

# ***GOD'S PRESENCE***

By

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## **Part 1– God Dwelling in the Midst**

I want us to consider our Great Salvation by The Finished Work of The Cross: specifically focusing on God's wonderful PROVISION for us. And recently my heart has been greatly encouraged, but also profoundly challenged by God's Heart in **Isaiah 5:4**: *"What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes?"* And the question to natural Israel then, and to us as Believers now is: what more could have been done to His Vineyard that He has not done in it? The answer is NOTHING! I want us to understand that God provided everything that natural Israel needed to walk in Covenant Relationship with Him. And it is not less – but MUCH MORE for us today! But I want to stress that I am speaking of God's Provision for them as His Redeemed Son so that they as His People would make this Relationship known in the earth. It was not just so that things would be easier for them, but that they would be the presencing of this Relationship with Jehovah God in the earth.

But even though He provided everything for them they still did not appreciate what He did and walk in obedience to

Him. And as I read the Old Testament scriptures that truly saddens my heart. But the real sadness in my heart today is for us: for we are NOT living in the types and shadows of Salvation as they were, but in The Truth – in the Reality that has been made known. And this is because we today have God’s full Provision: The Finished Work of The Cross of Christ. But yet sadly we still are living unto ourselves – not unto Him; still not appreciating Him and what He has done.

And if God brought a harsh judgment on natural Israel who (even in the types and shadows) refused Him: what about us? **Hebrews 2:1:** *“Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. 2: For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; 3: How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; 4: God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?”* How shall WE escape God’s judgment and punishment if we do not honor and appreciate what He has already done? This is so very serious to me! And we must honor Him not just on special days when we “go to church”: but in everything we say and do! This is the challenge God continues to bring to my heart. Are we honoring His Name in all we do? We like to “call on His Name” when we have a need: but do we honor His Name every day, and in every situation?

As I considered this very seriously before the Lord (and I pray that you will also), I realized that this is so serious

because God did not just provide “things” for His People. **He provided HIMSELF!** It is God’s very Presence amongst His People that set them apart from others, and they were to live continually in that understanding. But I want us to see that His Presence was not only a great blessing and assurance: but His Presence was also to dictate their daily lives. There are consequences when THE I AM dwells among you! I keep saying that if “we say” Christ dwells in us, then there should be a manifest presencing of Christ: of HIM – in us, and we should function daily in the understanding that HE is here! He is present! He is in me, and that sets me apart from others. He knows my darkness and works within me to give me His Light. So we don’t have to try in ourselves to “do better”: but allow The Better One who is in me to “BE”: to rule me. We should be living always acknowledging His Presence, and being changed by The One who is presently present in us.

Now this is set forth for us in the Scriptures when God first brought Israel out of Egypt. They would not be alone, struggling on their own. **His Presence was with them!** **Exodus 13:21:** *“And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by 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.”* This was the Lord Himself: Jehovah -The Covenant God to His People who went before them – by day and night. He would be with them all the time! But notice why: to lead them the way and to give them light. And look at this assurance for them: He took not the cloud or fire of His Presence away from before the People! So even before He gave them “things”, He gave them Himself – His Presence.

And I want us to see that this was from God's viewpoint to be continually. The Presence of THE I AM – The Covenant God – Jehovah was to be perpetually with His People, and He would oversee them continually. HIS Presence being with them was to be their assurance: giving them peace, strength, rest; and God wanted them to live daily knowing He was with them. This is the nature of this Relationship that God had called a People into, and this set them apart from all other nations. So as He provided “things” for them (water, bread, deliverance) He was making His Presence known to them. But this was not only that He was there physically: but He wanted them to know, experience – **HIM** – who He is: His Nature and Character, His Mind and Heart – in their midst. What I want us to see is that this God was not far off from them: HE was there dwelling in their midst. And this has always been God's heart, so He made His Presence known to His People so that they could make Him known in the earth.

