

And The Glory Of The LORD Filled The Tabernacle

Ex 40:33 "And he reared up the court round about the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the hanging of the court gate. So Moses finished the work. **34 ¶** Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. **35** 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. **36** And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys: **37** But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up. **38** For the cloud of the LORD was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys."

As we consider this text: We wish to paint the prophetic picture of the coming of Jesus Christ, and the establishment of the age of Salvation by Grace, in which we are living today.

Ex 40:33 "So Moses finished the work." We also find in: **Ex 40:16 ¶ "Thus did Moses: according to all that the LORD commanded him, so did he."** Wherefore, the background for our portrait painting is laid. You can see where Joshua also did all that the Lord commanded him. Both men are prophetic portraits of Jesus Christ. We know that Jesus did all that God the Father commanded him, because of what he said in: **Joh 19:30 "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."**

Consider what happened when "**Moses finished the work**" of setting up the tabernacle. **Ex 40:34 ¶ "Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle."** Now we have the setting for the prophetic picture of the age of Salvation by Grace. How, you ask? First, let us consider the tabernacle. How does the tabernacle apply to us today? It is the picture of the bodies of God's chosen people in mortality, as seen in:

- **2Co 5:1 ¶ "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."** This scripture teaches us: thought our mortal body die and return to the dust of the earth; yet, in the eternal resurrection, our mortal bodies shall arise in immortality, and go to our eternal home, which Jesus Christ has gone to prepare for us.
- **2Co 5:4 "For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life."** This scripture teaches us: that having been given eternal life, we struggle, in the daily struggles of living a Christian life, in a mortal body. However, we understand mortality will be swallowed up in eternal life, in eternal resurrection.

Now, consider our text: "**So Moses finished the work.**" When Moses had completed setting up the tabernacle, which had the holiest of holy places, which contained the ark of God in the Mercy Seat, "**Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.**" Do you see now begin to see the picture of what happened to bring to fruition the Age of Salvation by Grace? Before Jesus ascended back into the immortal heavens, he told us: **Joh 15:26; 26 "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: 27 And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning."** When Jesus said "**It is finished**" as he gave up the ghost on the cross, He, having accomplished eternal remission of sins for all of God's people, made it possible for the descent of the Holy Spirit, the cloud of the glory of the Lord, to this earth.

Well, we still do not see how this relates to us. What is the body of the child of God? It is the tabernacle of the Lord. The new birth, of a child of God, gives us the picture of the Holy Spirit descending from heaven into the tabernacle, our body. The heart and soul are representative of the most holy place, where the mercy seat is in the tabernacle, which is Christ in you.

We see this picture in: **Ex 25:22 "And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel."** Now, the place for communing with God is re-established in our hearts and souls, which were dead in trespasses and sins.

What happened after the cloud of the glory of the Lord first descended upon the tabernacle? It remained over the tabernacle until Israel was delivered into the land of promise. It led Israel over all the wilderness journey, until they finally reached the land of promise. What are you given when you are born again? You are given eternal life in Christ, and the Holy Spirit presence of Christ in you. The Comforter shall not ever leave the

reborn heart and soul of a child of God, even while they are traveling upon the way through the wilderness to the eternal land of promise. The cloud, of the glory of the Lord, shall remain on earth until time is no more.

Ex 40:36 And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys: 37 But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up. 38 For the cloud of the LORD was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys."

We find in these verses how the travel of Israel was affected by the cloud, of the glory of the Lord. They moved when the cloud moved and when the cloud was still, they rested. It is the same in the life of a Child of God. When the Holy Spirit moves into our hearts, we immediately begin to know God. Thereafter, we should live a life showing forth the glory of the Lord, as the Holy Spirit leads us. We know that Israel failed many times in their journey to the land of promise. We know that we will fail many times in our journey to the eternal land of promise.

We notice by day it was the cloud of the Lord, and by night it was fire. Why the difference? The difference is that at night, the cloud would not have been visible without the added fire, which gave light for Israel to continue their journey. The cloud of the Lord by day tells us: we are given eyes to see the Holy Spirit power of God manifested in our daily struggles in life. However, in the struggles of life, sometimes the way is very dark, and we cannot see, except the fire of the Holy Ghost lightens our way and gives us strength to continue our journey to the land of promise. This is the manifestation of what we are told of in: ***Heb 13:5-6; 5 "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. 6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."***

Now, we can see, by the revelations from God, how when "***Moses finished the work***" and "***the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle***" is a prophetic picture of the age of Salvation by Grace. Just as it was necessary, for Moses to finish all the work God gave him to do, in preparing the tabernacle and all its parts: so, it was necessary for Jesus to come to earth, and finish all the work God gave him to do, to establish the Church of Salvation by Grace, and all its integral parts. Just as when the work of Moses on the tabernacle was finished it was filled with the cloud of the Lord, so with the finished work of Jesus Christ, each child of God is filled with the Holy Spirit of God, Christ in you.

Wherefore, we are reminded again of the truth that Jesus spoke, of the Old Testament scriptures, when he said in: ***Joh 5:39 "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."*** Thank you, Lord Jesus, for sending us the Holy Spirit; to give us eyes that see, ears that hear, and hearts that understand. We thank you for your finished work.

There is also the eternal prophesy of the cloud of the Lord. What will happen when Christ returns? ***Ac 1:9-11; 9 "And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."*** Christ shall descend, in the cloud of the glory of the Lord, receive all of God's people, and carry them to their eternal place of abode. We look forward to the eternal resurrection and our sinless, immortal bodies, which will reveal to us, the eternal completion of your work of Salvation by the Grace of God. Hallelujah! Amen!