

## ***“The Kingdom of God!”***



### **Part 5: “God dwelling in the presence of His people ...”**

**Exodus 25 - 40**

Introduction: How do we explain the senseless taking of human life going on every day all around us?

**Romans 1:18-21, 28-32:** “And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done” (vs. 28).

**Galatians 5:19-21:** “Now the works of the flesh are evident ... I warn you ... that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

The “diagnosis” that the “experts” refuse to acknowledge is that people are spiritually dead and separated from God.

Our calling is to point people to Jesus Christ as “the Way”, and the Truth and the Life!” (John 14:6).

***Only those who experience God’s presence through faith in Jesus find peace and rest in this life as we await His return and the fulfillment of God’s promise to dwell with us forever!***

God’s presence, like His grace, is a gift.

### **I. God’s presence with man BEFORE Israel ..**

As mankind rejected the God who had created them, God did not make His presence known to them.

**Acts 17:22-27:** “And He made from one man every nation of mankind ... having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place” (vs. 26).

**Ephesians 2:11-12:** “... at that time you were separated from Christ, ... and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world” (vs. 12).

God made the “Mosaic covenant” (the Law) in order to show Israel their need for a Savior.

### **II. God’s presence with Israel in the “old covenant” of Law ...**

**Exodus 25:8:** “Let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst.”

In the Mosaic covenant God revealed how sinful man could approach Him.

**Exodus 25:17-22:** “There I will meet with you ...” (vs. 22).

**Exodus 33:12-22:** “My presence will go with you ...” (vs. 14).

**Exodus 40:34-48:** “For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night ...” (vs. 38).

The point God was making under the “old covenant” of the Law was that there was a way to enter His presence!

Even in this “old covenant,” salvation was by grace through faith in the coming Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Romans 10:1-4:** “For Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone who believes” (vs. 4).

**Leviticus 23** reveals the seven feasts that all pointed ahead to JESUS!!

God revealed His presence to His people through the Tabernacle, the sacrifices, the Ark of the Covenant and the Most Holy Place.

### **III. God’s presence with “spiritual Israel” in the “new covenant” ...**

The Mosaic covenant was only temporary. It did not replace God’s Covenant of Grace with Abraham.

**Galatians 4:4-7:** “When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son ... to redeem those who were under the Law so that we might receive adoption as sons ...” (vss. 4-5).

**Colossians 1:24-27:** “To them God chose to make known ... this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory!” (vs. 27).

God comes to dwell IN us by His Spirit and says, “I will never leave you!”

### **IV. God’s presence with His people at the return of Jesus ...**

### **V. God’s presence with His people for eternity ...**