God desired that His Presence dwell (habitually find rest) with His People, so He told Moses to build a Tabernacle. **Exodus 25:8:** *“And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.”* The word “that” denotes Purpose: the Tabernacle was so that HE could dwell in the midst of the People He had redeemed unto Himself. And when all was built according to His Pattern (the Heavenly Truth) He would dwell there and make His Presence known. And what is important for us to understand is that Jehovah not only wanted to dwell there, but more importantly He desired to make HIS Presence KNOWN: so they would know WHO This Jehovah, THE I AM was. And this would be made known in and by the lives of His People: those with whom He dwelt; those who were living in Covenant Relationship with

Him in the earth. Now under the Old Covenant His actual Presence, His Glory was hidden in The Holy of Holies in The Ark of The Testimony. But it was out from this place (this is “Heaven” in type) that God communed with the people and met them. We read this in Exodus 25. And it is interesting that when God gives the instructions for building the Tabernacle He starts with the Ark: signifying that everything comes out of the Revelation of Himself. And He wants to make Himself known to man by this Covenant Relationship. But the worshiper begins from himself to God: and that must be by the altar and sacrifices. But we must see how important the Ark is. **Exodus 25:21:** *“And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee. 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.”* God says this is My Testimony: My Presence will be here and I will meet you and commune with you here, regarding all that I have for you.

God always remained faithful to that Ark and His Testimony, (to Himself) and The Tabernacle in which He would dwell that was built His way. But I want us to see that God desired to be present with His People: dwelling with them and filling them with His Presence. This is what happened when the Tabernacle and later the Temple was finished. **Exodus 40:20:** *“And he took and put the testimony into the ark, and set the staves on the ark, and put the mercy seat above upon the ark: 21: And he brought the ark into the tabernacle, and set up the vail of the covering, and covered the ark of the testimony; as the LORD commanded Moses...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.”* The Glory of The Lord (His Presence) filled the Tabernacle and Moses couldn’t enter the tent because the Cloud abode there! The Presence of Jehovah God fills that Tabernacle and man must leave! Now the Cloud stayed with them and directed The People in everything they did. And God’s People were to live continually in the knowledge and assurance of their Jehovah God’s Presence with them. And when they did, things went well with them. But when they didn’t they had problems!

Now these “stories” are interesting, but they now must become Reality to us. We know Jesus said in **John 14:23**: *“...If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.”* And we need to settle that fact: that NOW The Father and The Son by His Spirit abides, dwells in us by the Finished Work of The Cross. But the question is – are we Living by His Abiding Presence, and are we making His Presence known in the earth today? **II Corinthians 2:14**: *“Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and **maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.**”* This is the challenge in my heart for us as Believers. **I John 4:11**: *“Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. 12: No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13: Hereby*

*know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit. 14: And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. 15: Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. 16: And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. 17: Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.” We are to be AS HE IS - in this world: making known the Reality of God dwelling in the midst of His People.*

## **Part 2 – Acknowledging His Presence**

We are continuing to consider this glorious Relationship that God has brought us into: that He is our God, and we are His People. And my heart is really saddened that so few Christians have really come to experience the joy, assurance, rest and strength that comes from knowing the Reality of our Salvation. Many are simply content with having a religion: and are dictated (and burdened) by man’s doctrines, religious traditions, and our vain imaginations. And many are still trying to be obedient to an Old Covenant understanding filled with all the types and shadows, but having no Reality operating in their lives. And that is not only sad, but contrary to The Truth of The Finished Work of The Cross. **Galatians 2:21:** *“I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.”*

So there is a seriousness in my heart these days: not because of the economy or the crime rate: but because of The Finished Work of The Cross. We should be living daily in the Reality, the Truth of that! The Lord has burned this scripture in my heart for us: **II Peter 1:12**: *“Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth.”* I know that we “say we know these truths”: and to some degree we do. We memorize the Scriptures and say that we believe them. But God desires that we be **established in the Present Truth**: The Truth, The Reality that is presently here – present in you. And that is speaking of God’s Presence being now in you. And when we truly come to “know” – EXPERIENCE His Presence – in us continually, we will be established!

In our last lesson we looked at this: that God set forth that His Presence would always be with His People: those He had redeemed out from Egypt to come unto Himself. (Reference Exodus 13:21,22 - a cloud by day to lead them the way, and fire by night to give them light.) And He would not take His Presence from them! This is God’s Heart: to be – and remain in the midst of them! Remember God desired this to be HIS dwelling place: where HE would dwell – abide and find HIS rest. And God wanted His People to live daily knowing with an assurance that their Jehovah Covenant God was with them: that His Presence was there with them. This was not a “feeling” they were to have on special occasions, but how they were to live daily: always KNOWING He was with them!



