

The Dwelling Place of God

Ephesians 2:18-22,

“For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.”

Notice. **Those who have Eternal Life, were with Him and in Him, in His thinking**, before there ever was an Angel, star, Cherubim, or anything else. That's Eternal. **And if you have Eternal Life (John 5:24), you always were.** Not your being here, but the shape and form that the infinite God...

And if He isn't infinite, He isn't God. **God has to be infinite (1 Kings 8:27).** We are finite; He is infinite. **And He was omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent.** If He isn't, then He can't be God. Knows all things, all places, because of His omnipresent. Omniscient makes Him omnipresent. He is a Being; He's not like the wind. **He is a Being; He dwells in a house (Exod. 25:40; Heb. 8:1-5).** But being omniscient, knowing all things, makes Him omnipresent, because He knows everything that's going on.

There can't be a flea bat its eyes but what He knowed it. And He knowed it before there was a world, how many times it'd bat its eyes, and how much tallow it had in it, before there ever was a world. That is infinite. We can't comprehend it in our minds, but that's God, infinite! ^[1]

Now, the word "infinite" cannot be broken down into any word by any language. Therefore, God being infinite and omniscient, He knows all things, and He knows everything that's going on at all places at all times. **But He Himself is a Person, dwelling in one place.** Therefore we could call Him omniscient. ^[2]

God is omnipotent, omnipresent. **By being omniscient, makes Him omnipresent; He knows all things.** But God could not be just like the air is, because **God has a dwelling place. God is not a myth. God is a Being; God, Jesus. He, God (pronoun), He is a Being.** Therefore He's omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent, and infinite.

Now, to be infinite, it comes through a word "infinite," which "there is no limit." **He is Eternal. Eternal is like a ring.** It goes around and around, and you're trying to find where it began or where it ends. **There is no beginning or ending to it.**

God is like a great Diamond that sets like this. And the gifts of the Spirit (*I Cor. 12*) is the reflection of this Diamond, that reflects rays of light off of this big Diamond. Like nine spiritual gifts in the church, is like nine rays that the Holy Spirit is reflecting into the church. What a Light to walk in, from the one great Diamond, God. [3]

His great foreknowledge tells Him all these things, by foreknowledge.

He's omnipresent because He's omniscient; omniscient because He's omnipresent. Therefore, by His foreknowledge... Now, He can't be just like the wind over the earth, **because He is a Being.** He just isn't a myth. **He's a Being. He dwells. He even dwells in a house (Isaiah 66:1-2). He dwells in a place called Heaven. And therefore, by His omni-, being omnipresent;** being omniscient, knowing all things, then He is omnipresent because He knows all things. [4]

"Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in houses that's made with hands," (Acts 7:48) and another place over in Isaiah (Isa. 66:1). He said, "A body has Thou prepared Me; see, sacrifice and offerings, and buildings, and so forth (Thou wouldest not), but a body has Thou prepared Me." (Heb. 10:5-6). Well, we realize that he was speaking then of the body where God tabernacled, in Christ (John 2:19-21). [5]

He was a God Man. He was Divine. He was virgin born. God, Jehovah, God overshadowed a little virgin and brought forth the virgin born Son of God (*Isaiah 7:14*). **And that was a Tabernacle or the dwelling place of Jehovah Himself.** Jehovah walked in a tabernacle of flesh, and paid the price for sin (*II Cor. 5:18-19*). Don't you never let Him be a prophet! **He was the God of the prophets!** Sure was. He was more than a good man. **He was the God of the good men.** [6]

Now, **God gave Christ the Spirit without measure (John 3:34).** Is that right? **The Fullness of God was in Christ (Col. 2:9-10).** He was God Emmanuel. We know that. There's no doubt in our minds of that. Just like as I said, "The whole ocean full of water, all the waters from the ocean were in Christ. But this little gift that you see working here, is just a little teeny bit of--like that--on the spoon laying there, just a drop." I can see it. **But in Christ was the Fullness of God.** We have it by measure (*Rom. 12:6*). **He had it**

without measure, the Bible says. See? Without measure, no way, He's just unlimited. **He had the Spirit of God.**

Now, one day, when God, knowing that His Spirit dwelt fully in Christ, He wanted to use His gift that was in a Man, **the corporal body called Jesus, which was His dwelling place. The body is a tabernacle.** God was tabernacling here on earth. Do you believe that, brethren? In the body, Christ (*John 1:1-3,14-18*). [7]

We realize that in the Old Testament under the Mosaic law, any reader knows that there were three compartments, two veils, in the set-up of **God's tabernacle in the wilderness** (*Numbers 7:89; Exod. 25:22; 33:7-11*). The first was the congregation, then the holy place then the holiest of holies. **That's God's house; that's God's dwelling place** (*Exod. 40:34-38*).

