Make Me a Sanctuary Part 2

By Tracy Hogan February 22 and March 1, 2014

Read Exodus 35:5-22 (highlight verses 5, 10, 21 and 22)

Notice that to build the physical "tabernacle," the Lord required only "the best materials:" gold, silver, fine linen, precious stones and it was VOLUNTARY – "whoever is of a willing and generous heart." (verse 5).

Note: It required wisdom to know that "this offering" was for higher purposes, God's purposes and the sacrifice/offering was great; it cost a lot (verse 10).

Let me ask some questions: If this was required to build the tabernacle/sanctuary for His holy presence to come and abide in their midst, so that He could dwell amongst them and teach them His ways, lead them, protect them and provide their every need, then how much more should we be willing to bring our "voluntary offerings" to Him? To die to self, and to the ways of this world's fatal systems, so that we can prepare and make our hearts a place where He can tabernacle within us? So that He can reside in ALL of our heart, and not just the areas of our lives that we pick and choose, as to how much we are willing to let go to Him? Are we willing to give Him all that He wants – an undivided heart that is totally yielded to His Spirit to worship Him in Spirit and Truth? (John 4:23). For God is Spirit, and this is how He created us to worship Him, and He desires for us to become the Bride of Messiah, so that the Lamb of God can receive the Reward of His Suffering.

It is ONLY when we surrender ALL of our will for His will, can the Lord come and tabernacle in us in the fullest stature that He desires and created us to walk in, today, on this earth, now!

Exodus 36:3 Freewill offering every morning, everyday it requires our freewill offering, offering our will for His in word, thought and deed, all situations, all the time, not just the ones we pick and choose.

This requires our "voluntary obedience/sacrifices/love offerings. It is not a one-time occurrence in our life.

We need to constantly remember that He is coming for a Bride without spot or wrinkle. He will not settle for less.

Describe marriage of man and woman; it requires each other's faithfulness - He will not marry a harlot.

Exodus 36:13 Tabernacle when built became ONE UNIT! He is coming back for ONE Bride, who has made herself ready.

Exodus 35:21 This shows it will always be our choice. He will never force us to give up the things in our lives that are harmful to us and our relationship with Him. If we choose rightly, to deny our fleshly desires, He will help us overcome. He will be our biggest cheerleader. BUT we have to decide.

Exodus 35:22 Everyone brought "offering of gold." Gold represents holiness. Notice it says "everyone" – the call to be His Bride is to all.

We are called to be holy because he is holy (1 Peter 1:15-16).

How do we become holy? We started to talk about this last time; by the Fruit of the Spirit, putting away the works of the flesh, and dying to self. By our moving towards holiness, purity, truth and intimacy in our lives, we are moving away from the work of the flesh. We know that we need to ABIDE IN HIS LOVE – by His grace, let Him perfect us in love in our trials, afflictions, and tests.

Why is this Abiding Important? Psalms 91:1 He Who Dwells in the Secret Place...

Notice that first, there is a call to action on our part. He who *dwells* in the secret place...we have our responsibility; our part is to dwell, and this enables Him to do His part in us and through us.

Notice that secondly, there is a provision for us IF we do our part – look what God promises to do for us – the

promises of Psalm 91 will be ours in the fullest measure!

John 15:4-14 He who dwells in Me - MY LOVE

4 Dwell in Me, and I will dwell in you. [Live in Me, and I will live in you.] Just as no branch can bear fruit of itself without abiding in (being vitally united to) the vine, neither can you bear fruit unless you abide in Me. 5 I am the Vine; you are the branches. Whoever lives in Me and I in him bears much (abundant) fruit. However, apart from Me [cut off from vital union with Me] you can do nothing. 6 If a person does not dwell in Me, he is thrown out like a [broken-off] branch, and withers; such branches are gathered up and thrown into the fire, and they are burned.

Isaiah 32:17 The effects of righteousness is peace. This peace speaks of an internal peace within our spirit, mind/soul and body, regardless of what is happening all around us in our lives.

If we do not have this peace in our life – we are the problem, not God. There is something or several things in our lives that are not aligning with His righteousness.

Why is it so important that we read the written Word every day, and that we are disciplined in this area of our life, along with prayer? So that we can have an encounter with the Living Word (1 John 1) that transforms us, so that we know what God's Word says and know His instructions for how we are to live our lives, and conduct ourselves. So that we know what kind of behavior is good or bad, and what will bring either death or life into our lives, spiritually speaking, and what will either cause us to grow or wither and die.

To "hear," when used in the Bible, is a two-part meaning. Not just that we hear with our natural ears, but after we hear, when we then "obey/do" what we hear. It requires an action on our part (James 1:22-25).

Hebrews 5:8 although he was the Son of God, he learned "obedience" through suffering unto death.