This is a glorious refrain that we see in many of the Psalms. **Psalms 46:1:** *“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”* God **IS**: this denotes a state, something constant. The idea is that God’s Presence is presently present with His People. He is refuge and strength for us because HE is amongst us! **Psalms 46:2:** *“Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;”* Therefore: because God is here – for us and with us, we will not fear. **Psalms 46:5:** *“God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.”* God is in the midst actively making His Presence known. And His Presence in the midst of everything concerning His People causes us not to be moved or distressed. His Presence aides us. **Psalms 46:7:** *“The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.”* The Lord of Hosts is The Warrior, The Victorious God is with us! SELAH – pause to consider and weigh the Truth and ramifications of that! This is all about WHO HE IS – in the midst of you! **Psalms 46:10:** *“Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. 11: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.”* God is encouraging His People to be still (cease from your own efforts and your own thoughts) and know (experience intimately) that **I AM GOD**, I will be exalted! The assurance for God’s People is that God IS... He will always be WHO He is, but He is Who He is – WHERE He is. **And He is in the midst of you!** His Presence – the Abiding Presence of the Fulness of all that He is – is present in you! His Presence (His Life, His Nature) dwells in His dwelling place, and the savor of Him abides where He abides: and that is IN - (AS ONE) WITH HIS PEOPLE!

We see this in type in the Old Covenant when the Glory of God – His Presence comes and fills the Tabernacle and Temple (**Exodus 40, 1 Kings 8**). But this is after these are built according to God's Heavenly Pattern. And this all much more gloriously comes to be fulfilled by The Work of The Cross. Before The Cross Jesus promised to send The Comforter, The Spirit of Truth who would abide. The important word to see is "ABIDE". **John 14:16:** *"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.**"* Now The Presence of God would ABIDE IN BELIEVERS! **John 14:23:** *"Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and **make our abode with him.**"* This is God's Place of dwelling: where His Presence now resides – in us!

And as we have said previously: this should affect you! **Hebrews 13:5:** *"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."* Be content with what you have: **you have The Presence of God in you: you have The Resurrected Christ as your Life!** Please consider this before The Lord. This is not something you are going to get some day: but this is the Reality of our Salvation Relationship NOW. That Presence will never leave you or forsake you! And in that understanding you know The Lord is your helper, and you don't fear man. Why? Because of the nature of God's Presence! **Hebrews 13:8:** *"Jesus Christ the*

*same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.” Jesus Christ is... and He is Who He is – always The Same in us!*

So the challenge to us is how many of us are living daily in the assurance of His Presence: that He is presently present? And are we allowing His Presence to rule us, to control “our” lives? **Numbers 9** details for us how Israel was dictated by the cloud of Jehovah’s Presence. **Numbers 9:15:** *“And on the day that the tabernacle was reared up the cloud covered the tabernacle, namely, the tent of the testimony: and at even there was upon the tabernacle as it were the appearance of fire, until the morning. 16: So it was alway: the cloud covered it by day, and the appearance of fire by night.17: And when the cloud was taken up from the tabernacle, then after that the children of Israel journeyed: and in the place where the cloud abode, there the children of Israel pitched their tents.18: At the commandment of the LORD the children of Israel journeyed, and at the commandment of the LORD they pitched: as long as the cloud abode upon the tabernacle they rested in their tents.19: And when the cloud tarried long upon the tabernacle many days, then the children of Israel kept the charge of the LORD, and journeyed not.20: And so it was, when the cloud was a few days upon the tabernacle; according to the commandment of the LORD they abode in their tents, and according to the commandment of the LORD they journeyed.21: And so it was, when the cloud abode from even unto the morning, and that the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they journeyed: whether it was by day or by night that the cloud was taken up, they journeyed.22: Or whether it were two days, or a month, or a year, that the cloud tarried upon the tabernacle, remaining thereon, the children of Israel abode in their tents, and journeyed not: but*

*when it was taken up, they journeyed. 23: At the commandment of the LORD they rested in the tents, and at the commandment of the LORD they journeyed: they kept the charge of the LORD, at the commandment of the LORD by the hand of Moses.”*

The biggest issue was they were OBEDIENT to the Cloud (God’s Presence) in their midst. Everything to Israel (at least at this point) revolved around the Cloud: they kept their eyes on the Cloud. When it rested – they rested. When it moved – they agreed to move with it. The alternative would have been to be alone – by themselves – without God’s Presence in the wilderness! That would have been death: but living by His Presence in their midst brought them peace and rest. And that is how God’s People should be living daily!