That's your dwelling place. Now, you only live in a three room house, remember. You may have two bedrooms; you may have three kitchens, **but you only live in a three room house** (*I Thess. 5:23-24*). **God lived in a three room House.** When God was here on earth, **He occupied a three room House, the Soul, Body, and Spirit of Jesus Christ.** [8]

Now, here is what happened. Oh, this just gets me right where I love it. See? **The Logos, and this great Fountain, this great Fountain of Spirit which had no beginning or no end; this great Spirit began to form, in the creation, and the Logos that went out from It was the Son of God. It was the only visible form that the Spirit had. And It was a theophany, which means a body,** and the body was like a man.

Moses saw It when It passed by the rock (*Exod. 33:19-23*). And he looked at It, said, "It looked like the hind part of a man."

It's the same type of body that we receive when we die here. "If this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting." (*II Cor. 5:1*). That was It. **And that was the theophany which was the Son of God. That Son, that Logos, became flesh, because we were put in flesh.** And the theophany, the Logos, became flesh (*John 1:1-2,14*), here among us, and It was nothing else **but the dwelling place, for that entire Fountain dwelt in Him** (*Col. 2:9-10*). Oh, do you see it? There It is. [9]

Now, in Matthew 28:18, we read these. After He had been crucified and rose again on the third day, He met with His disciples and commissioned them to go into all the world, to preach the Gospel to every creature. He said, "All powers in Heaven and in earth has been given unto My hands. All the power in Heaven, all the power in earth, has been given unto Me." What was it? **Man and God had united.** The Logos had been made flesh and had been

killed, and rose again for our justification, and was then the anointed Emmanuel forever and forever (*Matt. 1:21-23*). **God changed His dwelling place, from a Throne in the spaces yonder, to the heart of His Son, Christ Jesus**, to live and reign forever. "God was in Christ." (*II Cor. 5:18-19*). **He's the final resting place of the Spirit.**

The Spirit stayed in a tabernacle, one day, you know that, under tent. "And Solomon built Him a house (*II Chron. 5*). But, howbeit, the most High dwelleth not in houses made with hands." "But a body has Thou made Me."

Over in the Book of Acts 7:44-50, when Stephen said, "All of them foresaw It. They built a tent for Him, Moses did, had a tent, and put the ark in there, for God was on the Mercy Seat. He didn't dwell there." All right.

Then, "A body has thou made Me," **the body of the Lord Jesus Christ**, made lower than the Angels to taste death; and none **but the very highest of High, Christ; the Prince of Peace, the King of kings, the Lord of lord, the Creator, every star in the universe.** [10]

The Father was Almighty Jehovah God dwelling in a Tabernacle called Jesus Christ, which was the anointed Son of God. Jesus was a Man; **God is a Spirit**. And no man has seen God at any time, but the only begotten of the Father has declared Him (*John 1:18*). **His Personality, His Being, His Deity, whatever He was, He was God. He was nothing less or nothing more than God. Yet, He was a man. He was a man, a house that God dwelt in.** That's right. **He was God's dwelling place.** [11]

What is the Tabernacle now? A Body, God tabernacling in a Body. God once, up high, when He come down on the mountain, even if a bullock or a cow touched the mountain, he must be killed. God is holy (*Exod. 19*). Now, holy God could not condone sin, so nothing could touch the mountain where God was.

Then God was made flesh and dwelt among us, in the form of Jesus Christ, **His Son, His creation. Then that Son gave His life, and the Blood cell of God was broken, that the Life might come out of the Blood, to us** (*John 19:31-34*).

Through that Blood we are cleansed. And now our blood, our life (*Rom. 8:3-4*), which came by living through sexual desire, brought our life in the world. **The Blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us** (*I John 1:7*), **changes our nature, by sending upon us the Holy Spirit; we become into the divine nature of God** (*II Peter 1:3-4*); then we become a dwelling place for God.

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God prophesied through the prophet and said, *"I will write My laws in their hearts, where I put them, in the tables of their hearts."* (Heb. 8:10-13). **Showing that that would be the dwelling place of God in the human heart, not the human head, but the human heart.** Amen. "I will write them in their heart. And they'll keep My statutes," saith the Lord.

