



FAITHFUL LIGHT CHURCH

Pastors: *Dennis & Diane Gordon*

THE TABERNACLE #3 **JESUS MY STRENGTH**

Exodus 26:1-14; 35:25-26; 36:8-19



GOD'S PURPOSE FOR ME **THE BEAUTY OF JESUS LIVING IN ME** **MAKES ME STRONG, SO I CAN BE FREE**

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK: *Repeat 2x with Congregation*

1 Chronicles 16:11

“Seek the Lord and His strength, seek His face continually.”

INTRODUCTION: The poles and sockets of brass surrounding the Tabernacle represent the church, reminding us that we have sinned and stand guilty of judgement, but we have a silver helmet of salvation, representing our redemption that has been paid by our Lord Jesus Christ. The white linen curtain covers all the poles, reminding us that Jesus covers us in His own robes of righteousness. The brass altar reminds us that the wages for our sin is death but because God loves us much, He became flesh to pay the price for our sins on the altar of the cross. The lavar made of polished brass mirrors, reminds us that God's word will show us our sin and cleanse us as we wash in it, and reflect the beauty of the Lord in each of us.

ORDER OF SERVICE:

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| 1. Light Candles & Pray | 4. Dismiss Kids to Noah's Ark with 'Animals Go Marching Song' | |
| 2. Children's Songs/Story | 5. Adult Fellowship Break | 7. Bible Lesson & Group Prayer |
| 3. Intro Gospel Craft/Coloring | 6. Worship Song Set | 8. Blessing Songs & Benediction |

OBJECTS TO BRING: Model of Tabernacle and Courtyard, Gold Shoebox with 4 Coverings: Brown Fur, Red Fur, White Sweater, Embroidered Hankie

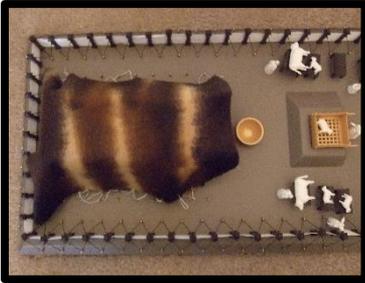
2. CHILDREN' STORY: Sassy Sue

Susan ran in the door crying after school and her mother asked, "What ever is wrong Susan?" "Those kids are calling me names again!" Susan sobbed as she fell into her mother's arms. "They called me Sassy Sue," Susan wailed. "Can you think of any reason why the children might call you that?" Mother asked. Susan thought very hard but could not think of one reason why anyone would call her 'Sassy Sue', "I don't know. I am the prettiest girl and I'm smarter than all the boys, I just don't get it! That Mary isn't even pretty and all she knows how to do is listen, but all the kids always want to be around her saying, 'Mary-Mary-MARY'!!" Susan was so upset she couldn't eat and fell asleep. Susan's mother prayed that God would show Susan what she needed to do.

Early the next morning Mother came to Susan's room, "I hope you feel better sweetheart, it's time to get ready for school." Susan said firmly, "I am not going to school because I'm sick." Mom replied, "Susan, no matter how many days I let you stay home sick, you will still have to face your friends, and work through this." "But Mom, I don't know how! I've worked so hard to know all the answers and be the best at everything so the kids will like me, but nothing seems to work!" Susan's mother asked quietly, "Susy, why do we love Jesus?" Susan thought, "Because He loves us! But what does Jesus have to do with nobody liking me?" Susan's mother smiled, "The Bible tells us that if you will seek to be like Jesus, He will give you His beauty and His strength. The kids love Mary because she loves and listens to them. Your friends will love you back when you stop caring so much about yourself, and start loving and caring about them." Susan suddenly felt much better, "I want to go to school, Mom, I need to make sure Mary knows I'm not mad at her - and Peter needs me to watch him play in a game!" Mother smiled thankfully. And it wasn't long before Susan's friend's thought of her as 'Sweet Sue'.



