



Entering Into His Presence



“ ___ Since we have full freedom and confidence to enter into the Holy of Holies (where God is), by the power and virtue of the shed blood of Jesus, let us draw near with an honest and sincere heart in absolute trust and faith, having our hearts sprinkled and purified from a guilty, immoral conscience and our bodies washed with pure water, let us hold fast in our memory the reason for our faith without wavering (doubting); for He that made the promise is faithful.” (Hebrews 10:19,22,23 AMP)

It is Jesus who made the only way for us to get into the presence of God. Only He can lead us into the heavenly sanctuary and keep us there. We need to know Him in His heavenly glory and His saving power! God longs for us to draw near and live in fellowship with Him. The only way to enter into His presence is by faith – believing we have the right to be there – believing God wants us there – and believing Jesus made it possible by shedding His blood on the cross.

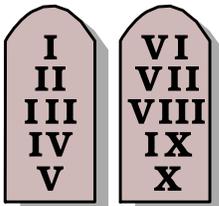
In the Old Testament, no one could dare to enter into the presence of God except the High Priest, and he could only enter the Holy of Holies once a year. He and the other ministers had to spend a lot of time preparing him with several washings; putting on holy garments intricately made of gold, jewels & finest linens; anointing him with holy oil; making the sacrifices for sin, and finally tying a rope around his ankle so he could be pulled out in case he died in the presence of God because of unconfessed sin he had not made a sacrifice for. That’s how holy God was! They wouldn’t even write His Name without bathing themselves, changing their clothes, and using a new pen point. They even called Him by a different name because His Name was too holy for them to speak.

Before the temple was built in Jerusalem, the people of God were wandering in the wilderness and God commanded Moses, their leader, to build a portable tabernacle that could be carried from place to place. The first thing He commanded Moses to make for it was the golden Ark of the Covenant to be put in the Holy of Holies:



“You shall put the mercy seat on top of the Ark and the 10 Commandments inside. There I will meet with you and from above the mercy seat I will speak intimately with you ___ “ (Exodus 25:22)

The Ark was made for holding the sacred 10 commandments that were written by the finger of God. These commandments were laws and these laws were called the “Testament of God”. They were the laws that God’s people were to live by, but because God knew they would continue to sin and break His laws, He required that the High Priest sprinkle the blood of a sacrifice on the mercy seat each year to cover the sins the people had committed that year.



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The place of entering into the Holy of Holies was so holy it had to be separated from the rest of the sanctuary by a heavy curtain several inches thick.

You may be thinking, that was 6,000 years ago, what has that got to do with me entering the presence of God today? The answer is – everything! You have to know and understand the holiness of God before you will ever be able to have an intimate relationship with Him! His holiness has never changed and it never will. His radiance and His glory are still so bright that sin would be consumed by it.

If this is true, and it is, how can we possibly enter into His presence? The answer: through Jesus' death and resurrection! This is such a powerful truth! There should be trumpets blaring! Lights flashing! Horns honking!! Jesus was sent by God, His Father, to suffer and die on the cross so that the blood He shed would be the final, perfect, complete sacrifice for the sins of all mankind! The earthly Holy of Holies was done away with and Jesus is now seated on His throne at the right hand of the Majesty of God on high, having washed away all of our sins by His blood so that we are free from sin when we accept Jesus, and confess and repent of our sins. We are pure in the eyes of God and He welcomes us into fellowship with Him – in His very presence. Oh, praise the Name of Jesus!!!



Jesus did not do away with the 10 Commandments (the law), it is very important that you understand that. He said, *“Don't think I have come to do away with or undo the law; I have come not to do away with, or undo, but to complete and fulfill it.”* (Matthew 5:17). This fulfillment of the Old Testament by Jesus is called the New Testament. Our responsibility to obey the 10 Commandments remains the same. Sin is not done away in the slightest – it is just possible to be forgiven now when we sin – but only if we are born again and have accepted Jesus as our Savior and Lord!

Now more than ever we need to walk in holiness and consecration to God recognizing the awesome gift we have been given to enter into His holy presence as His sons and daughters – accepted in the family of the Beloved because of Jesus, His Son. Now that we have a better understanding of God's holiness, the WAY we enter into His presence needs to be different. We are told to, *“come boldly to the throne of grace to obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need,”* (Hebrews 4:16) but we are to come with an attitude of reverence and thankfulness, not just rush in, ask for whatever we want, and leave – without greeting, and without praise.

As Christians we have an even greater responsibility to let the light of Jesus shine through us to give hope to a world in darkness.

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We are sanctified (set apart) and made holy through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ. *“For by one offering He has perfected forever them that are sanctified!”* (Hebrews 10:14) *“For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God, for us!”* (Hebrews 9:24)

Let us enter again into His presence, but now the right way – by the way of the cross and the blood of Jesus – through the veil of His flesh. *“You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is the fullness of joy; at Your right hand there are pleasures forever.”* (Psalm 16:11)



Entering Into His Presence

1. Who made the only way for me to get into the presence of God?

2. How did Jesus make the way?

3. What did God command Moses to make for the tabernacle? Why?

4. What did He have Moses put on top of the Ark? Why?

5. Where did God meet with Moses and the High Priests?

6. What are the 10 Commandments called?

7. Where is Jesus now?

8. What is the way we are supposed to enter into His presence?

9. What will happen when we enter His presence reverently? (Psalm 16:11)
(The answer to this question will be your memory verse)

MEMORY VERSE _____

Entering Into His Presence

1. Who made the only way for me to get into the presence of God?

Jesus.

2. How did Jesus make the way?

By shedding His blood on the cross.

3. What did God command Moses to make for the tabernacle? Why?

The Ark of the Covenant. To hold the 10 Commandments.

4. What did He have Moses put on top of the Ark? Why?

The mercy seat. To receive the sprinkling of the blood of the sacrifice.

5. Where did God meet with Moses and the High Priests?

In the Holy of Holies – above the mercy seat.

6. What are the 10 Commandments called?

The Testament of God.

7. Where is Jesus now?

Seated on His throne at the right hand of God.

8. What is the way we are supposed to enter into His presence?

By the way of the cross and the blood of Jesus through the veil of His flesh.

9. What will happen when we enter His presence reverently? (Psalm 16:11)

MEMORY VERSE “You will show me the path of life: in your presence is the fullness of joy; at Your right hand there are pleasures forevermore.”