



# JESUS OPENS THE WAY THROUGH THE VEIL

Lesson 10 for March 5, 2022

Hebrews introduces Jesus as our mediator and representative. We can come to God through Him. The Sanctuary and its services and feasts were a representation of Him.

We can better understand the work that Jesus has been doing before the Father in the Heavenly Sanctuary since He ascended by studying the symbols in the Sanctuary.



→ How to come before God

→ What could prevent us from coming before God:

🍷 Fear before His presence

🍷 An impenetrable veil

→ Removing the impediments:

🍷 The new and living way

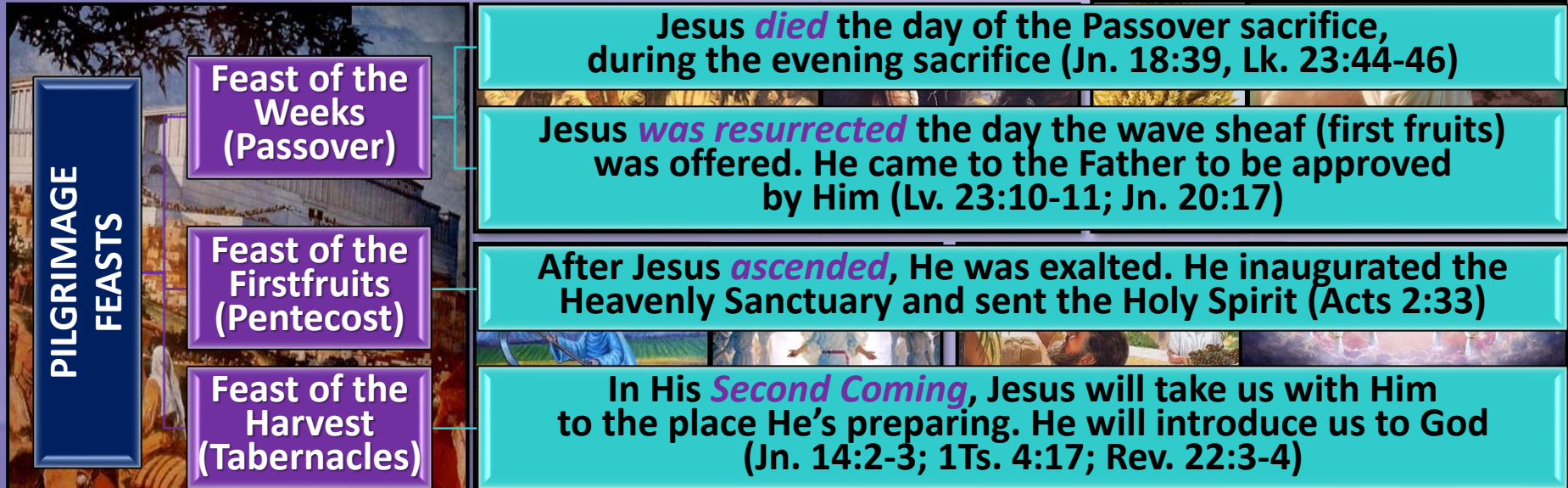
🍷 Coming to His presence



# HOW TO COME BEFORE GOD

“For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;” (Hebrews 9:24)

The Israelites had to appear up before God at the sanctuary three times a year (Ex. 34:22-23). Those feasts represented specific moments when Jesus would come before the Father as our representative:





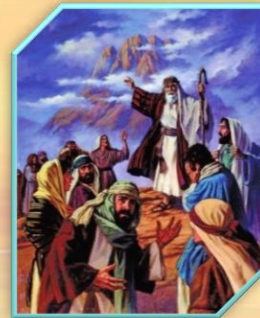
# FEAR BEFORE HIS PRESENCE

“And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, ‘I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.’” (Hebrews 12:21)

**Paul graphically described the moment God showed Himself to Israel at Sinai to speak to them (Heb. 12:18-21).**

**Although a security perimeter was established, the experience was still terrible: “We understand we can hear God and still live. But please, stop speaking or we will all die.” (Dt. 5:23-26, paraphrased)**

**Their faith faltered, so they asked Moses to mediate between God and them (Dt. 5:27). That was not God’s original plan. God wanted His people to come close to Him and to share His holiness, mercy, and compassion (Ex. 19:13b; 34:6-7).**

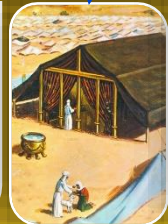
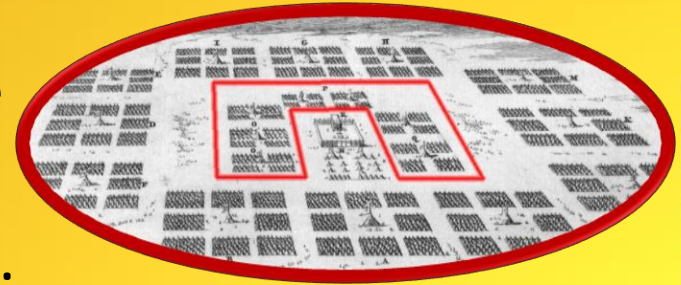




# AN IMPENETRABLE VEIL

"And the Lord said to Moses, 'Tell Aaron your brother not to come at just any time into the Holy Place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, lest he die; for I will appear in the cloud above the mercy seat.'" (Leviticus 16:2)

There was a human security perimeter around the Sanctuary (the Levites) so people wouldn't come too close to God and die. The priests were the intercessors between God and the people. We are priests today, and we are called to connect God with those who don't know Him yet.