God said in another place over in Ezekiel 36:24-28, He said, *"I will in that day, take out your old fleshly, stony heart. And I'll give you a new spirit, and I'll put My Spirit in you."*

Now, a lot of people, even you Pentecostal people, lot of times get mistaken in that. **You get a new spirit; that's not God's Spirit; that's you.** That isn't God. You get a little happy, because you got a new spirit and you jump up-and-down, run around over the floor, maybe, and shout a little bit, and speak with tongues, and think you got the Holy Ghost. That's not it. **That's a new spirit, God gave you.** That's you.

Notice, you put a new spirit. **God has to give you a new spirit, or you couldn't even get along with Him.** You can't get along with yourself, that old devil spirit you had in you. So He's got to put a new spirit in you so you can get along **with His Spirit.** Amen.

"I will put a new spirit in them. And I will put My Spirit in them," He said, after He's given you a new spirit; **that's you.** Don't get it confused with God's Spirit; it's not. It's your new spirit, so you can get along with the Holy Spirit, if He ever gives it to you. Amen. 'Cause you in your condition never get along. You can't get along with your wife. You can't get along with your husband, can't get along with your neighbor. How are you ever going to get along with God? So He has to give you a new spirit, before you can get along with Him.

So He puts a new spirit in you, and then He puts His Spirit in you, gives you a new spirit, a new outlook, a new faith, then He puts His Holy Spirit in you (Heb. 3:1-6). [13]

The sin question's settled when the Holy Spirit comes into the human heart (Heb. 10:2; I John 5:18). It casts down reasoning. It goes above our intellectual affair. Now, today the reason **so many ups-and-downs enter the religious people,** because there's an intellectual conception of Christ. **In other words, it's in their mind and not in their heart.** See it? **They just mentally believe it.** And your mental will reason, "Could it be so? Could Divine healing be so? Could the baptism of the Spirit be so?" Now, **that's intellectual reasonings.**

But when that comes into the heart, it's a faith (Rom. 10:8-13). It's a positive. There's no question at all about it. It's all settled forever. It's in your

heart. **And your heart doesn't reason, because it's the throne, the dwelling place of the Almighty in the heart.** [14]

The Holy Spirit will make every movement like Christ. It'll make you Christ-like. **The fruits of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, goodness, meekness, gentleness, patience, faith** (*Gal. 5:22*). **Those things are what the Holy Spirit controls, our emotions.**

Our emotions is not so much as jumping up-and-down. You could do that. A shindig will bring that to you. **But the Holy Spirit brings you into operation, or in control of God,** that you walk in peace and in love and in joy with longsuffering, goodness, meekness, gentleness, patience. You see? **It isn't something that you do. It's something the Holy Spirit does in you.** You see, it's no longer an intellectual thought of your own; **it's a subconscious moving of the Holy Spirit.** Oh, I wish I could shout the praises of God around the world to that.

Church of the living God, there's where our Pentecostal move failed. We have some man-made musical, clap hands, jump up-and-down emotion. When if we go back out on the street and the Holy Spirit doesn't govern our lives to cooperate with that, we have not got the Holy Spirit. That's not skim milk. But, brother, that's what the church needs. **Only life can come by the Holy Spirit.** [15]

The Church is now supposed to be taking the place of Christ, carrying on His ministry. *"He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also. Yet a little while, and the world seeth Me no more; yet you shall see Me, for I will be with you, even in you, to the end of the world."* See? **There it is, carrying on His work** (*John 14:12-19*).

God dwells in the stature of a man, reflecting Himself into that Being. Perfect worship! God in us, being His Tabernacle, God manifesting.

So, you see, **we're all trying to get to this dwelling place, Tabernacle of the living God** (*II Cor. 6:16*).

He brought His Church up. He's bringing His people up. Then Peter here says, first, seven things: faith, virtue, (see, come up), knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly love, add brotherly kindness, **and then the love of God; the Holy Ghost, Christ in the person of the Holy Ghost, comes upon you, in the true baptism of the Holy Ghost, and you got all these virtues sealed in you. Then, God lives in a Tabernacle, called the Building, the living Tabernacle of the living God's dwelling place** (*II Peter 1:3-11; I Cor. 3:16-17; I Cor. 6:19-20*).

