

THE TABERNACLE OF DAVID

A Brief Overview



The Tabernacle of David



The Tabernacle of David is the name given to the tent of worship established by King David on Mount Zion in Jerusalem. It stood in stark contrast to the Tabernacle of Moses and initiated an entirely new order of joyful worship. Davidic worship is both extravagant and demonstrative. What was once reserved as a sacred duty only for the high priest was now made open and available to all.



Historical Context

In His judgment upon the corrupt priesthood of Eli and his sons, God allowed the Ark of the Covenant to be taken by the Philistines. This led Israel to set up the Tabernacle of Moses in Gibeon, three miles north of Jerusalem, without the Ark! (In short, worship without God's Glory or Presence!) This unfortunately describes many churches today.



In [1 Chron. 13](#); [2 Sam. 6](#), we read about David's first attempt to bring the Ark to Jerusalem which resulted in death and failure because David had not followed the order established by God. In the year 1050 B.C., David and ALL of Israel brought up the Ark with extravagant music, dancing, rejoicing, and worship. After an initial blood sacrifice at the dedication of the tabernacle ([1 Chron. 16: 1-2](#)), the Ark was brought into the tent



and constant, day and night worship which included music, singing, praising, worshipping, dancing and prayer began.

From the time King David established Mount Zion, a place where ALL could behold the unveiled glory of God without regard to clergy/laity distinction, the whole nation of Israel became unified under one King. During His reign, the nation enjoyed peace and prosperity as all of the enemies of God's people were defeated and brought under subjection to David.



Characteristics of the Tabernacle of David

Singers are incorporated into worship
(1 Chron. 15:16-27)

Instruments are used as a part of the
worship (1 Chron. 23:5; 15:1-7)

Levites ministered before the Ark
(1 Chron. 16:37)

A ministry of thanksgiving
(1 Chron. 16:4, 8, 41)

Filled with praise (1 Chron. 16:4, 36)

Introduced singing of Psalms
(1 Chron. 16:7)

Clapping was a part of the worship
(Ps. 47:1)

Shouting was a part of the worship
(1 Chron. 15:28)

Dancing was a vital part of worship
(1 Chron. 15:29; Ps. 149:3)

The Tabernacle of David as Type and Shadow


The joyful worship characteristic of The Tabernacle of David was a complete paradigm shift from the solemn worship of the Tabernacle of Moses. Instead of the sacrifices of animals offered by the high priest, the people now offered sacrifices of praise, joy and thanksgiving as evidenced throughout the psalms. The one blood sacrifice David offered on the first day clearly represents the One and Only blood sacrifice of Jesus which opened the way for God and man to tabernacle. What set this worship apart was that it identified true worship as a heart response. Worship had been a noun previously and now it became a verb characterized by singing, standing, kneeling,



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Description of Priestly Dimension

