

The Problem with Evil and God's Plan to End It – Part V

The Wilderness – Moses, the Law, and the Desert Tabernacle

Sinai – Experiencing God:

Exodus 19:1-2 NKJV In the third month after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on the same day, they came *to* the Wilderness of Sinai. 2 ... So Israel camped there before the mountain. 3 And Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall ... tell the children of Israel: 4 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself.* 5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. 6 And **you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.**' "(a) ...

9 And the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I come to you in the thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and believe you forever." ... 10 ... "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes. 11 And let them be ready for the third day. For on the third day the LORD will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. 12 You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, 'Take heed to yourselves *that* you do *not* go up to the mountain or touch its base. Whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death.

(b)

Exodus 33:11-20 NKJV So **the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.** ... 12 Then Moses said to the LORD, "... I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, **show me now Your way, that I may know You** and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation *is* Your people." ... 17 So the LORD said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name." ... 20 But He said, "You cannot see My face; for **no man shall see Me, and live.**" [Although Moses had accepted God's grace and spoke to God as a friend and without an intercessor, even Moses could not bear to see all God's glory. God reveals Himself to us in measures of mercy. 2 Corinthians 3:18 KJV 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.]

Exodus 19:16-21 NKJV Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who *were* in the camp trembled. 17 And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. 18 Now Mount Sinai *was* completely in smoke, because **the LORD descended upon it in fire.** Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. 19 And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice. ... 21 And the LORD said to Moses, "Go down and warn the people, lest they break through to gaze at the LORD, and many of them perish. (c)

Exodus 20:1-17 [God speaks the ten commandments in the hearing of the people]

Exodus 20:18-21 NKJV Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw *it*, they trembled and stood afar off. 19 Then they said to Moses, "You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die." 20 And Moses said to the people, "Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin." 21 So the people stood afar off, but Moses drew near the thick darkness where God *was*. (d)

Exodus 24:15-18 NKJV Then Moses went up into the mountain, and a cloud covered the mountain. 16 Now the glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. 17 The sight of **the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire** on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel. 18 So **Moses went into the midst** of the cloud and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights. (e)

(a) As God had called Abraham to be a blessing to the entire world, so God's plan was that Israel would be not just a nation which **had** priests, but a nation of priests. They would be holy to God, teaching the world about His character of love and how He would handle the sin problem.

(b) Moses had many experiences with God through which he came to know Him as a friend. He had a real sense of the contrast between his own character and the pure love of God. Yet he welcomed the exposure of his own sinful nature as he came to admire what he saw in God.

- God desired to speak to His people and instruct them in the ways that would bring them success in their new land. But the people had no idea how overwhelming the encounter with God would be. Moses was to instruct them to wash their clothes and prepare their hearts to meet with God. Boundaries were set up around the mountain that their first encounter with God should not be devastating.

(c) Deu 4:24 KJV For the LORD thy God *is* a consuming fire, *even* a jealous God.

- Dan 7:9 KJV I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* his wheels *as* burning fire.

- Psa 50:3 KJV Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.

- Isaiah 33:14-17 MKJV Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings? (15) He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly; he who despises the gain of oppressions, who shakes his hands free from holding bribes ... (16) He shall dwell on high ... (17) Your eyes shall see the king in his beauty; they shall behold the land that is very far off.

- Zechariah 13:9 KJV And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

- 1 Corinthians 3:13-15 KJV Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. (14) If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. (15) If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

- Revelation 15:2 KJV And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.

- Hebrews 12:29 KJV For our God *is* a consuming fire.

(d) God wanted so much to be friends with His people and teach them the way of success as He was teaching Moses, but they had not accepted of His provision represented in the sacrifice. Like Adam and Eve standing naked in their own righteousness, they were afraid of God.

(e) The same fire which was to the people a hopeless exposure of their inadequacies was to Moses a glorious revelation of what God desired to do for him. Admitting his own foolishness and accepting God's friendship, Moses was eager to be shown of God a better way.

The Problem with Evil and God's Plan to End It – Part V

The Wilderness – Moses, the Law, and the Desert Tabernacle

Exodus 34:29-35 NKJV Now it was so, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai ..., that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with God. 30 So when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, .. they were afraid to come near him. ... 33 And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face. ... 35 And whenever the children of Israel saw the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone, then Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with [God]. (a)

(a) The glory of the wisdom of God's love, which Moses had experienced in His presence, had made such an impression upon him that his countenance radiated with the light of God. Even this was too self-revealing to the people, so Moses veiled his face that God might be gently introduced to them.

