

“O Come, Let Us Adore Him”
December 28, 2014

Amos 9:11-15 (See also Acts 15:16)

- At Mt. Zion, simple tent with open access into the presence of the LORD
- Enjoyed uninterrupted living in the presence of God
- For almost 40 years—4,000 musicians/singers—24/7
- They enjoyed the LORD—passion for His heart was restored
- They called upon the LORD on behalf of their nation—saw God defeat their enemies (both physical & spiritual)

“RESTORE”- to bring to a *better* state; not simply return to a previous state

- He takes us “from glory to glory” (2 Cor. 3:18)
- “Glory of the latter house *exceeding* the former house” (Hag. 2:9)

RESTORING THE TABERNACLE OF DAVID (lifestyle of worship) INCLUDES:

1. OVERCOMING INDIFFERENCE/APATHY.

- Before David, a Hx of downward spiral of SPIRITUAL INDIFFERENCE
- Eli—officiating priest at the sanctuary of Shiloh
- Eli’s sons—Phinehas & Hophni—“immoral” (1 Sam. 2:12); “sons of Belial (the devil)”; they took the ark of the covenant into battle (as a “good luck” charm; NOT for the purpose of worship) and it fell into the hands of the Philistines
- David fought to return it (to restore worship), expressing his devotion: Psalm 57:7- “My heart is fixed (*i.e., set; as a compass points north*)

NOTE: David would later say (RE: his devotion to the LORD, “I will not give that which costs me nothing” (2 Sam. 24:24) Experience this restoration of AWE!

2. OVERCOMING A “RELIGIOUS SPIRIT”.

Merely acknowledges God, while keeping Him at a distance.

“Tabernacle of Moses”- on Mt. Gibeon

- From its beginning, represented the desire for a “mediated” relationship, rather than an “immediate” one (*i.e., Exodus 20:18-19*)
- Yet, Moses, much like David’s tabernacle, would “pitch a tent...face to face, as with a friend” (*Exodus 33:11*); Joshua “did not leave the tent”
- God gave them judges & kings, but He always desired to speak face to face with His people
- Somber, w/o celebration; void of expression—no songs, no instruments; sin-focused

“Tabernacle of David”- on Mt. Zion

- Songs, celebration, nearness, meditation, inquiry (Ps. 27:4- “inquire”)
- Access to the “Holy of Holies” (NOTE: “Prepared as a bride” Rev. 21:21; shaped like a cube—one big “Holy of Holies”)
- NOTE: Jesus immediately tore the veil upon His death on the Cross

3. OVERCOMING PERSONAL FAILURE & PRIDE.

2 Samuel 6- In establishing this tabernacle, David experienced painful failure as the result of launching out in his own zeal, failing to stop and seek the Lord. David failed to honor the ways of the LORD.

- Loaded the ark on an ox cart (“Ox”- symbol of strength)
- “Uzzah” (*strength*) lost his life; “strength alone” failed (Zech. 4:6)
- So discouraged, David almost aborted the mission (2 Sam. 6:9)

Given another chance to do it GOD’S WAY:

- On poles, carried by 4 priests (NOTE: Weighed almost a ton; “My yoke is easy”)
- David exchanged his kingly robe for a “linen ephod”—the garment of a priest; “Linen”—that you “may not sweat” (Ezek. 44:18)

[“After God’s heart”; Lit.- “like His heart”; running with vs. chasing after]

- WARRIOR- inspiring others to great courage; overcame all enemies
- WORSHIPPER- dancer, musician, poet—comforting words; timeless
- FOUGHT TOUGH BATTLES—yet, knew how to be comforted
 - “Your rod (*correcting, prodding*) and your staff (*rescue*) they comfort me (Psalm 23:4)
 - “Your gentleness (*stooping to my weakness*) has made me great (*increase*)” (Psalm 18:35)

Stop “toughing it out” by “stuffing it in.” Uncomforted wounds are usually buried, ignored, trivialized—only to resurface in the form of criticism, sarcasm, anger, being distant...living a lonely life. Live the lifestyle of “**not by (your own) might or (your own) power; but by My Spirit**” (Zech. 4:6). **This is a new day of total alignment with Heaven.**

FINAL WORD:

With such powerful worship in Heaven, why is the Father seeking “worshippers” on the earth (John 4)?

- He IS enthroned in the heavens
- He WILL BE enthroned on the earth!

He will move “through a Body” that is “prepared (set apart; devoted to) for Him” (Hebrews 10:5).