Add to your faith, virtue; add to your virtue, knowledge; to your knowledge, temperance; to your temperance, patience; to your patience, godliness; to your godliness, brotherly love; **to your brotherly love, the Holy Spirit, and Christ will come. 'Cause just beneath Him, the Holy Spirit, is the Spirit of Jesus Christ into the church to manifest those virtues.**

Now, that is the house that God dwells in, not a building with a big bell on top of it and a high steeple, but, **"a body has Thou prepared Me," a body that God can dwell in, God can walk in, God can see in, God can talk in, God can work in,** living instrumentality of God. **God walking on two feet in you.** Glory. **"The footsteps of the righteous is ordered of God,"** God walking in you, **for ye are written epistles, read of all men (II Cor. 3:1-3).** And if the Life that's in Christ be in you, **you'll bear the Life that Christ bore.** [12]

Now, many people say that, "I will go to heaven because my faith tells me so. I belong to church, and my faith tells me that I'm all right."

Now, I believe in the grace of God too. But look, no matter what your faith is, you're not going to be judged by your faith; **you're going to be judged by your works (James 2:14-26).** **And when you die, death does not change your spirit; it only changes your dwelling place. It only changes houses for you.** And if you die in your sins, you go to a worse habitation than what you're living in now (*Luke 16:19-31*). But if you die in Christ, you shall be with Christ for He is the Way (*Phil. 1:21-24*). [16]

And remember, when you die and that soul leaves you, it never changes. No, sir. **Death doesn't change the soul. It changes its dwelling place, but it's still the same soul.** So if it isn't born again (*John 3:3-8*), and a part of the eternal Spirit of God, it had a beginning. Anything with a beginning has an end. That's the reason God's the only thing's eternal.

Unless you're born again and have eternal life (*John 5:24*), (the Greek word "Zoe" there means **"God's own life" in you**), **you'll perish. But where God's life is in you, you can no more perish than God can perish because you are a son, an offspring of God, and have Eternal Life (Rom. 8:12-17).** Oh, that's the thing the church needs. **Then when God is in you, then He lives His own Life through you. See? And that's how we know that we're Christians.** Then you're concerned about your brother. [17]

Men and women, it's time to shake yourselves and to examine yourselves, and see where we are standing, for death does not change it.

Moses and Elijah had been gone for two thousand years; almost twenty-five hundred years, **and here they return with the same nature and do the same things** (*Matt. 17:1-8*).

Death doesn't do nothing to a man but change his dwelling place, doesn't change your nature, doesn't change your faith, doesn't change nothing in you but your dwelling place (*John 14:1-3*).

If you're a doubter of God's Word, you would be a doubter over there. I don't care how holy you are, how you live, and how good you live, it wouldn't change you one bit to die, **just your dwelling place. And if you can't accept the whole Word of God the way It's written**, you wouldn't do it There; so, don't worry, **you won't be There**.

You've got to accept It in Its fullness, in the power of Its vindication and the revelation of what It is, then you become a part of It. It's only His Word that He'll raise up, as He did His Word on the first Easter morning. Only His Word came forth, and those who had died in His Word, believing His Word and vindicated His Word. [18]

Reference

- [1] "Who Is This Melchisedec" (65-0221E), par. 48-49
- [2] "Dedication" (59-0708M), par. E-5
- [3] "It Wasn't So From The Beginning" (60-0306), par. E-10
- [4] "Things That Are To Be" (65-1205), par. 37-38
- [5] "What House Will You Build Me" (65-1121), par. 21
- [6] "Raising Jairus Daughter" (56-0731), par. E-23
- [7] "India Trip Report" (57-0126B), par. E-58
- [8] "A Hidden Life" (55-1006A), par. E-25
- [9] "Hebrews Chapter 1" (57-0821), par. 129-130
- [10] "Hebrews Chapter 2 Part 2" (57-0825E), par. 121-124
- [11] "Questions & Answers On Hebrews Part 2" (57-1002), par. 435-439
- [12] "The Stature of a Perfect Man" (62-1014M), par. 69-74, 75-77, 84, 341, 451, 346
- [13] "The Inter Veil" (56-0121), par. E-59-60
- [14] "The Infallible Proof of the Resurrection" (57-0114), par. E-32
- [15] "What Does It Take to Make a Christian Life" (57-0113) par. E-35
- [16] "To Whom Would We Go" (60-0606), par. E-17
- [17] "Convinced Then Concerned" (62-0118), par. E-52
- [18] "Recognizing Your Day and Its Message" (64-0726M), par. 68-70

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There's coming one with a Message that's straight on the Bible, and quick work will circle the earth. The seeds will go in newspapers, reading material, until every predestinated Seed of God has heard It.
[Bro. Branham in „Conduct-Order-Doctrine“, page 724]