The law:

- The children of Israel had been in Egypt for 400 years and their lifestyle had degraded to that of the worst condition of slavery. All they had known were the laws of their self-serving masters which were forced upon them in most cruel ways. As is God's nature to do, He chooses the worst possible cases to demonstrate what His ways can accomplish.
- God was to set up a nation built upon laws that were other-centered and protected individual rights. These people had never known freedom, and in order to maintain civility, stiff penalties were set in place for any violation until these ex-slaves could learn respect for God and one another.
- The people needed instruction in the principles of life which lead to eternal happiness. These other-centered principles were written with the finger of God on tables of stone and given to Moses along with a multitude of laws governing how the principles would apply in the specifics of a day in their culture.

Deuteronomy 5:1-21 [A generation later, Moses near the end of his life, recounts to the people their experience as at Sinai. He repeats to them the ten commandments and then continues:]

Deuteronomy 5:22-29 NKJV "These words the LORD spoke to all your assembly, in the mountain from the midst of the fire, ... And He wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me. 23 "So it was, when you heard the voice from the midst of the darkness, while the mountain was burning with fire, that you came near to me, all the heads of your tribes and your elders. 24 And you said: 'Surely the LORD our God has shown us His glory and His greatness, and we have heard His voice from the midst of the fire. We have seen this day that God speaks with man; yet he *still* lives. 25 Now therefore, why should we die? For this great fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of the LORD our God anymore ... 27 You go near and hear all that the LORD our God may say, and tell us all that the LORD our God says to you, and we will hear and do it.' (b)

28 "Then the LORD heard the voice of your words when you spoke to me, and the LORD said to me: 'I have heard the voice of the words of this people which they have spoken to you. They are right *in* all that they have spoken. (c) 29 Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!' (d)

(b) Adam and Eve had learned that they could not be comfortable to approach God in the fig leaves of their own righteousness. Cain, like Lucifer, hardened his heart in pride and pursued his own way without God. Now we see another spiritual disaster in the making. They had accepted that God was too big for them. They conceded to do whatever He commanded them but they did not want to see Him. Reacting in the only way they had ever known, they were willing to be His slaves, but they were not willing to be His friends.
(c) They had not yet understood the meaning of His sacrifice and could not yet bear the self-exposure that His presence would bring. They did not understand that it was sin that was condemning them and not God. They did not see that God was also feeling their shame and would bear the cost of sin upon Himself.
(d) God longed for them to see beyond their doubts and fears, that He might be known of them as one who had accepted them in their helpless dilemma and desired to lead them to true freedom and happiness.

The purpose of the law:

Galatians 3:19-25 NKJV What purpose then *does* the law *serve*? It was added because of transgressions, ... 23 But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. 24 Therefore the law was our tutor *to bring us* to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. (e)

Romans 3:20 KJV Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. (f)

Galatians 2:16 KJV Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

(e) God's purpose in giving the law has always been twisted by His people. That which was intended to be for instruction in the principles of His nature, the everlasting character of love, has been changed into a check list by which we might obtain approval of God.
(f) Before sin entered, Adam and Eve did not know what evil was. But for many on Earth today, it is the norm of life. The law was given to distinguish between right and wrong, between other-centric love and self-seeking. It pointed out and condemned sin, making us keenly aware of our need to change. However, it leaves us powerless for we are still self-seeking. This change could come only by the experience of seeing what God would do to remedy our hopeless condition, turning our hearts toward seeking Him.

The Problem with Evil and God's Plan to End It – Part V

The Wilderness – Moses, the Law, and the Desert Tabernacle

2 Corinthians 3:7-18 NKJV But if the ministry of death, written *and* engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, ... 8 how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious? 9 For if the ministry of condemnation *had* glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds much more in glory. ... 12 Therefore, since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech— 13 unlike Moses, *who* put a veil over his face so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the end of what was passing away... 15 But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. 16 Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, there *is* liberty. 18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Hebrews 12:18-24 NKJV For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, 19 and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard *it* begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore... 22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, ... 24 to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of* Abel.