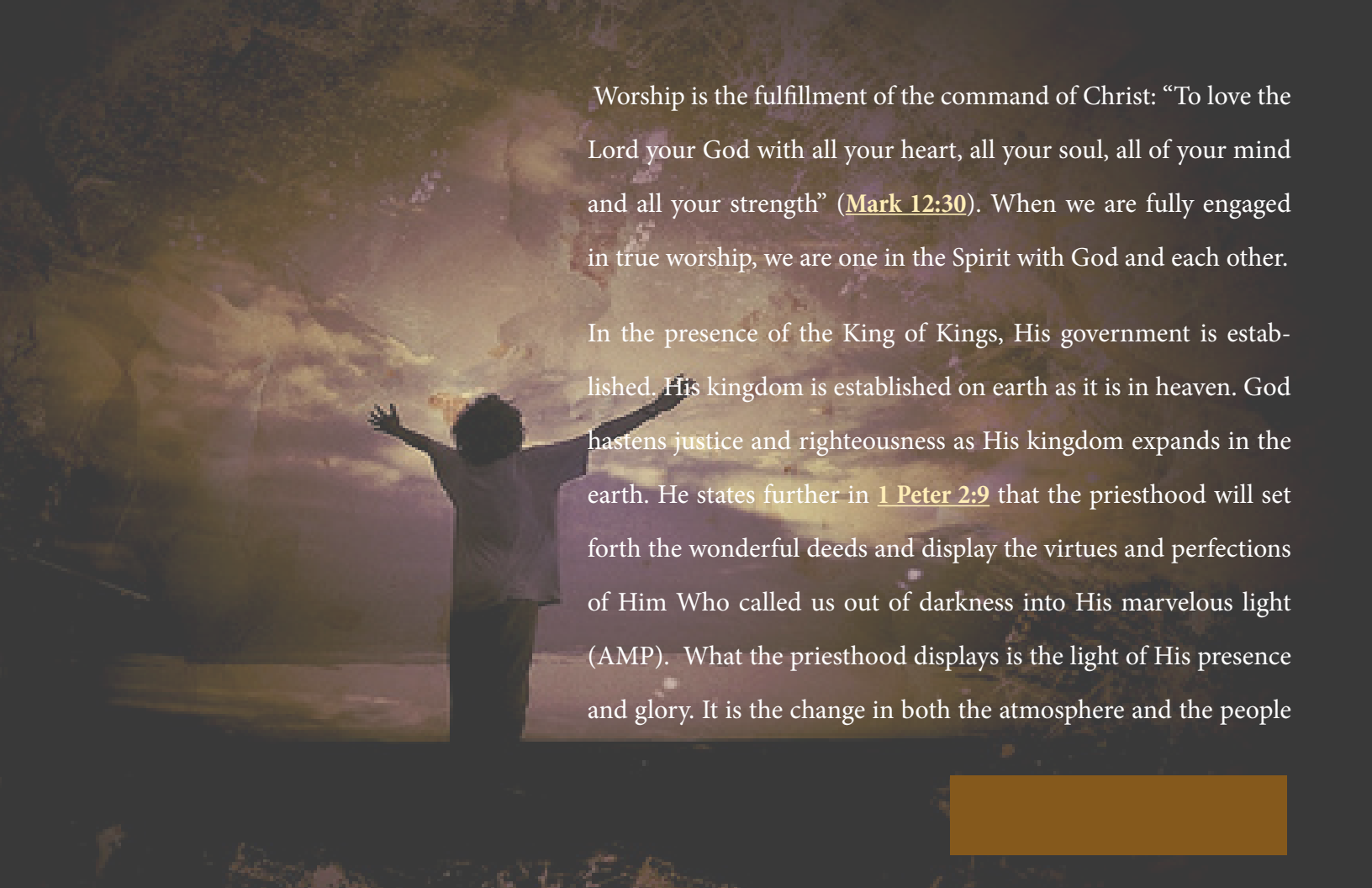
1 Chronicles 13; 15-16; 23; 25; 2 Chr. 29; Neh. 12. Other key chapters relating to the priestly dimension of the Tabernacle of David –Zech. 4; Hag. 1 -2; Isa. 4; Ps. 132-134; 27; 45; 110; 148-150; 2 Chr. 5-7; 1 Cor. 12-14; Heb. 7- 10; Rev. 4-5.



bowing, clapping, the raising of hands and dancing. This brought personal responsibility for each individual to become a worshipper. This is what Paul describes as our reasonable service to God. ([Romans 12:1](#)).

Davidic Worship reveals the true nature of worship. Worship must be from the heart, if it is true worship at all. We worship in Spirit and Truth. Worship is an eternal work and one that every believer will engage in forever. This was demonstrated by David who took off his royal robe and put on a linen garment (the attire of priest). With this act, he stripped himself of his earthly title of king to worship the King of Kings. In [1 Peter 2:9](#) we are told we are a royal priesthood. This means that we are a kingdom of priests forever.



A person is seen from behind, standing on a dark, rocky shore with their arms raised in a gesture of worship or praise. They are looking out at a vast body of water under a dramatic, cloudy sky. The sky is filled with soft, golden light, suggesting the sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, ethereal atmosphere. The clouds are layered and catch the light, adding texture to the scene. The overall mood is one of awe and spiritual connection.

Worship is the fulfillment of the command of Christ: “To love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all of your mind and all your strength” ([Mark 12:30](#)). When we are fully engaged in true worship, we are one in the Spirit with God and each other.

In the presence of the King of Kings, His government is established. His kingdom is established on earth as it is in heaven. God hastens justice and righteousness as His kingdom expands in the earth. He states further in [1 Peter 2:9](#) that the priesthood will set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light (AMP). What the priesthood displays is the light of His presence and glory. It is the change in both the atmosphere and the people

Key Single Verses Related to the Tabernacle of David

Jn.4:24; Ps. 22:3; 50:2-3; 2 Chr. 20:21-22; Zeph. 3:17; Heb. 2:12; 1 Cor. 12:26; Jn.17:21-26.

