

Like the Heavenly Pattern

Jesus

God wanted to be with His people and He explained to Moses how to build a place for Him to live. Along with the explanations, He showed him a pattern of the great original Heavenly Sanctuary in all of its details.

What important point did God emphasize when He was giving Moses the plans for the Tabernacle?
Exodus 25:9, 40

After God gave Moses the plans and showed him the pattern he was to copy, He also designated who would be the supervisors of the construction project.

Who were the two men that God chose to supervise the building project?
Exodus 31:1-6

It is interesting to notice the meaning of the names of these two men. *Bezaleel* means “in the shadow (protection) of God.” *Aholiab* means “tent of his father.”

Christians, individually and as a corporate church, are the temple of God. He wants to live in us. Jesus came as the “Construction Supervisor,” a combination of Bezaleel and Aholiab—under the protection of God and a place where the Father lived—to start building God's dwelling place and bring it to completion.

Jesus was “in the shadow” (under the protection) of His Father.

What happened when some of Jesus' enemies tried to harm Him?
Luke 4:29, 30

John 7:30

John 8:59

Jesus was the “tent” of His Father.

What unique name was Jesus known by and what did it mean?
Matthew 1:23

How does Paul describe Jesus?

For _____ dwelleth all the _____ bodily. Colossians 2:9

We are His Temple.

How does Paul describe God's people?

1 Corinthians 3:16, 17

2 Corinthians 6:16

Ephesians 2:19-22

What does God want His people to be?

Leviticus 19:2; 20:7

Matthew 5:48

Those who are anticipating Jesus' appearing will be preparing themselves. What is one important part of this preparation?

... every man that hath this hope in him _____ himself, even as he is pure. 1 John 3:2, 3

Let Him do His work in you.

What can we be confident of as we wait for Jesus to come?

... he which hath begun a good work in you _____ until the day of Jesus Christ:
Philippians 1:6

... it is God which worketh in you both _____ of his good pleasure.
Philippians 2:12, 13

The Lord demands uprightness in the smallest as well as the largest matters. Those who are accepted at last as members of the heavenly court will be men and women who here on earth have sought to carry out the Lord's will in every particular, who have sought to put the impress of heaven upon their earthly labors. In order that the earthly tabernacle might represent the heavenly, it must be perfect in all its parts, and it must be, in the smallest detail, like the pattern in the heavens. So it is with the characters of those who are finally accepted in the sight of Heaven.

The Son of God came down to earth that in him men and women might have a representation of the perfect characters which alone God could accept. Through the grace of Christ every provision has been made for the salvation of the human family. It is possible for every transaction entered into by those who claim to be Christians to be as pure as were the deeds of Christ. And the soul who accepts the virtues of Christ's character, and appropriates the merits of his life, is as precious in the sight of God as was his own beloved Son. Sincere and uncorrupted faith are to him as gold and frankincense and myrrh, and gifts of the wise men to the Child of Bethlehem, and the evidence of their faith in him as the promised Messiah.¹⁹

As God was giving the instructions for making the Tabernacle, He reminded Moses to make it like the pattern he had been shown.

And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, after

the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it. Exodus 25:8, 9

During the process of construction, Moses inspected everything to make sure it was done correctly.

According to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so the children of Israel made all the work. And Moses did look upon all the work, and, behold, they had done it as the LORD had commanded, even so had they done it: and Moses blessed them. Exodus 39:42, 43

When it was finished, God approved of the work they had done, and moved into the place they had made for Him.

So Moses finished the work. Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. Exodus 40:33-35

Jesus is the Heavenly Pattern that we are to follow as we make a place for God to live. We need to be very careful to copy our Pattern so that when He inspects, we will meet His approval, and His Holy Spirit can fill us.

Don't you want to be just like Jesus so His glory will fill you?