That I might dwell among you:

Exodus 25:1-9 NKJV Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: 2 Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering. ... 8 And **let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.** (a) 9 According to all that I show you, *that is*, the pattern of the tabernacle and ... of all its furnishings, just so shall you make *it*. (b)

Exodus 29:44-46 KJV And I will sanctify the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar: **I will sanctify also both Aaron and his sons, to minister to me in the priest's office** ... (46) **And [the people] shall know** that I am the LORD their God, that brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, that I may dwell among them. (c)

The layout of the Sanctuary: (d)

- **The outer court** - Exodus 27:9 MKJV And you shall make the court of the tabernacle. ... there shall be hangings for the court of fine twined bleached linen. (e) ... 16 And for the gate of the court shall be a screen ... of blue and purple and scarlet, and fine twined bleached linen, worked with needlework...
- **The tabernacle walls** - Exodus 26:1 And you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined bleached linen, and blue, and purple, and scarlet. You shall make them with cherubs, [angels] of the work of a cunning workman.
- **The tabernacle coverings** - Exodus 26:7 And you shall make curtains of goats' hair to be a tent over the tabernacle ... 14 You shall also make a covering of ram skins dyed red for the tent, and a covering of badger skins above that.
- **The Most Holy place** - Exodus 26:31-33 And you shall make a veil of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined bleached linen of embroidered work. It shall be made with cherubs. [angels] (32) And you shall hang it upon four pillars of acacia overlaid with gold... (33) And you shall hang up the veil under the clasps, that you may bring the ark of the testimony in there within the veil. And the veil shall divide for you between the holy place and the Holy of Holies.
- **The Angels, the cover of mercy, and the ark** - Exodus 25:18-22 And you shall make two cherubs of gold; of beaten work you shall make them, in the two ends of the mercy-seat ... (20) And the cherubs shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy-seat with their wings, and their faces each toward the other; toward the mercy-seat ... (21) And you shall put the mercy-seat above, upon the ark. And in the ark you shall put the testimony that I shall give you. (22) **And I will meet with you there**, and I will talk with you from above the mercy-seat, from between the two cherubs on the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give you in commandment to the sons of Israel.

- Romans 8:3-4 KJV For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: (4) That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

- Galatians 3:10 KJV For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

- Ephesians 2:15 KJV Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

Romans 8:7 KJV Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

- Colossians 2:13-14 KJV And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; (14) Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

(a) **sanctuary** H4720; a consecrated place, especially a palace or asylum -*Strong's Hebrew Dictionary*

- The law was necessary but it acted as an enemy in that it only increased the guilt and shame caused by sin. God wanted to provide a refuge, a safe place where man could come to God and receive the instruction and help that he needed.

(b) Exodus 25:40 NKJV And see to it that you make *them* according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain.

- This was a copy of the work which God was doing in Heaven both before and after Moses' time for all mankind. It was a model to demonstrate what God will do for all who enter in.

(c) The Priest's ministry was to teach the meaning of the sanctuary ceremonies to God's people, revealing to them the character of God and what He desired to do for them.

(d) God desired to reveal Himself to His people, but in their sinful state of mind they could not bear to be in His presence. Their minds had become possessed by self-centered thinking, resulting in attitudes which lead to bondage and destruction. There was no way that they would ever come to know the other-centered love that is capable of eternal life except that they should learn it from Him. Their only hope was that God should approach them with "veiled face," revealing Himself to them a little bit at a time as they could handle it.

- The ark of the testament was the place where God said that He would meet with Moses. It was the most sacred of all the articles of the sanctuary, the place where His glory would be revealed. Yet it was covered by layer after layer of angels, coverings and curtains that man might approach God gently, respectfully and without being overcome with his own sinfulness in the light of God's purity.

(e) Revelation 19:8 MKJV ... For the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints.

The Problem with Evil and God's Plan to End It – Part V

The Wilderness – Moses, the Law, and the Desert Tabernacle

The approach to the Holy:

- **The altar** - Exodus 27:1-8 MKJV And you shall make an altar of acacia-wood ... (2) And you shall make the horns of it upon the four corners of it. .. and you shall overlay it with bronze ... (8)... as it was shown you in the mountain, so shall they make it.

