

"Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God; arise therefore, and build ye the sanctuary of the LORD God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and the holy vessels of God, into the house that is to be built to the name of the LORD." 1 Chronicles 22:19 KJV



God never needed a house on earth. *"I have not dwelt in any house since the time that I brought up the children of Israel out of Egypt, even to this day, but have walked in a tent and in a tabernacle."* The Tabernacle in the Wilderness went with the people as they followed God's direction. God's presence fills the universe and beyond, but the dwelling place He desires most is men's hearts and minds! *"Thou art Holy, O Thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel."* We are commanded, *"Be ye filled with the Spirit."* God desires to be the song of men's lips and the love of their life *"for God so loved the world."* How painful is unrequited love? Humans ache in agony when unloved! We often hear the term "soul mate" applied to passionate relationships, but man's eternal "soul mate" is God! Couples who bask together in God's Sovereign glow have the most blissful relationships. Men's passions towards one another wax, wane, begin, and end, but God's Love towards those who love Him is everlasting! His Word states, *"Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee. We love Him, because He first loved us."* God begins His relationship with us by revealing to our blinded souls its desperate condition. *"ALL we, like sheep, have gone astray. There is NONE righteous; NO, Not One!"* He further woos our love with His unconditional sinless death on our behalf. *"While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."* He sealed the security of immortality for every believer by rising again from the dead under His own power! We need to *"bring the Holy vessels"* of repentance, unceasing prayer, and constant meditation into our temple of flesh *"and build the sanctuary"* of our heavenly tryst. *"Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."* The full purchase price of our betrothal seal, *"the Spirit of Truth,"* was laid down at Calvary. Like lovers whose location and circumstance matter not as long as they're together, God's delight is when His beloved become His sanctuary and those who love Him wholly will have *"joy unspeakable and full of glory!"*

The oil of faith is Truth and Love,
Which fill our vessels from above,
Its perfume wafts like scented breeze,
Stirring men's hearts like summer trees. ~CGP

Like wafts of sweet scent from a lover's letter, man's greatest delight is in the sanctuary of God's presence gracing his existence as he studies and meditates in the Written Word. One day soon, those sweet wafts of Presence will fade into the background of eternity as believers join Him face to face! Our life should be the preparation of our heart and soul for that glorious rendezvous! There'll be a marriage feast in Glory to celebrate that rapturous day of final union! *"The righteousness of Jesus Christ,"* will be the wedding gown of *"the Bride of Christ."* No dowry is required. Everything is provided by and for the Groom. *"And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God."* Do I hear Wedding Bells?

"Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of Him in peace, without spot, and blameless." 2 Peter 3:13-14 KJV