And I want us to clearly understand although this was in type, we are not speaking of a cloud of vapor but the actual Mind, Will and Life of Jehovah God – Jehovah Himself! And if they were not obedient to the Cloud, then in essence they were being disobedient to God Himself – to their Covenant God: The Holy One who was always Faithful to His Covenant! “The Cloud of Glory” was God Himself, and God’s desire was for them to always live and function daily in an awareness of His Presence. So we turn to a very favorite Scripture in **Proverbs 3:5**: *“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.6: In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”* The admonition is to trust The Lord – your Jehovah Covenant God. Notice the use of the word “all”: all thine heart, in all thy ways. God wants His People to acknowledge His Presence in everything and to live continually in the understanding of Him being presently and perpetually with them.

“Acknowledge” means not only to know intellectually and agree with this: but to consider, take into account, honor – **HIM**. And further, God not only wants us to acknowledge Who He is (although we do need to know I AM); but He wants us perpetually to know where He is. And He is continually dwelling in us! And He is **actively** dwelling in us: not passively; but actively at work where He presently is – making His Presence known in us. Because this is the Reality of our Salvation, God is at work IN US – not just in earthly situations - making His Presence known. But we have to **ACKNOWLEDGE** His Presence at all times in everything! Why? Because WE are where He presently dwells! **I Corinthians 3:16:** *“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? 17: If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.”* And I pray we would seriously acknowledge this Reality: not just quote the Scriptures. And because of Who He is – now in us, it is His Presence that changes us if we are acknowledging Him being present as He is: our very Life, and all that we need. Then our obedience would not be to a set of rules, but to the very Presence of The Living God in our midst! And then we as Believers would be The Presencing of Him here in the earth. This is what God desires for us.

## Part 3 – Coming into God’s Presence

As we are continuing to look at what God has provided for His People using natural Israel as a type in the Scriptures, I hope we are seeing that the greatest “thing” God provided was HIMSELF – His Presence in their midst. It is the fulness of Jehovah God that would be abiding with them, and this would define them as His People. This is not a bunch of people talking about a God they didn’t know and who was far away from them. Sadly, this is what is prevalent in Christianity today. But God determined to live in the midst of His People and His Presence was to be actively involved with them continually and was to dictate their daily lives. Listen to Moses when he spoke to the Lord after the people had sinned by making the Golden Calf. Moses knew the importance of God’s Presence.

**Exodus 33:12:** *“And Moses said unto the LORD, See, thou sayest unto me, Bring up this people: and thou hast not let me know whom thou wilt send with me. Yet thou hast said, I know thee by name, and thou hast also found grace in my sight.**13:** Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people.**14:** And he said, **My presence shall go with thee**, and I will give thee rest.**15:** And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence.**16:** For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? is it not in **that thou goest with***

*us? so shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth.”* If the Presence of The Lord wasn’t with them, Moses did not want to go anywhere! And he said God’s People knew that they had found Grace because Jehovah God – His Presence was going with them. And God’s Presence in their midst separated them from all other people of the earth. And I really want us to consider this. What separates us from all other people? It is not by having a “religion”: many people have religions. But what is different, and therefore should make a difference in us is that we have the very Presence of God dwelling in us by His Spirit! Please take time and consider this! So God dwelling in the Tabernacle in the midst of Israel is the type of God dwelling in the Church today: in The Body of Christ, in us. And as we acknowledge His Presence in us, and allow Him to be Who He is and work in us, we will be the Presencing of this Jehovah God in the earth (making Him known): and this is what God desired for His People: those who were called by His Name.

This has all come to be fulfilled for us by The Lord Jesus by The Cross. He left the Presence of The Father to come to earth to die so that He could bring many sons to Glory: (to God’s Presence: a relationship of Oneness with The Father) **Hebrews 2:9:** *“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. 10: For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”* And in the Resurrection He has returned to God’s Presence, but He also brings a People who are IN HIM into God’s Presence, and by dwelling in that People He

brings God's Presence into them. This is what Jesus said The Spirit of Truth will cause you to "know" after The Cross – not just intellectually, but experience intimately. **John 14:20:** *"At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you."*

The Resurrected Son is IN His Father – at rest at His Right Hand having accomplished His Will. But Jesus says you are IN Me resting in The Finished Work of The Cross: having no Life but Me. And I have brought you to where I am – into My Father; and I am IN you bringing the very Presence of God to abide in you – as Life. It is all summed up by Jesus who says in **John 14:6:** *"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."* I want us to appreciate that the Adamic man CANNOT go into the Presence of God or have the Presence of God dwell in him. This is exclusively the Work of The Son of Man. And by The Work of The Cross: by eliminating the flesh man who could NOT go to God, as a New Creation He brings us into God's Presence, and brings God's Presence into us! It is ONLY by Jesus Christ! And this is why we have to appreciate, honor and obey the Lord Jesus who is God's Provision for us. **He is The Only One who was able to bring us to God, and to bring God to us.** I am reminded of what Jesus said to the Samaritan woman at the well. **John 4:10:** *"If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water."* Notice He did not say A gift – but THE gift! So we have to come to fully know who He is and that He has done what no one else could do!