- The sinner was to enter the court with his lamb and slay it before the altar.
- The priest was to perform the ceremony while teaching the meaning to the sinner.
- This first step in recognizing our need and accepting God's provision in effect lays our pride in the dust. (a)

- **The laver** - Exodus 30:18-20 MKJV You shall also make a laver of bronze and its foot also of bronze, for washing. And you shall put it between the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar. And you shall put water in it, (19) for Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet there. (20) When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water so that they do not die. Or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn an offering made by fire to Jehovah,

- Before we can enter into the things of God, we must be clean.

Matthew 5:8 MKJV Blessed are the pure in heart! For they shall see God. (b)

- The Holy place (c)

- **Table of shew bread** - Exodus 25:23-30 MKJV You shall also make a table of acacia-wood ... (24) And you shall overlay it with pure gold ... (29) And you shall make its dishes, and its spoons, and its pitchers, and its sacrificial cups with which a drink-offering is made. You shall make them of pure gold. (30) And you shall set upon the table Bread of the Presence before Me always.

- **Lampstand** - Exodus 25:31-40 MKJV And you shall make a lampstand of pure gold ... (37) And you shall make the seven lamps of it. And one shall light the lamps of it, so that they may give light on its face...(40) And see that you make them after their pattern, which was shown you in the mountain.

- **Altar of incense** - Exodus 30:1-10 MKJV And you shall make an altar to burn incense upon. You shall make it of acacia-wood ... (3) And you shall overlay it with pure gold ... (6) And you shall put it before the veil that is by the ark of the testimony, in front of the mercy-seat that is beside the testimony, where I will meet with you. (7) And Aaron shall burn sweet incense on it every morning; when he dresses the lamps he shall burn it. (8) And when Aaron lights the lamps at evening, he shall burn it, a perpetual incense before Jehovah throughout your generations. (9) You shall offer no strange incense on it... (10)... It is most holy to Jehovah.

- Most Holy Place

- Ark of the Covenant (d)

- Tables of Stone – principles of life / God's character
- Aaron's rod that budded – authority of God / the dead stick that came to life
- Golden pot of manna – God's provision for our success

The Day of Atonement:

Leviticus 16:29-34 MKJV... in the seventh month, on the tenth of the month, you shall afflict your souls and do no work ... (30) For on that day an atonement shall be made for you, to cleanse you, so that you may be clean from all your sins before Jehovah...

(32) And the priest ... shall make the atonement and shall put on the linen clothes, the holy garments. (33) And he shall make an atonement for the holy sanctuary, and he shall make an atonement for the tabernacle of the congregation, and for the altar; and he shall make an atonement for the priests and for all the people of the congregation.

(34) And this shall be an everlasting statute to you, to make an atonement for the sons of Israel for their sins once a year. (e)

(a) The sacrificed animal was a symbol of the promise that God would take upon Himself the cost of their forgiveness. The promise that God would come into this world, born of a woman, the first born and perfect Son of God, and be slain by sin.

- When they could understand and accept that He knew their shame, that He accepted their broken state and had taken upon Himself the responsibility for both its existence and its remedy, and with no condition put upon them other than their permission, He would take them fully into His arms just as they are, then they could enter into His presence and be changed.

(b) Having accepted God's forgiveness, we are to be cleansed of all self-seeking and approach God for who He is and what He wants to show us. Not as the pagan gods who were persuaded by gifts to bless us according to our own plans.

(c) The Holy place was the place where once having received forgiveness and cleansing, the sinner would find continual friendship with God. It was a hub of continual activity.

- The Altar of incense was a representation of the prayers sent up to God. (Revelation 8:3 MKJV And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer. And many incenses were given to him, so that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints on the golden altar before the throne.)

- Angels were embroidered every few feet all around the walls of the place. Representing God's throne in Heaven, all the Holy angels are coming and going at Christ's command, ministering to the needs of sinners whose prayers stream forth before His presence.

- Here we find Christ, the Light Of The World, opening our eyes to see Him, others, ourselves, and every circumstance of life in a new and living way.

- Here is Christ, the Bread of Life sustaining us and strengthening us through every difficulty and trial of life.

- Here we find God providing every provision for us to make our way through this wilderness of sin on our way to the Promised Land.

(d) In the Most Holy place was the Ark of the Covenant above which appeared at times the light of the glory of God. Inside the ark were the emblems of the covenant which He made with the people through Moses. The covenant was based solely on God's efforts for His people and not their efforts toward Him.