Key phrases – beauty of holiness – 2 Chr. 20:21; Ps. 29: 2; 96: 9; 1 Chr. 16:29.

The primary source of power is gazing on God's beauty – Ps. 27:4; Isa. 4: 2; 33:17; 6:3; Rev. 4: 8. 1 Chr. 6: 31-33; 9:33; 16: 4-6; 23:1- 5; 25:1-7; 29:1-20; 2 Chr. 8: 14-15; Jehoshaphat 2 Chr. 20: 21-22; Hezekiah – 2 Chr. 29: 20- 36; Josiah - 2 Chronicles 34: 9-17; 2 Kings 22: 3-9; Ezr. 2:69-70; 3:10; Neh. 11: 22-23; 12:44-47; Am. 8:3.

that becomes convincing evidence and the transforming power of God at work on earth that draws in the lost Gentiles and provokes Israel to desire Him. The Israelites are watching for His glory and they will see it upon His bride and be provoked to enter. (Is this not the Great Commission?).

This concept may be more clearly seen by understanding what James saw in Acts, when he referenced Amos 9:11. What he recognized was that the Gentiles were coming to the Lord as a result of what David's tabernacle represented. The Gentiles understood that grace was offered to them. They did not have to be a Jewish, be circumcised and keep the law to experience salvation. Jesus made the way OPEN.



The Holiest place of all is available to us because God made the way Open...not man. James understood the tabernacle was a type of the Church and Davidic worship was God's chosen way to tabernacle with His people.

The Tabernacle of David as a Pattern to Follow

The righteous kings of Israel who followed David's example and reestablished Davidic worship experienced both spiritual revival and military victory. These times of revival and victory were experienced under Solomon ([2 Chronicles 5-7](#)) – 940 B.C., Jehoshaphat ([2 Chr. 20](#)) – 896 B.C. Joash ([2 Chr. 23-24](#)) – 835 B.C., Hezekiah ([2 Chr. 29-30](#)) – 726 B.C., Josiah ([2 Chr. 35](#)) – 623 B.C., Ezra ([Ezra 3: 10-13](#)) – 536 B.C., and Nehemiah ([Neh. 12:28-47](#)) – 446 B.C.



*New Testament Confirmation
Davidic Worship Is the Pattern
of Worship for all times!*

Characteristics of Worship include singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs ([Eph. 5:19](#), [Col. 3:16](#)), to sing in the spirit ([1 Cor. 14:15](#)), to lift holy hands in prayer ([1 Tim. 2:8](#)) and to offer to God the sacrifice of praise ([Heb. 13:15](#)). The book of Revelation records many heavenly worship scenes which include shouting ([Rev. 19:1](#)), “Hallelujahs” ([Rev. 19:7](#)), singing the new song ([Rev. 5:9](#)), and bowing ([Rev. 4:10](#)).



The Tabernacle of David Today



We believe a major aspect of the New Testament church is to fulfill the worship type established by King David, fulfilled through the Lord Jesus Christ, and revealed to the apostle James in [Acts 15:16-18](#). As the church establishes the “spiritual” Mount Zion ([Heb. 12:18-25](#)), through places of worship and prayer that bring His presence (see Isaiah 33), the glory of God will begin to emerge. The Gentiles (the rest of mankind – [Amos 9:12](#)) will be drawn to the Lord Jesus in unprecedented harvest and evangelism, the power of God released in fullness, and natural Israel will have their eyes uncovered to see the true Messiah. This is a picture of the One New Man ([Eph. 2:15](#)) WITH BOTH Gentile and Jew fully embracing Jesus as Lord.



Conclusion

We therefore see the Tabernacle of David as an instrumental key to fulfilling God's Great command to love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and love your neighbor as yourself. (This is a clear picture of the cross with the vertical bar representing reconciliation between God and man and the horizontal bar representing man restored with one another). Equally important is that it fulfills the Great Commission to draw the nations to Him. [Acts 15:15-18](#) conspicuously alludes to the necessity of the re-establishment of the Tabernacle for world-wide harvest.

Fundamentally, the final days on earth will all be about worship. Who we worship and how we worship will reveal and reflect our hearts toward God.