3. IN THE CENTER OF THE COURTYARD WAS AN UGLY TENT NO ONE WOULD DESIRE TO ENTER, UNLESS THEY KNEW THE VALUE OF WHAT WAS INSIDE.



You can see from our model of the Tabernacle, that on the outside it is covered with heavy brown badger skins - hiding all the glowing lights from the huge Menorah shining on the golden walls and the beautiful gold angels on the golden Ark were hidden on the inside too. Why is

that? The identity of the Lord Jesus yet to come was hidden until the fulness of time for our Savior to come and reveal Himself to us. The Tabernacle is a picture of our Lord Jesus in His church!

Colossians 1:26-27 “even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: ²⁷ to whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

The glory of our Father God in the Tabernacle, came to reveal the glory of Himself, shining in the face of Jesus so we may know Him!

2 Corinthians 4:6 “For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”

God would come to live in a human tent. The beauty in the human tent of our Lord Jesus Christ, was the glory of God shining in Him, the same glory that He had shared with the Father in Heaven.

Philippians 2:5-7 “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: ⁶ who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: ⁷ but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.”



4. THE BADGER SKIN COVERING SHOWS US THAT GOD WAS CLOTHED IN FLESH THAT COVERED AND PROTECTED THE GLORY WHO IS GOD.

The Badger skin shows us there was no outward beauty in our Lord Jesus Christ, but He is the glory of God clothed in the flesh of a man.

1 Timothy 3:16 “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”

The Bible explains that Jesus had no form to look upon in Heaven, because His form was the same invisible omnipresent Spirit who is the Father, who extended Himself to earth to reveal Himself to men.

Isaiah 53:1 “Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?”

Mark 14:61-62 “Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? ⁶² And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.”

The physical image of the invisible God in Christ, is the Father’s right arm extended to earth revealing Himself to us. It was when God took upon Himself the form of a servant man in His Son Jesus Christ, that the Father watched Him grow up as a tender plant.

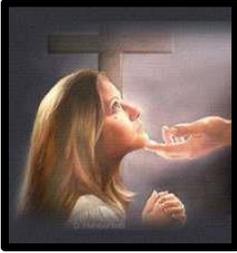


Isaiah 53:2-3 “For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. ³ He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief...”

We can find comfort that Jesus grew up as a tender plant like us but He was rejected, and fully understands our sorrows when we are sad.

5. THE BADGER SKIN COVERING TEACHES US NOT TO JUDGE THE OUTSIDE BUT TO LOOK UPON THE HEART.

Often times, people flock after boastful attractive people for leaders, letting their outward sparkly popularity carry more weight than their actions revealing the content of the person's heart.



1 Samuel 16:7 “But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.”

OBJECT VISUAL: Plain Box & Beautifully Wrapped Gift Box.

I have a two gifts here,; may I have two volunteers? You may each choose a box. This beautifully wrapped box looks as though it has a wonderful gift inside, doesn't it? Let's see what is inside...A pack of gum! Did you think there was something more valuable inside? Why? It surely looked like something valuable inside. Now let's see what is inside this plain brown box that looks like it might have medicine or something in it, what is inside...Dollar Bills! If you knew what was inside, which box would you have chosen?

Do we judge people like that? We often do and miss out on the real treasures God has for us. God does not want us to be fooled by outside packaging, but He wants us to search for the real treasure that is deep inside of each one we meet.

Only to those who understood the value inside the Tabernacle, valued it. And only to those who knew that Jesus was the LORD of Heaven in flesh, like the golden glory of God hidden inside the Badger skin covering, did Jesus become precious and beautiful!

1 John 3:2-3 “Beloved, now are we the sons of God; it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. ³ And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”

6. LOOK INSIDE THE BROWN FUR COVERING, AND YOU SEE THE RAM'S SKINS DYED RED TO REMIND US THAT GOD HIMSELF PROVIDED THE SACRIFICE TO SAVE US.

Exodus 26:14 “And thou shalt make a covering for the tent of rams’ skins dyed red, and a covering above of badgers’ skins.”

