

God's Presence In Our Lives

Part 1

"12 Moses said to the LORD, 'You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.' 13 If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people." 14 The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." 15 Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. 16 How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?" 17 And the LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name." (Exodus 33:12-17)

God's presence in your life is that what you need so that your life will be possible, fruitful and enjoyable. You might have riches, power, talents authority and influences, but all these will not replace or take place the presence of God in your life. Moses told the Lord, **"If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here."** Moses knew and he was aware of the importance of the presence of the Lord in his life and the life of His people, the church.

At the time of Moses and after God had delivered his people from the Egyptians and Pharaoh's army, God's presence was among His people with cloud in the day time and fire in the night, and that continued. Even when Moses was meeting with the Lord the cloud was there over that place of meeting, **"7 Now Moses used to take a tent and pitch it outside the camp some distance away, calling it the "tent of meeting." Anyone inquiring of the LORD would go to the tent of meeting outside the camp. 8 And whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people rose and stood at the entrances to their tents, watching Moses until he entered the tent. 9 As Moses went into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and stay at the entrance, while the LORD spoke with Moses. 10 Whenever the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance to the tent, they all stood and worshiped, each at the entrance to his tent. 11 The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent." (Exodus 33:7-11)** So here we found that the whole people as a congregation of the Lord bound with the Lord by the movement of the cloud and with their leader Moses. Everyone wanted to enquire of the Lord need to inquire from the Lord in the **tent of meeting** and with the presence of the cloud and with the presence of God's servant, Moses. The application of that for us today that each and every family or individual in each and every decision they do, the church should get involved in that decision making.

From the above scripture we found also that everyone worshipped in his own tent while they were watching Moses meeting with the Lord in the **tent of meeting**. This here it show the importance of *first* the family worship (Every family to worship the Lord daily in their suitable time) and *second* the corporate worship together as a congregation of the Lord, that we come together as a church to serve the Lord and worship Him.

After that the Lord instructed Moses to make the tent of meeting and arranged it as the following as we can read in **Hebrews 9:1-5** **"1 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."

The ark of the covenant and the mercy seat in it is the place that supposed God to sit and be throne in the mid of the congregation of his people. Further description of the Ark of the Covenant and the mercy seat where God was seated we can read here: **"1 Betzal'el made the ark of shittim wood. Its length was two and a half cubits, and its breadth a cubit and a half, and a cubit and a half its height. 2 He overlaid it with pure gold inside and outside, and made a molding of gold for it round about. 3 He cast four rings of gold for it, in its four feet; even two rings on its one side, and two rings on its other side. 4 He made poles of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold. 5 He put the poles into the rings on the sides of the ark, to bear the ark. 6 He made a mercy seat of pure gold. Its length was two and a half cubits, and a cubit and a half its breadth. 7 He made two Keruvim of gold. He made them of beaten work them, at the two ends of the mercy seat." (Exodus 37:1-7)** The people were really pound with the presence of God, his tabernacle, his ark of covenant, and with the Ark of the Covenant and the mercy seat. Their movement in timetable; their direction and planning were totally in link with God's presence and His decision for them. No one would had a personal decision to decide to go and move or to stay and rest unless it is bound with God's presence and decision. We can read further about that here: **"15 On the day the tabernacle, the Tent of the Testimony, was set up, the cloud covered it. From evening till morning the cloud above the tabernacle looked like fire. 16 That is how it continued to be; the cloud covered it, and at night it looked like fire. 17 Whenever the cloud lifted from above the Tent, the Israelites set out; wherever the cloud settled, the Israelites encamped. 18 At the LORD's command the Israelites set out, and at his command they encamped. As long as the cloud stayed over the tabernacle, they remained in camp. 19 When the cloud remained over the tabernacle a long time, the Israelites obeyed the LORD's order and did not set out. 20 Sometimes the cloud was over the tabernacle only a few days; at the LORD's command they would encamp, and then at his command they would set out. 21 Sometimes the cloud stayed only from evening till morning, and when it lifted in the morning, they set out. Whether by day or by night, whenever the cloud lifted, they set out. 22 Whether the cloud stayed over the tabernacle for two days or a month or a year, the Israelites would remain in camp and not set out; but when it lifted, they would set out. 23 At the LORD's command they encamped, and at the LORD's command they set out. They obeyed the LORD's order, in accordance with his command through Moses." (Numbers 9:15-23)** The people of God were so appreciative and aware of the importance of God's presence and being crucial for any decision and movement in their lives.

My Dear and Beloved: The Ark of the Covenant and the mercy seat in the mid of it is supposed to be your heart that Jesus entered and ruled over your life when you give your life to God. Where God's presence is, there is the best place for you to abide with, for this will be the source for your joy, peace and that will be the source of protection and provision in your life, and above all the sense of direction and the assurance for whatever tomorrow may hide to you as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the Cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word to me. O Lord forgive my sins _____ and forgive me being un keen to cherish and to keep your presence in my life. Lord help me to realise my mistakes and to repent from all sins that had taken away your presence from my life, so that once again you will come to me and be with me, and that I will enjoy and have fruitful life. This is s my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*