So shall it be for us – He never said our lives would be easy. That is how we learn obedience. We bear lasting, good fruit in our lives from what we suffer, from the fiery trials of afflictions, from persecution, and from our own errors that cause us much pain, because we did not know any better. And sometimes we did know better, but we chose to do what we wanted anyway, instead of yielding our will to His will.

John 14:23 if someone loves me

Jeremiah 32:19 Whose eyes are open to all the ways of the sons of men, **to reward** *or* **repay each one according to his ways** and according to the fruit of his doings

Hebrews 5:8 He learned obedience through suffering

WHY Does He wants us to go through this? The Lamb is going to receive the Reward of His suffering. He is coming for a Bride Who has made herself ready, who is without spot or wrinkle (our consecration/His sanctification) She will have his very character and nature and all that He has will be hers, to restore this earth back to righteousness in the Millennium Reign for a 1000 years. (1st/2nd Resurrection).

Ephesians: 5:27 That He might present the church to Himself in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such things [that she might be holy and faultless].

Again, this is absolutely possible and what He is after in His Church – He set the example for us when He walked this earth and said that we are to conduct our lives on this earth as He did. This is what the Word of God teaches us.

The Bride of Messiah will be perfected in this earth through suffering (Lamb) and through intercession/warfare (warrior Bride). He is the Prince of Peace living within me, but He is a warrior/captain of the host of heavens army to restore this earth back to righteousness, and there is a very real war/battle going on in the spiritual realm. **Ephesians 6**

Ephesians: 4:12 Perfect NOW

Philippians 3:12-14, Press on, perfect, the prize **Colossians 1:28** Present, fully mature, perfect

Revelation 19:7-9 Let us rejoice and shout for joy! Let us celebrate and ascribe to Him glory and honor, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and **His bride has prepared herself. 8** She has been permitted **to dress in fine linen**, dazzling and white, the righteousness (the upright, just, and godly living, deeds, and conduct, and right standing with God) of the saints, **9** Then [the angel] said to me, Write this down: Blessed are those who are invited/called, to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

WE MUST LEARN HOW TO DRESS OURSELVES IN OUR WEDDING GARMENTS. We are in dress rehearsal NOW! We don't want to waste the time, as the hour is late and the day is dark and the Bridegroom is coming very soon. We don't want to be like the five foolish virgins in Matthew 25 who did not have oil in their lamps. They MISSED Him, and He said, when they came knocking after He shut the door, "I do not know you." This speaks of our relationship with Him. They did not take the time to know Him, and they treated Him with contempt. They were too busy for Him, and they did not consider Him worth knowing, until it was too late. Therefore, they were NOT chosen to be His Bride, the door was shut on them and they missed the Wedding Supper of the Lamb. I promise you again, you will have great regret if you are not the Bride, great regret – it is worth dying for, if that is what He may require of some!

Closing: We can see when looking in the natural what was involved to build the physical "tabernacle" for God to come dwell with His people. It was:

- 1) A process it took much time.
- 2) Requires voluntary obedience, sacrifices and free will offerings.
- 3) It was costly only the best was used no compromise, no mixture allowed.
- 4) Everyone brought offerings of "gold" means they were holy, set apart for His eternal purposes.
- 5) It means surrendering our will for His they had "willing, generous hearts" and they were willing to pay the high price.
- 6) It was ALL built according to all that the Lord commanded Moses. It was built His way and not man's fallen ways.

God has a plan for us. Because of the fall of Adam, even though we are "born again" and we have a new spirit man, our sin nature/old man, that is, **our soul** is not automatically saved at our new birth. It needs to be renewed and purified. If that process does not take place in our soul, we will not grow and mature into the deeper purposes that God has for our lives. We will not go onto perfection and fulfill our high and lofty destinies. We will stay as baby Christians: stagnant, missing the high call on our lives – to be the Bride of Messiah. It takes time to build Him a tabernacle in our hearts, so that He can come and made His abode in us in the fullest measure that He desires. It is a process, and in that process, we get to decide how much we are willing to let Him come and dwell within us. This is determined by the choices we make every day in our lives. By how willing we are to live a consecrated life unto Him so Truth can come sanctify us, and by how willing we are to surrender our will for His. By how willing we are to deny ourselves, and to take up our cross and follow the Lamb wherever He may lead, regardless of how much it may cost us. It is not easy journey, but I promise, if you say yes and are willing, it will be worth any price you may have to pay, to be one with Him, to have union with Him, and to be the Bride, ruling and reigning with Him for all of eternity.

Notes do not reflect all that was spoken when first taught, but are just that – notes for the author's use to teach from. Therefore, because more detail was shared when spoken, notes have a potential to be misconstrued, pending on the readers level of understanding of the Holy Scriptures, if not understood with all that was spoken.