Exodus 36:19 “And he made a covering for the tent of rams’ skins dyed red, and a covering of badgers’ skins above that.”

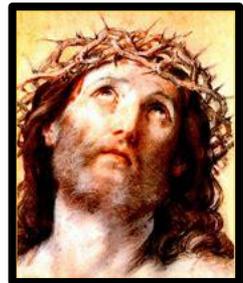
Do you remember when God tested Abraham, asking him to sacrifice his only son? Abraham was obedient and God provided the sacrifice, looking forward to when Jesus would die on the cross. Underneath the covering of badger skins was the covering of rams’ skins dyed red, that represented the sacrifice God would provide.



Genesis 22:7-8 & 13 “And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? ⁸ And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb ¹³ And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son”

God Himself provided the sacrifice in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrew 10:4-5 “For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. ⁵ Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me.”



7. JESUS WAS BOTH GOD HIMSELF CLOTHED IN FLESH, THE SCAPEGOAT CRUCIFIED AND THE LORD'S GOAT RELEASED TO CARRY OUR SINS FAR AWAY!

We lift the Ram's skin showing another covering of goat's hair.

Leviticus 16:7-10 “And he shall take the two goats, and present them before the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. ⁸ And Aaron shall cast lots upon the two goats; one lot for the LORD, and the other lot for the scapegoat. ⁹ And Aaron shall bring the goat upon which the LORD'S lot fell, and offer him for a sin offering. ¹⁰ But the goat, on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat, shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make an atonement with him, and to let him go for a scapegoat into the wilderness.”



The goats hair covering is a picture of **Jesus, who willingly became both the sin offering crucified for our sins, and the scapegoat who carried our sins and griefs far away**, as far as the East is from the West, and ever lives to intercede for us!

Isaiah 53:4-6 “Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”



Jesus carried away all our grief's and diseases, and by His stripes we are healed! Let's give Him glory and praise and honor today, what a mighty God we serve!

8. FINALLY (Remove Goat Hair Covering) WE COME TO THE BEAUTIFUL COVERING OF BLUE, RED & PURPLE, EMBROIDERED WITH BEAUTIFUL GOLDEN ANGELS!

*Exodus 26:1-6 “Moreover thou shalt make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet: **with cherubims of cunning work shalt thou make them.** ... ³ The five curtains shall be coupled together one to another; and other five curtains shall be coupled one to another... ⁶ And thou shalt make fifty taches of gold, and couple the curtains together with the taches: and it shall be one tabernacle.”*

The blue reminds us of heaven and peace, and there were golden angels embroidered into the covering so when they looked up they were reminded of their Heavenly home. Having Angels and pictures of Heaven in the tabernacles of our homes reminds us of Heaven every day! The red reminds us of the blood Jesus shed for our sins. The purple tells us that Jesus is royalty, and our soon coming King. There must be something very important inside to have so many coverings to protect it! What do you suppose is under this last covering? Yes it is the holiness of God living in His people!

Exodus 26:15-30 Underneath all the coverings we find pure gold! Gold reminds us of the glory and beauty of God. The walls were made of perishable wood, covered in pure gold – a picture of frail humanity covered in the beauty of God’s holiness. Each board stands in two sockets of silver, like us, for we each stand in the redemption of Jesus Christ and in the power of His Holy Spirit.

Revelation 1:4-6 “...Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, ⁶ and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”

9. THE TABERNACLE OF GOD TODAY



Today, when you receive the Lord Jesus as your Savior, and His holiness lives in you, you become a priest for Him! You will see the beauty of His holiness as you come to His mercy seat to praise Him and offer prayers for His people, because He lives in you and He is making you beautiful like Jesus!

Psalm 29:2 “Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.”

The boards on each side of the golden tabernacle, were joined together with 5 golden bars. That’s just like each of us in the Lord Jesus, are covered in His righteousness then filled with His glory, fitted and joined together when Jesus saves us and builds us together into the beautiful glorious dwelling place of His church!

