

Joshua Remains In The Tabernacle Exodus 33:11

Ex 33:1 ¶ "And the LORD said unto Moses, Depart, and go up hence, thou and the people which thou hast brought up out of the land of Egypt, unto the land which I sware unto Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, Unto thy seed will I give it: 2 And I will send an angel before thee; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite: 3 Unto a land flowing with milk and honey: for I will not go up in the midst of thee; for thou art a stiffnecked people: lest I consume thee in the way. 4 And when the people heard these evil tidings, they mourned: and no man did put on him his ornaments. 5 For the LORD had said unto Moses, Say unto the children of Israel, Ye are a stiffnecked people: I will come up into the midst of thee in a moment, and consume thee: therefore, now put off thy ornaments from thee, that I may know what to do unto thee. 6 And the children of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments by the mount Horeb. 7 ¶ And Moses took the tabernacle, and pitched it without the camp, afar off from the camp, and called it the Tabernacle of the congregation. And it came to pass, that every one which sought the LORD went out unto the tabernacle of the congregation, which was without the camp. 8 And it came to pass, when Moses went out unto the tabernacle, that all the people rose up, and stood every man at his tent door, and looked after Moses, until he was gone into the tabernacle. 9 And it came to pass, as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the LORD talked with Moses. 10 And all the people saw the cloudy pillar stand at the tabernacle door: and all the people rose up and worshipped, every man in his tent door. 11 And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle."

Prior to verse 11, we are not told that Joshua is in the picture. This demonstrates that Jesus was hidden from the Old Testament saints, because all they had was the prophesy of his coming. There is a special picture here that I want us to see in the scene: Joshua, Moses's servant, remained in the Tabernacle. Thus, we see Moses as the figure of God the Father, and Joshua as a picture of God the Son. But you say that God and Jesus are equal. Yes, but who learned obedience by his death on the cross? It was Jesus. In that perspective: as Joshua was servant to Moses: Jesus was servant to God the Father. If you search the definition of Joshua, you will find it is another name for Jesus, which is defined as the self-existent one, which simply describes Jesus as deity. Because Jesus is self-existent, it shows us how he could resurrect him prepared body from the dead.

What was in the Tabernacle that represented Jesus? The Mercy Seat. Joshua remaining in the tabernacle gives us the picture that Jesus was hidden from view in the Tabernacle, for Israel. When Jesus died on the cross and the veil of the temple was rent in twain, the mercy seat was revealed, which is the revelation of Jesus to the new Testament Church. Joshua remaining in the Tabernacle is a picture of Jesus remaining in us from the new birth forward, which is manifested by the presence of the Holy Spirit indwelling God's chosen people.

Wherefore, Jesus has done what no other could do, which is: Jesus raised himself from the dead: and Jesus has ascended back to heaven to his rightful place as God the Son. Yet, Jesus remains in the Tabernacle, the New Testament Church today, and is still represented on earth in the heart, mind, soul, and body, of every believer, by the Holy Spirit presence of Christ in us. Jesus has ascended back to heaven, and there Jesus is our High Priest, who is pleading our cause before God the Father. Wherefore, as Joshua, Moses's servant, remained in the tabernacle, we see that Jesus remains in the tabernacle.

We also know that Joshua remaining in the tabernacle is a picture of Jesus, because Joshua is the one who will lead Israel into the land of promise. Likewise, Jesus will lead us into the eternal land of promise, which He has gone to prepare for us. We have further confirmation of this scene in, *Heb 13:12-15; 12 "Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. 13 Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. 14 For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. 15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."*

As Children of God, we have an expected end. As we gather around the communion table, to commemorate the life, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus to the eternal heaven: we remember that it is His finished work that will take us to our eternal home, whenever he returns and speaks the word for the dead in Christ to rise first. Thank you, King Jesus, for the sacrifice of yourself, for our eternal remission of sins and eternal life in the place you have gone to prepare for us. Hallelujah! Amen!