

GOD'S HOUSE

Exodus 25:1-9; 35:5; 20-29; 36:5-7; 3:20-22

Introduction: Drive around any small community, town, even large cities and you will sooner or later see a building that is called a "church." No two are exactly alike. Some are very simple, some are very elaborate. Some are but a single large room, some have several floors and buildings. Some have steeples, some have stained glass, some have large signs depicting the church's activities, etc., while some only have the name of the church painted over the doorway. Why so different? Why a "church" building in the first place, can't God be worshipped anywhere?

I. WHY THERE IS A "HOUSE OF WORSHIP"

1. First of all, God, Himself, separated for Himself a particular people.
2. God wants His people to have a familiar, easier place of access to Him.
3. A "place" of worship benefits God's people/family, for God cannot be contained.

II. THE TABERNACLE IS THE FIRST EXAMPLE OF A "HOUSE" OF WORSHIP

1. Israel had been deep in sin and now had an opportunity to exalt God.
2. Great importance is placed upon obtaining wealth, honor, security today as it has always been.
3. A worthy ambition arose - to have God with them, a suitable "house" - a proper means of access to and communication with God would be good for everyone.
4. It would seem that God's people/family would be at least as interested in a "house" for Him as for their own selves.

III. GOD BUILT HIS OWN "HOUSE"/TABERNACLE OF WORSHIP

1. Before leaving Egypt, God touched the Egyptians in such a way that it caused them to give to the Israelites (former slaves) the very best things of their own possessions, which would be needed some time later.
2. Everyone of God's children had something to give when God asked them to give to build His tabernacle.
3. When asked, everyone gave freely, instantly and were more anxious to give to God's House than to keep the things that had been given to them by the Egyptians.
4. Everyone gave from the heart, from the spirit.

5. So great was the desire to give, so great was their love to God, so great was their obedience that they gave too much.

CONCLUSION:

1. What would happen today if we had this same attitude?
 - God's House came first.
 - God's Honor came first.
 - Obedience to God came first.
2. How easy it would be to build a house for God.
3. Should we not have as much interest, zeal as did Israel?
 - We have been saved from sin.
 - We have been sealed with the Holy Spirit.
 - We have an eternal place being prepared for us by God, Himself.
 - We shall have a new body when we leave this world.
 - We can daily walk with God, right now.
4. God's House, no matter the size, or what it looks like, started out as a meeting place of God and His chosen people. Is it still that?