

EXAMINING OUR FAITH, part 4 quotes

1 “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves.” 2 Corinthians 13:5.

(Picture #9 - 2nd Angel’s Message)

2 Pillar #3

(Picture #10 - the Temple of God in Heaven, or the Heavenly Sanctuary)

“And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that **I show thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments** thereof, even so shall ye make it...And look that thou make them **after their pattern, which was showed thee** in the mount.” Exodus 25:8-9, 40.

In order to help Moses understand how the earthly Sanctuary and its sacred furniture was to look like, God showed him the pattern of all these sacred things. The Hebrew word for “pattern” used here is “tabniyth”, which translates and means “structure, resemblance, form, pattern” (Strong’s Exhaustive Hebrew Concordance, word #8403). God showed Moses the structure or form or pattern of things that were already in existence so Moses could gain a mental picture of what these things looked like, and correctly guide in creating a resemblance to these same sacred items.

This means that there was already a Sanctuary and Temple of God in existence for the Lord God to show Moses so that he could pattern the earthly Sanctuary after it! So then where was this original Sanctuary and Temple of God located?

“For he hath looked down from the height of **his sanctuary; from heaven** did the LORD behold the earth.” Psalms 102:19.

“**The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD’S throne is in heaven**: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.” Psalms 11:4.

“Who serve unto **the example and shadow 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 showed to thee in the mount.” Hebrews 8:5.

3 This heavenly Sanctuary was built and arranged by the Lord God Himself (Hebrews 8:2), and thus was perfect. Since the earthly Sanctuary and its services were patterned after the heavenly, then all that took place within the earthly Sanctuary was to teach the truth in regards to what would afterwards take place in the heavenly Sanctuary. This then meant that while “the first tabernacle was yet standing” the way into the heavenly Sanctuary “was not yet made manifest” (Hebrews 9:8).

All changed when Jesus Christ, on the cross of Calvary, “cried with a loud voice” “it is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost” (Mark 15:37; John 19:30).

“And the veil of the [earthly] temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.” Mark 15:38.

This inner veil separated the two apartments of the earthly Sanctuary. But when it was ripped from top to bottom into two pieces it signified that a great change had occurred in how God was going to be dealing with His people from that time on. At the death of Christ, God’s dealings with His people through the earthly Sanctuary and its services had come to an end - being now finished or fulfilled, and were then replaced with the heavenly Sanctuary and its services.

The earthly Sanctuary and Temple where God literally dwelt among His people was declared to be the Sanctuary of “the first covenant” (Hebrews 9:1). But after the sacrificial death of Christ on the cross, all which was connected with the first covenant, including the earthly Sanctuary, its services and priesthood, had now been fulfilled or finished, and replaced by a new covenant, which included a heavenly Sanctuary and its services and its priesthood.

4 The earthly Sanctuary had a first veil or door which one needed to open and pass through before they could enter into the first apartment or the holy place of the Sanctuary, and once within this first apartment you would see such sacred furniture as the golden Candlestick of 7 lamps, as well as the golden Altar of Incense.

The heavenly Sanctuary also has a first door which one needed to open and pass through before they could enter into the first apartment of the Sanctuary, and once within this first apartment you would also see such sacred furniture as the golden Candlestick of seven lamps of fire, as well as the golden altar of incense.

“After this I looked, and, behold, **a door (the first) was opened in heaven**: And immediately I was in the spirit; and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne....And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: **and there were seven lamps of fire burning** before the throne...And another angel came and **stood at the altar...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.” Revelation 4:1-2, 5, 8:3.

5 The earthly Sanctuary had a golden censer that was filled with live fiery coals from off the golden Altar of Incense, and upon which the priest would then place incense and the sweet smelling incense smoke would ascend up before God.

The heavenly Sanctuary also has a golden censer that is filled with live fiery coals from off the golden Altar of Incense, and upon which is placed incense and the smoke of the incense would ascend up before God.

“And another angel came and stood at the altar, having **a golden censer**...And the smoke of the incense...ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. And the angel **took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar**, and cast it into the earth”. Revelation 8:3-5.

6 The earthly Sanctuary had an inner or second veil or door which one needed to open and pass through before they could enter into the second apartment or the most holy place of the Sanctuary, and once within this second apartment you would see the ark of the covenant.

The heavenly Sanctuary also has an inner or second veil or door which had to be opened and passed through before one could enter in the second apartment or the most holy place, and once within this second apartment you would see the ark of the covenant.

“And the temple of God was **opened in heaven (2nd door)**, and **there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament**”. Revelation 11:19.

7 Pillar #4

(Picture #11 - the High Priest's Ministration in the Cleansing of this Heavenly Sanctuary)

As the earthly sanctuary of the old covenant had a high priest, then the new covenant also has a high priest in the heavenly Sanctuary.

“But **Christ being come an high priest** of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but **by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place**, having obtained eternal redemption for us. Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: **We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle**, which the Lord pitched, and not man.” Hebrews 9:11-12, 8:1-2.

8 The earthly Sanctuary itself had an Outer Court wherein all the sacrificial offerings and the spilling of blood occurred. But there is no mention in the Bible of an Outer Court existing in heaven at all. Why?

“For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. **He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.** And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, **after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;** From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.” Hebrews 10:4-14.

Christ offered His righteous life and body as “one sacrifice for sins for ever” and spilled His precious blood on this earth “once for all”, and thus there is no need of any further sacrifices or the spilling of blood to atone for sin! Since all sacrifices and spilling of blood occurred in the Outer Court, and Christ was sacrificed and His blood spilled on this earth once for all time, then this earth itself actually represents the Outer Court that is connected with the heavenly Sanctuary, and that why there is no Outer Court mentioned in heaven itself!