

TEMPORARY TENT OF MEETING

In Exodus 33 the Tabernacle is not mentioned once. It has not yet been built. Only this temporary tent of meeting is where God's presence is. God would destroy all the people, or literally make a clean end of them if HE stayed in the camp. ... **for I will not go up in your midst, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people." Ex 33:3**

I. The Command Verses 1-3

1. The Good News

- a. Headed for Canaan after 40 day delay
- b. An Angel will go before and drive them out-God's promise is true

2. The Bad News- God is not going with you

1 Cor 5:2,5 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you... 5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

1 John 5:16 If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.

JOHN KILLED IN A CAR WRECK & JIM SLUMPING IN HIS CHAIR.

Through the grace of Lord Jesus Christ, God's presence can be restored.

II. IMPORTANCE OF THE TENT OF MEETING-verses 7-9

The Hebrew word for Sanctuary is Miqdash pronounced mik-dawsh. The Hebrew word for Tabernacle is "mishkan" signifies "dwelling-place". The words Sanctuary and Tabernacle are not used at all in Exodus 33.

The third Hebrew word for a place of worship which was temporary until the Tabernacle was built is the only word used in Exodus 33. "The Tent" is the Hebrew word "Ohel" which means simply "tent." The meeting-place for His people or Tent of Meeting is an Old Testament picture of the Church. The church age ends with the rapture and is a temporary time on earth, just as our stay on earth is temporary.

Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. God dwells in every believer and Jesus is present in our midst as we congregate. You might say Christians have a double portion when we gather as the Body of Christ. Jesus is in us individually and in our midst corporately. That is indeed greater Glory.

1. The Position of the Tent- outside and afar off from the Camp

2. The Pursuit of the Tent-Ex 33:7 **"Everyone which sought the LORD went out unto the tent of the congregation, which was without the camp."**

A Public Stand-going to the tent was done in the open for all to see.

A Public Invitation-"Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me" (Exodus 32:26). Today I want you to come and tell the pastor. I am on the Lord's side and remain here at the front.

A Passionate Spirit. Only those who "sought the LORD" went outside the camp to the Tent. Dad at the Billy Graham Crusade and the Surgeon. John 4:24

A Personal Separation. True worship requires that we separate from unholy conduct

A Painful Scorn. The writer of Hebrews speaks of this scene when he says, "Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach" (Hebrews 13:13). "Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate" (Hebrews 13:12). It is far better to have the reproach of man than the reproach of God.

3. The Pillar by the Tent verses 9-10

The meaning of the pillar. The pillar represents the presence of God. "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" (Exodus 13:21). Also, in our text here, it is evident the pillar represented the presence of God; for when the "pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tent... the LORD talked with Moses" (v. 9). You will note in your Bible that the words "the LORD" are in italics which means they are not in the Hebrew text but were inserted by the translators to make the reading smoother. Without the italicized words, we read, "the pillar... talked with Moses" (v 10.)

The Motivation From The Pillar. "And all the people saw the cloudy pillar stand at the tent door: and all the people rose up and worshipped, every man in his tent door" (v. 10). If we are truly repentant for our sin, we will worship. Some who have fallen into sin who later tell us they have repented, betray their repentance by failing to show up regularly for worship at church. If you have not been regular in church start showing up.

JUST AS MOSES LOVED ISRAEL SO JESUS LOVES US

They did not appreciate Moses, though they repeatedly murmured and rebelled against Moses, though they manifested their utter unworthiness of his unselfish devotion to them, yet nothing quenched his love for them.

Though the intercession of Moses averted the consuming wrath of God, yet they were "plagued" ([32:35](#)) and this generation did not enter the Holy Land and that included Moses.

"REPENTANCE" IS NOT ONLY FOR THE UNSAVED, IT IS ALSO FOR THOSE WHO ARE SAVED. Yet, concerning the one we read "But, except ye *repent*, ye shall all likewise perish" ([Luke 13:3](#)); and of the other, it is to be noted, that the very first admonitory word of Christ to the seven churches in [Revelation 2-3](#) is, "Remember therefore from whence thou are fallen, and *repent*" ([2:5](#))!

3. **The Right Attitude In The Tent**- "But his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tent"

III. HOW DO WE GET RIGHT AND HAVE REVIVAL

1. **Seeking of God's Way**- "Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, show me now thy way"

Knowing God's Way. Jesus said I am the way the truth and the life.

Asking God's Way Humbly. "If I have found grace in thy sight" ([v. 13](#)) 1 Peter 5:5 because God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Learning God's Way. When we study the Scriptures, Rom 10:17 **So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the message about Christ.** Holman Christian Standard Bible

2. **God's Presence Secured**

3. **Results of God's Presence.** Assurance, Sanctification, Preservation, Illumination, Inspiration, & Relaxation.

SEEING AND KNOWING GOD