

Message Twelve
**The Vision of God in a Transparent and Clear Heaven
and the Heavenly Vision concerning the Desire of God’s Heart
to Have a Dwelling Place with Man on Earth**

RK *Hymns* 542, 839

Scripture Reading: Exo. 24:9-11, 16-18; 25:1-9; 29:45-46;
33:11a, 18-23; Matt. 5:8; Job 42:5; Rev. 22:4

- Exo 24:9 Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up.
Exo 24:10 And they saw the God of Israel, and under His feet there was something like a paved work of sapphire, even like heaven itself for clearness.
Exo 24:11 And He did not stretch out His hand upon the nobles of the children of Israel. And they beheld God and ate and drank.
Exo 24:16 And the glory of Jehovah settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.
Exo 24:17 And the appearance of the glory of Jehovah was like consuming fire on the top of the mountain to the eyes of the children of Israel.
Exo 24:18 And Moses entered into the midst of the cloud and went up on the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.
Exo 25:1 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,
Exo 25:2 Tell the children of Israel to take for Me a heave offering. From every man whose heart makes him willing you shall take My heave offering.
Exo 25:3 And this is the heave offering which you shall take from them: gold and silver and bronze,
Exo 25:4 And blue and purple and scarlet strands, and fine linen, and goats' hair,
Exo 25:5 And rams' skins dyed red, and porpoise skins, and acacia wood,
Exo 25:6 Oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense,
Exo 25:7 Onyx stones and stones to be set for the ephod and for the breastplate.
Exo 25:8 And let them make a sanctuary for Me that I may dwell in their midst;
Exo 25:9 According to all that I show you, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, even so shall you make it.
Exo 29:45 And I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel, and I will be their God.
Exo 29:46 And they shall know that I am Jehovah their God, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, that I might dwell in the midst of them; I am Jehovah their God.
Exo 33:11a And Jehovah would speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his companion. ...
Exo 33:18 And he said, Please show me Your glory.
Exo 33:19 And He said, I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of Jehovah before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.
Exo 33:20 But He said, You cannot see My face, for no man shall see Me and live.
Exo 33:21 Then Jehovah said, Here, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand upon the rock;
Exo 33:22 And while My glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with My hand until I have passed by.
Exo 33:23 And I will take away My hand, and you will see My back; but My face shall not be seen.
Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
Job 42:5 I had heard of You by the hearing of the ear, / But now my eye has seen You;
Rev 22:4 And they will see His face, and His name will be on their forehead.

I. “They saw the God of Israel, and under His feet there was something like a paved work of sapphire, even like heaven itself for clearness...And they beheld God”—Exo. 24:10-11:

- Exo 24:10 And they saw the God of Israel, and under His feet there was something like a paved work of sapphire, even like heaven itself for clearness.
Exo 24:11 And He did not stretch out His hand upon the nobles of the children of Israel. And they beheld God

and ate and drank.

A. Related to the matter of seeing God, especially seeing God's face, there is a theological problem for which there is no solution— John 1:18; 1 John 4:12a; Rev. 22:4a:

John 1:18 No one has ever seen God; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

1 John 4:12a No one has beheld God at any time; ...

Rev 22:4a And they will see His face, ...

1. On the one hand, according to Exodus 33:20 and 23b, Jehovah said to Moses, "You cannot see My face, for no man shall see Me and live...My face shall not be seen"; on the other hand, verse 11a says, "Jehovah would speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his companion."

Exo 33:20 But He said, You cannot see My face, for no man shall see Me and live.

Exo 33:23b ... but My face shall not be seen.

2. In a sense, we can talk to God face to face, but in another sense, we cannot see God's face; this is a matter not of contradiction but of degree or extent— John 1:18; Rev. 22:4a.

John 1:18 No one has ever seen God; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

Rev 22:4a And they will see His face, ...

3. Christ is the cleft rock, the everlasting rock cleft for us; only in the crucified Christ can we see God—Exo. 33:21-23; 17:6; cf. Matt. 5:8; Rev. 22:4a.

