2021 08 22 Shelter

1 Kings 8:1,6,10,11,22-30,41-43. Psalm 84.

Ephesians 6:10-20. John 6:56-69

DRAFT 1. These are scattered notes and I only have the ? to post them because I have been encouraged to start the messagesticks posts again. There is too much in these readings.

 *The copy from W.H. Smith, at the end are very worthwhile.*

1 Kings 8 some 3000 years ago.

Sacrifice that could not be numbered when the ark/ a sacred box was put into the original temple, yet it was a temporary measure and the temple has been destroyed and rebuilt several times. The last time was 70AD, about 35 years after our Lords death and resurrection

In this temple there was a room called the most holy – and here under the wings of the cherubim’s the arc was put – all it contained was the 10 commandments.

These commandments if followed would bring us to God. Nobody could live them in purity and a crippling number of sub rules were added – and it became even more impossible and put an unbearable burden on the people. Animal sacrifices were given to provide a temporary cove for our sins.

Obedience to the ‘law’ was for several thousands of years the only path to God. The Ten commandments could have brought freedom in peoples lives and a legal way to God -yet us humans added rules of explanations after rules of explanation and they became a chain of unbreakable steel that bound people.

When you read the letter to Galatians and 1,2,3 John and Jude the same thing was coming into the church of freedom that we are given through Jesus our saviour. Gods’ way is simple and clean yet us humans were trying to bring “Jesus plus ??”. bringing ‘doing’ instead of ‘being’. *Galatians “Oh you foolish Galatians, who has deceived you …” after finding freedom in Jesus to go back to keeping the regulations.[[1]](#footnote-1)*

There were at that time, and since in different cloths, people who taught and practiced the opposite – one was: God’s grace is sufficient and the more I sin the more opportunity I give for Gods grace to be shown and praised.[[2]](#footnote-2) It was based on the separation of the body and spirit – the body died so what does it matter what it does, the spirit lives on and is clean – not effected by the actions of the body - personally I cannot see how this could work – it does not for me – the actions and thoughts of my body put a very real separation between me and God. “God forgives – it is His line of business”?

V11 the glory of the ‘Lord so great the human priest could not stand” v12 – God stood in the thick darkness. We see God in the forgiveness that Jesus’ death and resurrection have brought for us.

V12,13 Solomon said to God – I have built you a house to dwell in, a settled place for you to abide in for ever. V18 God had said to David, his father that he had done well that it was in his heart to build a house for God – David saw that he lived in a house of cedar but the ’ark’ of God’s presence was housed in a tent.

V23. When dedicating the temple Solomon said there is no God like you in heaven, earth or beneath the earth (hell?) – and highlighted that God keeps his word and mercy with his servants who follow His ways.

V27 a big question - The heavens of heavens cannot contain God, eternity cannot date or contain God so how can God really dwell on earth and much less how can this church building contain You!

Yet you listen to our cries and prayers and requests.

V39 give to ever person according to their ways, forgive You know our hearts v40 that we may fear You and for the stranger that hears of You and come – receive and forgive so that Your name, our presence, will be felt, known in this building.

V43 Even then the place of God was open to strangers.

Psalm 84

The sparrow finds a home in God’s house.

Blessed is the person who trusts in You.

*– relate to the Presen****c****e and the present not the physical imagery*

Final statement John 6:56-69

**V68 Lord to whom shall we go you have the words of eternal life.**

BONDAGE FOR LIBERTY (H.W.Smith)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The law says, this *do* and thou shalt live. | The gospel says, *live,* and then thou shalt do. |
| The law says, *pay* me what thou owest. | The gospel says, I frankly *forgive* thee all. |
| The Law says, *Make*  you a new heart and a new spirit. | The gospel says, a new heart I will *give you,* and a new spirit will I put within you. |
| The law says, *thou* shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. | The gospel says, Herein is love , not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His *son* to be the propitiation for our sins. |
| The law says *cursed* is every who continueth not in all things written in the book of the law to do them. | The gospel says, *blessed* is the person whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. |
| The law says, the  *wages*  of sin is death. | The gospel says, the *gift*  of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. |
| The law *demands* holiness. | The gospel *gives holiness.* |
| The law says,  *do.* | *The gospel says,* done. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The law *extorts*  the unwilling service of a bondman. | The gospel *wins*  the loving service of a son/daughter and freeman. |
| The law makes blessings the result of *obedience.* | The gospel makes obedience the result of *blessings.* |
| The law places the day of rest at the end of the week’s work.  | The gospel places it at its beginning. |
| The law says, *if*. | The gospel says,  *therefore.* |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

1. Galatians 1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. John 6:15 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)