We have spoken of God's Presence dwelling in His People, but now I want to consider a People coming into God's



Presence. And we must clearly understand that the Adamic man cannot come into God's Presence. We know that God came and walked and talked with Adam in the garden before Adam ate the wrong tree. But when he did, God put that man OUT from the garden: away from His Presence and that man never had access to the Presence of God again. But **Genesis 3:24** says, "*God kept the way of the tree of life*". This was foreshadowing the Lord Jesus and The Cross, and throughout the Old Testament we see God keeping THE WAY: The Way to Life, The Way into God's Presence.

But this becomes more evident with Israel in the wilderness and the Tabernacle system. Remember when Moses was called to "go up to the Lord in the Mount": where were the people? (**Exodus 19**) They could not go up, they could not hear God or see God for themselves. But God provided Moses as the mediator: as an intercessor between man and God. Moses "as a type of Christ" received God's Word and Pattern and made that known to the People. They relied on him because they could not go themselves.

And I really want us to think about this because the types set forth in the Old Covenant clearly show us that every Israelite (even though he was in Covenant with God) could not just go into The Holy of Holies: into God's Presence by himself. So here we see another of God's Provisions. And that is the Priesthood. And this was out from the tribe of Levi. Now the Levites were given this ministry work because they were faithful to Jehovah. And this is very interesting for us to consider. This happened also at the time that Israel made the Golden Calf to worship in Moses' absence. **Exodus 32:26**: "*Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. And all*

*the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him. 27: And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour. 28: And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.”* The issue was: Who is on The Lord’s side? This is the essence of God’s Priesthood: those who would be faithful to The Lord. They would serve Him in His House, and they would function in God’s House for the People.

But I want us to see how important and necessary the Priesthood was. Even when an Israelite wanted to bring an offering to God, or make a sacrifice to God he could only come to the door of the Temple. They identified with the offering (**Leviticus 1:2–5** for example) but the Priests brought the blood and put the sacrifice on the altar. Why? Because the Priests were sanctified and holy unto The Lord: the people were not. At that time they depended upon the Priests who could go into the Holy Place for them. But even in type God had established that there was only ONE – The High Priest who could come into The Holy of Holies: representing into Heaven itself, into the very Presence of God. But what he did was for ALL of Israel. His Breastplate included twelve stones representing all of Israel. **Exodus 39:6:** *“And they wrought onyx stones inclosed in ouches of gold, graven, as signets are graven, with the names of the children of Israel. 7: And he put them on the shoulders of the ephod, that they should be stones for a memorial to the children of Israel; as the LORD commanded Moses.”* And so by The High Priest all of Israel was accepted and brought

into God's Presence.

Now this was set forth in type to show us the Way that God had provided to bring the People into His very Presence. But remember that the Old Covenant Law never perfected anything: and the People still could not enter into God's Presence with any assurance. This would all be fulfilled by **Christ who is the Better High Priest. Hebrews 7:19:** *"For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God."* This was only accomplished by The Greater High Priest! **Hebrews 7:24:** *"But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. 25: Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."* Christ now appears in Heaven in the Presence of God **for us and fulfills the High Priestly Ministry. Hebrews 9:23:** *"It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. 24: For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, **now to appear in the presence of God for us.**"* And it is by This High Priest today that we can have the assurance of coming into God's Presence: having been made acceptable by HIM and IN HIM, and now we can Rest and Live in the very Presence of God: and enjoy the very Presence of God being presently now present in us by the indwelling Christ!

So my prayer for us is that the Reality of these Scriptures become REAL to us today so that we live daily in The Truth of them:

- **Hebrews 4:14:** *“Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. **15:** For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. **16:** Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”*
  
- **Hebrews 10:19:** *“Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, **20:** By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; **21:** And having an high priest over the house of God; **22:** Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. **23:** Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)”*

This is all because of God's Provision – Christ and The Finished Work of The Cross.

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