Exo 33:21 Then Jehovah said, Here, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand upon the rock;

Exo 33:22 And while My glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with My hand until I have passed by.

Exo 33:23 And I will take away My hand, and you will see My back; but My face shall not be seen.

Exo 17:6 I will be standing before you there upon the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it so that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.

Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Rev 22:4a And they will see His face, ...

B. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God"—Matt. 5:8:

1. God is light; light is the nature of God's expression—1 John 1:5:

1 John 1:5 And this is the message which we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

- a. The Triune God, as revealed in the light of the gospel, is light—2 Cor. 4:4, 6.

2 Cor 4:4 In whom the god of this age has blinded the thoughts of the unbelievers that the illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, might not shine on them.

2 Cor 4:6 Because the God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

- b. To see God is to see light, and to see light is to see God— 1 John 1:5; Matt. 5:8; Psalms 36:9b.

1 John 1:5 And this is the message which we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Psa 36:9b ... In Your light we see light.

2. The condition for seeing God is having a pure heart—Matt. 5:8; Psalms 36:9b:

Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Psa 36:9b ... In Your light we see light.

- a. A pure heart desires only God and is focused on God; it is a heart that is for nothing else in the universe except God.

- b. Those who seek God out of a pure heart have God as their only possession and their unique desire on earth; God is their unique goal—73:25.
 Psa 73:25 Whom do I have in heaven but You? / And besides You there is nothing I desire on earth.
- c. To be pure in heart is to be single in purpose, to have the single goal of accomplishing God’s will for God’s glory—Matt. 6:10; 7:21; 12:50; Rom. 12:2; Eph. 5:17; Col. 1:9; 1 Cor. 10:31.
 Matt 6:10 Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, so also on earth.
 Matt 7:21 Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will enter into the kingdom of the heavens, but he who does the will of My Father who is in the heavens.
 Matt 12:50 For whoever does the will of My Father who is in the heavens, he is My brother and sister and mother.
 Rom 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.
 Eph 5:17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.
 Col 1:9 Therefore we also, since the day we heard of it, do not cease praying and asking on your behalf that you may be filled with the full knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,
 1 Cor 10:31 Therefore whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.
- d. If in seeking God we are pure in heart, single in heart (the ground where Christ as the seed of life grows—Matt. 13:19), we will see God.
 Matt 13:19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand, the evil one comes and snatches away that which has been sown in his heart. This is the one sown beside the way.
- C. “I had heard of You by the hearing of the ear, / But now my eye has seen You”— Job 42:5:
1. In the New Testament sense, seeing God equals gaining God—Matt. 5:8.
 Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
 2. To gain God is to receive God in His element, in His life, and in His nature so that we may be constituted with God— Rom. 8:11; Eph. 3:16-17a.
 Rom 8:11 And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.
 Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,
 Eph 3:17a That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, ...
 3. All of God’s redeemed, regenerated, sanctified, renewed, transformed, conformed, and glorified people will see God’s face—Rev. 22:4.
 Rev 22:4 And they will see His face, and His name will be on their forehead.
 4. Seeing God transforms us, because in seeing God we receive His element into us, and our old element is discharged; this metabolic process is transformation—2 Cor. 3:18; Rom. 12:2; cf. 1 John 3:2.
 2 Cor 3:18 But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.
 Rom 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.
 1 John 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not yet been manifested what we will be. We know that if He is manifested, we will be like Him because we will see Him even as He is.

5. To see God is to be transformed into the glorious image of Christ, the God-man, that we may express God in His life and represent Him in His authority—Gen. 1:26; 2 Cor. 3:18; 4:4; Col. 1:15; 3:10; Heb. 1:3; Matt. 13:43.

Gen 1:26 And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.

2 Cor 3:8 How shall the ministry of the Spirit not be more in glory?

2 Cor 4:4 In whom the god of this age has blinded the thoughts of the unbelievers that the illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, might not shine on them.

Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,

Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

Heb 1:3 Who, being the effulgence of His glory and the impress of His substance and upholding and bearing all things by the word of His power, having made purification of sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Matt 13:43 Then the righteous will shine forth like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

- D. When we come to Exodus 24:1-2 and 9-18, we are at the threshold of the heavenly visions contained in the following chapters; unless we come to this threshold, we will not be able to see the heavenly vision of God's dwelling place:

Exo 24:1 Then He said to Moses, Come up to Jehovah, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; and worship at a distance.

Exo 24:2 And Moses alone shall come near to Jehovah, but they shall not come near, nor shall the people come up with him.

Exo 24:9 Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up.

Exo 24:10 And they saw the God of Israel, and under His feet there was something like a paved work of sapphire, even like heaven itself for clearness.

Exo 24:11 And He did not stretch out His hand upon the nobles of the children of Israel. And they beheld God and ate and drank.

Exo 24:12 And Jehovah said to Moses, Come up to Me at the top of the mountain, and be there; and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and the commandment, which I have inscribed for their instruction.

Exo 24:13 And Moses rose up with Joshua his attendant, and Moses went up to the top of the mountain of God.

Exo 24:14 And he had said to the elders, Wait here for us until we return to you. Both Aaron and Hur are here with you; whoever has a cause, let him come near to them.

Exo 24:15 And Moses went up to the top of the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.

Exo 24:16 And the glory of Jehovah settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.

Exo 24:17 And the appearance of the glory of Jehovah was like consuming fire on the top of the mountain to the eyes of the children of Israel.

Exo 24:18 And Moses entered into the midst of the cloud and went up on the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

1. Beneath God's feet Moses and the leaders of Israel saw something that had the appearance of a large, transparent stone; Moses could only liken what he saw under God's feet to a transparent sapphire stone, which was like heaven itself for clearness.

2. In our fellowship with the Lord, we may have a clear sky and see a work of sapphire stone beneath Him—the vision of God in a transparent and clear heaven.

3. Only when we are in such a clear atmosphere can we receive the heavenly vision of the building of God's dwelling place—vv. 9-11:

Exo 24:9 Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up.

- Exo 24:10 And they saw the God of Israel, and under His feet there was something like a paved work of sapphire, even like heaven itself for clearness.
- Exo 24:11 And He did not stretch out His hand upon the nobles of the children of Israel. And they beheld God and ate and drank.
- a. In our fellowship with the Lord, our sky will become clear and transparent, and it will seem that in front of our eyes there is something that resembles the body of heaven itself for clearness—v. 10.

Exo 24:10 And they saw the God of Israel, and under His feet there was something like a paved work of sapphire, even like heaven itself for clearness.
 - b. In such an environment we will see God and the heavenly vision concerning the desire of His heart to have a dwelling place with man on earth—25:8; 29:45-46.

Exo 25:8 And let them make a sanctuary for Me that I may dwell in their midst;

Exo 29:45 And I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel, and I will be their God.

Exo 29:46 And they shall know that I am Jehovah their God, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, that I might dwell in the midst of them; I am Jehovah their God.
4. Moses was actually the only one to receive the direct vision of the tabernacle; Moses was on the top of the mountain, dwelling with God under His glory and receiving the vision of His dwelling place—25:8; 24:15-18.

Exo 25:8 And let them make a sanctuary for Me that I may dwell in their midst;

Exo 24:15 And Moses went up to the top of the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.

Exo 24:16 And the glory of Jehovah settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.

Exo 24:17 And the appearance of the glory of Jehovah was like consuming fire on the top of the mountain to the eyes of the children of Israel.

Exo 24:18 And Moses entered into the midst of the cloud and went up on the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.
 5. It took Moses forty days and forty nights to see the revelation of God’s dwelling place (v. 18); this indicates that receiving revelation from God requires a long period of time, which is a trial or a test to us.

