

"And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them" (Exodus 25:8).

We see very clearly the purpose of God creating man after His image and likeness to dwell with him to have fellowship and eternal relationship with him. He created beautiful garden from man with everything needed for them in it with certain instructions for their safety and survival.

I always appreciate my God for having this kind of thought and creating man with his helpmeet. The desire to be with man was there from the beginning. And after the fall of man and getting separated from the fellowship with God the Father! There was a long gap and God was working to execute His plan. Holy God cannot compromise with sin. He is **God of love** (I John 4:8) but at the same time He is **Righteous Judge** (II Timothy 4:8).

And that long waited desire was amazingly revealed to Moses with due instructions! (Exodus 25-31). In verse 8 God expressed His desire, "...that I may dwell among them." As long as His people did not have their own place to stay God moved with them, stayed with them, guided them, led them and fed them, and had fellowship with them through the blood sacrifices of animals. The Tabernacle was the mobile place where He wanted to meet His people! He led them by the pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night, "21. And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of could, to lead them the way and by the night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night. 22. He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people." (Exodus 13:21-22). Beautiful picture of **HIS PROMISED PRESENCE!**

"He always assured His people, that, "He would never leave us nor forsake us." (Deuteronomy 31:6, 8; Hebrews 13:5).

And finally when they had their permanent place, the land He instructed to build them a permanent temple at one place where He could meet His people regularly.

After centuries His desire to dwell physically with His people was revealed to prophet Isaiah, "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14). Immanuel means "God is with us" (Matthew 1:23). And John confirmed this, "and the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).

To dwell among His people, God had to become a man, take physical birth through Virgin Mary and fulfill all the requirements of His Father God to restore lost man to His original relationship and fellowship for which He created the man. The blood of bulls and rams were not sufficient to permanently remove forgive the sin which separated man from God so he had to die on the Cross and shed His precious Blood and pay the penalty and get the man back to Himself.

That was not enough God had another beautiful plan and for that He had to resurrect from the dead on the third day in order to stay in the hearts of every human being who trusts in Him in the form of the Holy Spirit! He told His plan to His disciples, "16. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17. Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you" (John 14:16-17). Hallelujah! What a Awesome God we have and serve!

Beloved, of the Lord, be assured of His love, provision and protection for you and for your families at this time! He is the Immanuel; God is with us and not only with us but in us! "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that Is in you, than he that is in the world." (I John 4:4). "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you..." (Romans 8:11). Let us continue to trust Him Alone!

May our good Lord continue to bless you and your families! Prema and I love you so dearly and pray for you daily! Write us for we love to hear from you!

Remember, <u>Jesus is Lord</u> and take with you <u>the Word of God and Faith</u>, excellent traveling Companions. (Psalms 119:105; II Corinthians 5:7).



Let us Praise our good God, worship Him and thank Him for His manifold blessings. Let us say out loud these verses over our families, over our churches and over everyone! He has promised us, "..for I am the LORD that healeth thee" (Exodus 15:26).