**These Perilous Times**

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**The Sanctuary Doctrine**

**Review-Part II**

“In the Old and New Testaments, the sanctuary is presented as the place where God ***dwells* (As mentioned in the last issue of TPT)*.*** Sometimes the earthly sanctuary is intended; other times it is the heavenly sanctuary. Where God ***dwells*** was known as the ***‘Shekinah’*** in Hebrew Rabbinical writings, however not found in the Bible, it means the same as the Hebrew word ‘***Shakan,’*** the presence or nearness of God to His people. [[1]](#footnote-1)

“Give ear O Shepherd of Israel, Thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; thou that ***dwellest*** *between the cherubims*, shine forth.”

Psalms 80:1 KJV (Emphasis supplied)

When constructing the sanctuary and its’ furniture for the *Outer Court*, the *Holy Place* and the *Most Holy* Place, Moses was to build everything connected to the sanctuary with heavenly precision.

**Example**

“And they shall make an ark of shittin wood: *two cubits* and a *half* shall be the *length* thereof, and *a cubit and a half* the *breadth* thereof and *a cubit and a half* the *height* thereof, (45” x 27” x 27”), overlayed with fine gold inside and out… And thou shalt make a mercy seat of pure gold (45”x 27”)… And thou shalt *make two cherubims of gold in the two ends of the mercy seat*… They shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and their faces shall look toward one another… And thou shalt *put the mercy seat above the ark which contains the testimony of God which He gave to Moses*… *And* ***there I will meet with thee***, and I will commune with thee *from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim* which are upon the ark of the testimony…”

Exodus 25:10-22 (Emphasis supplied)

The Psalmist wrote, “‘The ***Lord looked down from His sanctuary on high***, ***from heaven*** He viewed the earth’ “(Psalms 102:19). Habakkuk said, “‘The Lord is in *His holy temple*; let all the earth keep silent before Him’“[[2]](#footnote-2) (Habakkuk 2:20) (Emphasis supplied). Again I must reiterate (as in the last issue of TPT) this text (Psalms 102:19) is not speaking figuratively about some fictitious place, but *God’s literal temple in heaven*, nor is this text speaking of our body temples! TPT will cover I Cor. 3:16, 17; 6:19, 20 in another issue.

**What does this mean for us?**

**Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season**

Seventh-day Adventist believe in a ***literal “Heavenly Sanctuary”*** where Christ is now involved in His ministration in the “Most Holy Place,” known respectively as the “cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary” or “Antitypical Day of Atonement,” which began in 1844 based on Dan. 8:14).

Therefore, we, as also the Israelites of old, on the annual “Day of Atonement,” are now living in a *probationary period* before God. If we only realized the malignity of sin we would indeed through God’s Holy Spirit, live a sanctified life, which Paul speaks of in II Cor. 5:17 and Romans Chapter 6. “…Now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of Salvation.” [[3]](#footnote-3)

When Jesus finishes His Ministration in the “Heavenly Sanctuary.” “…It is done.” [[4]](#footnote-4) Case closed, probation is over! No seven year grace period after Christ returns, to confess and repent of our sins!

What were John’s words that preceded the coming of Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world? [[5]](#footnote-5) “…Repent, ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” [[6]](#footnote-6) What were the words that Jesus spoke after His temptation of the devil concerning Himself? **“…Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand**” (Matthew 4:17 Emphasis supplied).

**Good News!**

If we will confess our sins we have the assurance of forgiveness and being cleansed of all unrighteousness. [[7]](#footnote-7)

**More Good News!**

“*Wherefore He is able also to save us to the uttermost* *that come to God by Him* seeing He ever lives to make intercession for them.”

Heb. 8:25 KJV (Emphasis supplied)



1. SDA Bible Commentary, Vol. 8, p.1020. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. We Believe, “Christ’s Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary,” Signs of the

   Times-Special Edition, Nampa, Idaho Pacific Press Publishing Assn.,

   2007, pp. 30, 31 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. II Cor. 6:2 KJV [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Rev. 16:17 KJV [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. John 1:29, 36 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Matt. 3:2 KJV [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. I John 1:9 [↑](#footnote-ref-7)