Exo 24:18 And Moses entered into the midst of the cloud and went up on the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

II. “Let them make a sanctuary for Me that I may dwell in their midst”—25:8; cf. 29:45-46:

- Exo 29:45 And I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel, and I will be their God.
- Exo 29:46 And they shall know that I am Jehovah their God, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, that I might dwell in the midst of them; I am Jehovah their God.
- A. The book of Exodus reveals that the goal of God’s salvation is the building of God’s dwelling place on earth—25:8-9; 29:45-46; 40:1-2, 34-38:

Exo 25:8 And let them make a sanctuary for Me that I may dwell in their midst;

Exo 25:9 According to all that I show you, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, even so shall you make it.

Exo 29:45 And I will dwell in the midst of the children of Israel, and I will be their God.

Exo 29:46 And they shall know that I am Jehovah their God, who brought them out of the land of Egypt, that I might dwell in the midst of them; I am Jehovah their God.

Exo 40:1 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,

Exo 40:2 On the first day of the first month you shall raise up the tabernacle of the Tent of Meeting.

Exo 40:34 Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.

Exo 40:35 And Moses was not able to enter the Tent of Meeting, because the cloud settled on it and the glory of Jehovah filled the tabernacle.

Exo 40:36 And whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel set out on all their journeys;

Exo 40:37 But if the cloud was not taken up, they did not set out until the day that it was taken up.
Exo 40:38 For the cloud of Jehovah was upon the tabernacle by day, and there was fire in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel on all their journeys.

1. **At the mountain of God, through Moses God's people saw the revelation of the desire of God's heart—to have a dwelling place on earth—25:8-9; Matt. 16:18; 1 Cor. 3:9b; Eph. 2:21-22; 4:16.**

Exo 25:8 And let them make a sanctuary for Me that I may dwell in their midst;

Exo 25:9 According to all that I show you, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, even so shall you make it.

Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

1 Cor 3:9b ... you are God's cultivated land, God's building.

Eph 2:21 In whom all the building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;

Eph 2:22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

Eph 4:16 Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.

2. **The physical tabernacle as God's dwelling place was actually a symbol of a corporate people, the children of Israel as the house of God—Exo. 25:8-9; Heb. 3:6.**

Exo 25:8 And let them make a sanctuary for Me that I may dwell in their midst;

Exo 25:9 According to all that I show you, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, even so shall you make it.

Heb 3:6 But Christ was faithful as a Son over His house, whose house we are if indeed we hold fast the boldness and the boast of hope firm to the end.

B. In the Bible the word tabernacle is used in three ways:

1. **It refers to the tabernacle built at the foot of Mount Sinai.**

2. **It denotes the Lord Jesus as God's tabernacle with man; the tabernacle in Exodus is a type of Christ as the tabernacle of God— John 1:14.**

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

3. **It refers to the New Jerusalem—the ultimate, consummate, enlarged tabernacle of God—which includes God's redeemed people from both the Old Testament and the New Testament—Rev. 21:2-3.**

Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev 21:3 And I heard a loud voice out of the throne, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will tabernacle with them, and they will be His peoples, and God Himself will be with them and be their God.

C. "Tell the children of Israel to take for Me a heave offering. From every man whose heart makes him willing you shall take My heave offering"—Exo. 25:2:

1. **The heave offering typifies the uplifted Christ, the Christ who was lifted up in His ascension—Acts 1:9.**

Acts 1:9 And when He had said these things, while they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him away from their sight.

2. **The fact that the materials for the building of the tabernacle were offered to God by His people as a heave offering signifies that the church is built up not with any natural materials but with the Christ who has been gained, possessed, experienced, and enjoyed by God's people in resurrection and in the heavenlies—Phil. 3:7-14; Eph. 3:8; 2:5-6; cf. 1 Cor. 3:12.**

Phil 3:7 But what things were gains to me, these I have counted as loss on account of Christ.