1 Peter 2:4-10 “To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, ⁵ ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.... ⁹But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: ¹⁰ which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.”

Jesus is more precious than all the fine gold of the Tabernacle, and He has chosen to live inside the outer shell of our awful sin symbolized by the ugly badger skin!

2 Corinthians 3:18 “But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

The Tabernacle is a beautiful picture of Jesus in His church!

10. GOD'S PURPOSE & PLAN FOR ME

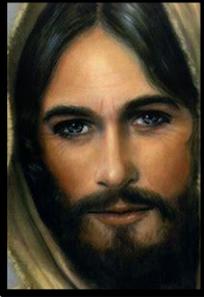
1. Jesus wants me to understand that I am saved and filled with the righteous golden glory of God. It is not my own glory but His glorious beauty living in me.
2. Jesus wants me to stand together with other Christians, bound up all together in Him, covered in His glory.
3. **The Embroidered Linen Covering** with golden angels, reminds us of the beauty of Heaven because Jesus wants me to look up above into Heaven and long for my Heavenly Home.
4. **The Goat's Hair Covering** helps me remember the two goats showing that the penalty of death for all my sins was both paid in full by the blood of God's son Jesus Christ on the cross, and also being God, Jesus rose from the grave to make atonement in Heaven, removing my sins as far as the east is from the west.
5. **The Red Ram's Skin Covering** Shows that Jesus is God my provider who provided Himself a body, for the offering of the ram, shedding His own blood on the cross that by faith I may have complete forgiveness, healing, and all I will ever need.
6. **The Badger Skin Covering** shows that Jesus wants me to look deeper into the things of God to discover the hidden riches of His glory. Jesus also wants me to look beneath the tough outside covering of others and find the treasure hidden inside.
7. Let your strength and beauty come from Jesus Christ living in you!
8. The Tabernacle is a beautiful picture of Jesus living in you!

PRAY ALOUD TOGETHER:

Dear Father God, Thank you for saving me and cleansing me from all unrighteousness, and thank you for, filling me with Your Holy Spirit and covering me in Your glory. Help me to look to Your strength that I may be healed and whole, because You live in me, and help me to look beyond the outside of others to find the beauty that you created in them. Help me to live my life for You each day. May other see your holiness in me, and praise you, for your glory, In Jesus name, Amen.

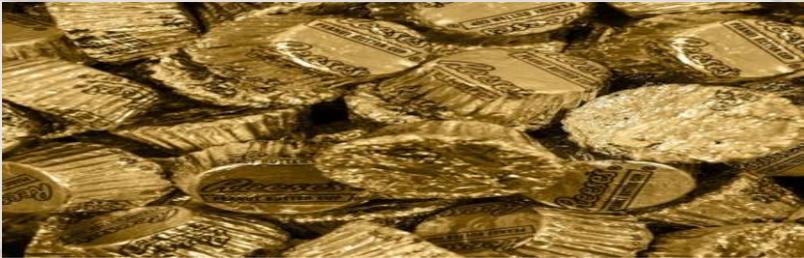
11. GOSPEL CRAFT:

SMALL 'TABERNACLE' BOX WITH GOLD COVERED CANDY



**The Beauty of Jesus Living In Me
Makes Me Strong So I Can Be Free**

2 Corinthians 4:6 *“For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”*



Directions:

1. Give one small box to each child.
2. Have each child fill his box with the beautiful golden glory of the Lord.
3. Cut out Picture of Jesus with Scripture Label.
4. Glue the label to the lid of the box and close.
5. Lift the lid covering to see golden beauty of Jesus shining inside!
6. Taste the sweet love that Jesus has for you when you come to meet with Him!

12. THE TABERNACLE COVERED IN BADGER SKINS



The Israelites saw the tough badger skin covering the Tabernacle and knew the glory of God was inside. Jesus wants me to look beneath the tough outside covering of His people, and find the beauty that is found inside.