reign. The Temple of Zerubbabel was simply not majestic enough for his tastes. It was from Herod's Temple that Jesus came and went. All of the priestly duties were in function, and it was here that Jesus overthrew the tables of the moneychangers.*

**James quoted the prophet Amos(Amos 9:11-12)in Acts 15:16, 17. "After this I will return and will rebuild the tabernacle of David which has fallen down. I will rebuild its ruins and I will set it up, so that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, says the Lord who does all these things. I believe the Lord is calling us back to the worship and praise of the Tabernacle of David.**