(e) This was a final work. It marked the end of the ceremonies carried out in the sanctuary for that year. It was a solemn work, a final judgment concerning who would remain among God's people.

Leviticus 23:27-30 MKJV on the tenth of this seventh month, this is a day of atonement... for you before Jehovah your God. (29) For any soul who is not humbled in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people. (30)... the same soul will I destroy from among his people.

This was to represent how it will be when God brings an end to the reign of sin on Earth.

The Problem with Evil and God's Plan to End It – Part V

The Wilderness – Moses, the Law, and the Desert Tabernacle

Freedom's responsibilities

- The final dividing of responsibility for sin is represented in the sacrifices required on the Day of Atonement. (a)

- **Priests** - Leviticus 16:11-14 MKJV And Aaron shall bring the young bull of the sin offering which is for himself, and shall atone for himself and for his house, and shall kill the young bull of the sin offering which is for himself.

- **People** - Leviticus 16:5,15,24 KJV And he shall take of the congregation of the children of Israel two kids of the goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt offering. 15 And he shall wash his flesh with water in the holy place, and put on his garments, and come forth, and offer his burnt offering, and the burnt offering of the people, and make an atonement for himself, and for the people.

- **God** - Leviticus 16:7-9 KJV 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.

- **Satan** - Leviticus 16:10, 21-22 KJV 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. (21) And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness: (22) And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness.

(a) The priests, having a greater responsibility on account of their position as teachers of the people, were required to bring a more significant offering, a bull, as recognition of their sin and desire for atonement.

- The people were to bring a ram acknowledging their sin and desire for atonement.

- Also taken from the people were two goats for which lots were drawn to separate them – one for the Lord and one for Azazel or the Devil. Both goats were to die but one was to die willingly as an offering for the people, the other was to die in the wilderness, never to be seen again. The lot was cast as our Lord suffered the emotional turmoil of both situations, but He did it willingly, taking the responsibility as our Creator for all the shame that sin has cost. Satan was to bear his responsibility for the sins of man with his life ending in the barren dust of the desert wilderness as was prophesied to Adam and Eve. We will find more on this in our last study on the end of sin and suffering.

- While all the finally unrepentant will die in the wilderness, the humble sinner who depends on our Lord will be led through this wilderness of sin and on to the Promised Land.

David's love of the Sanctuary

Psalms 20:1-2 KJV <To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.> The LORD hear thee in the day of trouble...(2) Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion;

Psalms 63:1-3 KJV <A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.> O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; (2) To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary. (3) Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee.

Psalms 73:12-18 KJV Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches. (13) Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocence. (14) For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning. ... (16) When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me; (17) **Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood** I their end. (18) Surely thou didst set them in slippery places: thou castedst them down into destruction.

Psalms 77:10-15 KJV And I said, This is my infirmity: but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most High. (11) I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old. (12) I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings. (13) Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God? (14) Thou art the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people. (15) Thou hast with thine arm redeemed thy people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah.

1 Chronicles 28:2-6 MKJV And David the king stood up on his feet and said, Hear me, my brothers and my people. I had in my heart to build a house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and for the footstool of our God, and had made ready for the building. (3) But God said to me, You shall not build a house for My name, because you have been a man of war and have shed blood. ... (6) And He said to me, Solomon your son shall build My house and My courts, for I have chosen him to be My son, and I will be his Father

The Problem with Evil and God's Plan to End It – Part V

The Wilderness – Moses, the Law, and the Desert Tabernacle

Paul's love of the Sanctuary

Hebrews 8:1-11 KJV Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; (2) A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. ... (4) For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law: (5) Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount. (6) But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. (7) For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. (8) For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: (9) Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; **because they continued not in my covenant**, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. (10) For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: (11) And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

Hebrews 9:1-28 KJV Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. (2) For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary. (3) And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; (4) Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; (5) And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly. (6) Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God. (7) But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people: (8) The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: (9) Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; (10) Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation. (11) But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; (12) Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. (13) For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: (14) How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (15) And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. (16) For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. (17) For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth. (18) Whereupon neither the first testament was dedicated without blood. (19) For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, (20) Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. (21) Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. (22) And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. (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: (25) Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; (26) For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. (27) And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: (28) So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.