Phil 3:8 But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all

things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ
 Phil 3:9 And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is out of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is out of God and based on faith,
 Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,
 Phil 3:11 If perhaps I may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead.
 Phil 3:12 Not that I have already obtained or am already perfected, but I pursue, if even I may lay hold of that for which I also have been laid hold of by Christ Jesus.
 Phil 3:13 Brothers, I do not account of myself to have laid hold; but one thing I do: Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before,
 Phil 3:14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.
 Eph 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel
 Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)
 Eph 2:6 And raised us up together with Him and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,
 1 Cor 3:12 But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, stubble,

3. All the materials for the building of the tabernacle signify the virtues of Christ's person and work—Exo. 25:3-7:

Exo 25:3 And this is the heave offering which you shall take from them: gold and silver and bronze,
 Exo 25:4 And blue and purple and scarlet strands, and fine linen, and goats' hair,
 Exo 25:5 And rams' skins dyed red, and porpoise skins, and acacia wood,
 Exo 25:6 Oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense,
 Exo 25:7 Onyx stones and stones to be set for the ephod and for the breastplate.

a. Twelve kinds of materials were used, in three categories (vv. 3-7): minerals, signifying Christ's building life (1 Cor. 3:9-12); plants, signifying Christ's generating life (John 12:24); and animals, signifying Christ's redeeming life (1:29).

Exo 25:3 And this is the heave offering which you shall take from them: gold and silver and bronze,
 Exo 25:4 And blue and purple and scarlet strands, and fine linen, and goats' hair,
 Exo 25:5 And rams' skins dyed red, and porpoise skins, and acacia wood,
 Exo 25:6 Oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense,
 Exo 25:7 Onyx stones and stones to be set for the ephod and for the breastplate.
 1 Cor 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's cultivated land, God's building.
 1 Cor 3:10 According to the grace of God given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. But let each man take heed how he builds upon it.
 1 Cor 3:11 For another foundation no one is able to lay besides that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
 1 Cor 3:12 But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, stubble,
 John 12:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
 John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

b. The redeeming life is for the generating life, and the generating life is for the building life.

- c. That the minerals are mentioned as the first category indicates that whatever Christ is and whatever He has done and is doing are all for God's building—Matt. 16:18.
 Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
- d. In the New Jerusalem, the ultimate consummation of God's building, there will be only minerals—gold, pearl, and precious stones; however, in order to arrive at God's goal, the redeeming life and the generating life are needed—Rev. 21:18-21; John 1:29; 12:24.
 Rev 21:18 And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.
 Rev 21:19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every precious stone: the first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald;
 Rev 21:20 The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.
 Rev 21:21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; each one of the gates was, respectively, of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.
 John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
 John 12:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
- D. "According to all that I show you, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, even so shall you make it"—Exo. 25:9:
1. In building the church, God works according to a prescribed and revealed plan—Heb. 8:5; Matt. 16:18; Eph. 2:20:
 Heb 8:5 Who serve the example and shadow of the heavenly things, even as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to complete the tabernacle; for, "See," He said, "that you make all things according to the pattern that was shown to you in the mountain."
 Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.
 Eph 2:20 Being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone;
- a. The most important thing in our spiritual work is a knowledge of the pattern shown on the mountain—Exo. 25:9; Heb. 8:5.
 Exo 25:9 According to all that I show you, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, even so shall you make it.
 Heb 8:5 Who serve the example and shadow of the heavenly things, even as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to complete the tabernacle; for, "See," He said, "that you make all things according to the pattern that was shown to you in the mountain."
- b. The pattern shown on the mountain is the plan; if we do not understand God's plan, it will be impossible for us to do God's work—Eph. 3:4.
 Eph 3:4 By which, in reading it, you can perceive my understanding in the mystery of Christ,
2. The pattern of the tabernacle and all its furnishings is a full type of both the individual Christ and the corporate Christ as the Body, the church, including many details of the experience of Christ for the church life and a full picture of the church life with all its details—Heb. 9:4.
 Heb 9:4 Having a golden altar and the Ark of the Covenant covered about everywhere with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna and Aaron's rod that budded and the tablets of the covenant,