

Outline - Sunday, March 16, 2014

Sermon Title: Ye Are the Temple of the Living God

Scripture Reading: 1 Thess 5:19-24

And the Spirit of God dwells in you (1 Cor 6:16/2 Cor 6:16). This statement defines for us the nature of a temple. The dwelling place of God. The habitation of God through the Spirit. His abode. It presupposes communion between God and his people, which constitutes worship! John 4:23-24

1. The candle stick: Rev 1:1; 16:20/Rev 11:2-4

(Two witnesses) Acts 1:8

The privilege, the power, the purpose—to exalt our glorious Savior, by that one means by which he is made known savingly to the souls of men. The gospel.

2 Cor 4:4-6

2. The command to always burn: 1 Thess 5:19-20;

Ex 27:20-21/Lev 24:1-4—A legitimate warning

<u>Rev 2:5</u>—by Apostasy/Death of the servant of God Priority/Persistence/Permanence—of the burning

Two things—The Sacrifice/Light

- 3. The character of that light corresponding to an act of prophesy: (fire) Num 11:17-24-25/Acts 2:3-4/Psalm 104:4/ Jer 5:14. Preaching is supposed to be a fiery act. A work of illumination, enlightenment, revelation, warmth, and fierce warning: Our God is a consuming Fire!
- 4. The content of the light corresponding to the content of the prophecy. "oil beaten" The oil represents the Spirit of God, but He is given to the believer through the process <u>of</u> beating and pressing.

And it speaks to the atonement of Christ in the humility of His suffering as the cause by which the Spirit of God is given to the people of God. The Olive Tree is ascended by the workers and the olives are beaten off the tree to the ground. That tree is Christ. It speaks to His sufferings as the source of the blessing. The olives are then crushed in a vat.

"Garden of Gethsemane" Oil vat—The Spirit is inexorably, connected to Christ Jesus as the reward and fruit of His atonement. He is therefore a by-product and necessary extension of the Second Person whose work is strictly to glorify Christ. He is not an independent contractor, sole proprietor, or cosmic miracle worker. He is the immediate presence of Christ for the success of the gospel. John 16:8

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As the Father is light—James 1:17
As the Son is the Light—John 1:1-3
So the Spirit of God is Light—Eph 1:17-18

5. The function and scope of that light: vs 21-22

- a. Exalting Christ (Menorah, showbread, Holy of Holies)
- b. Exposing all errors and false lights—2 Cor 4:1; 10:5/

Eph 5:8-12/1 John 4:4; 1:6-9

Preaching and teaching is: Evangelical/Apologetic/Polemical

1 Cor 2:2/Phil 1:7/Titus 1:10-13

Preach Christ/Defend the gospel/And rebuke sharply

6. This is the promise and work of God: vs 23-24

Peace a covenant title for God/consequent of the atonement— Heb 13:20

The benefit of the blood of Christ. Rom 4:25; 5:1; 15:13

Our Peace is a consequence of our standing in His RIGHTEOUSNESS—blameless, without reproach, unimpeachable.

"Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect?"

7. He finishes what He starts: Phil 1:6

God will perform that which concerneth me.

Ps 138:8/Ps 18:30—Does God know how to finish a thing? Yes. Gen 2:1/Ex 40:33/John 19:30/Rev 10:7

We are presently in the Sixth Trumpet! Rev 11:15

"The fire/wall"