A veil prevented the worshipers from entering the Sanctuary (they could only enter during the day). A second veil could only be crossed by those who had a special covenant with God, the priests. A third veil prevented everyone except the high priest from having direct contact with God.

Jesus is the Veil that allows God to live within us without us being consumed (1Co. 3:16).

# THE NEW AND LIVING WAY

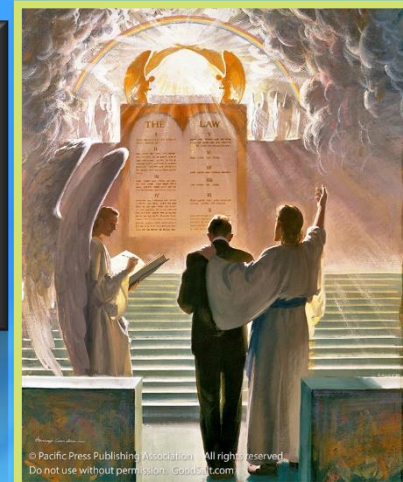
**"And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place." (Hebrews 10:19-20 NLT)**



**Jesus is not only the Veil that allows God to live in us. He is also an open Veil that created a new way to God's presence.**

**This new way is the new covenant that Jesus sealed with His blood (Mt. 26:28).**

**Before Jesus died, Satan was in God's presence to constantly accuse us (Zech. 3:1). However, Jesus began His high priest ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary after He ascended. Satan was permanently expelled from Heaven, and Jesus came before the Father as our advocate. (Rev. 12:7-11; 1Jn. 2:1).**





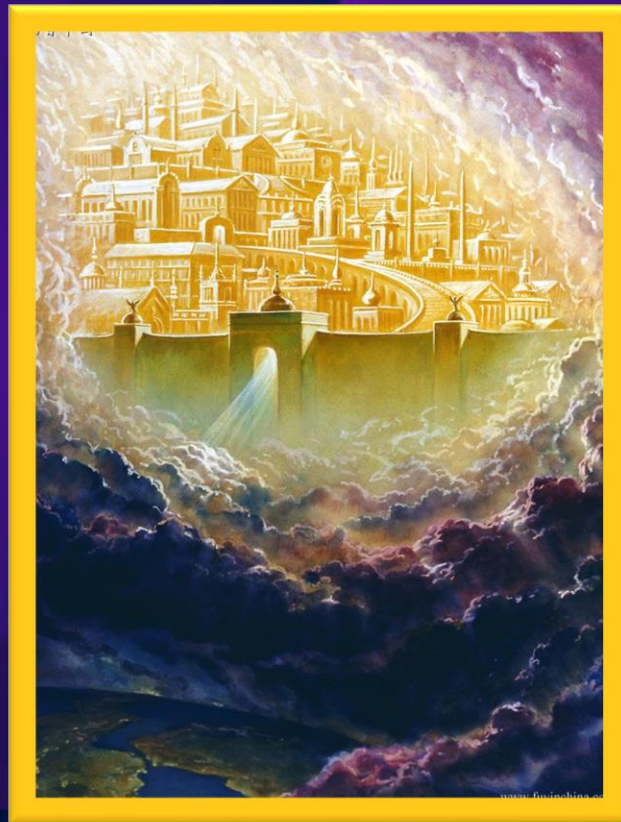
# COMING INTO HIS PRESENCE

*"But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels," (Hebrews 12:22)*

God's manifestation at Sinai was surrounded by darkness. In this verse, Paul introduces a different manifestation, this time full of glory and light: Mount Zion, the Heavenly Jerusalem, the choir of angels praising God, God sitting on His throne and making the "firstborn" that He bought with His blood righteous, and Jesus as our mediator (Heb. 12:22-24).

This is a vision of the day we will celebrate the Feast of the Tabernacles with Jesus in Heaven. But it is more than that; it's a vision for today. We are already there! We have already come into God's presence!

Our representative is already there. Let's walk every day "as seeing Him who is invisible" (Heb. 11:27).



**“The intercession of Christ in man's behalf in the sanctuary above is as essential to the plan of salvation as was His death upon the cross. By His death He began that work which after His resurrection He ascended to complete in heaven. We must by faith enter within the veil, ‘whither the forerunner is for us entered.’ Hebrews 6:20 [...] Jesus has opened the way to the Father's throne, and through His mediation the sincere desire of all who come to Him in faith may be presented before God.”**

**E. G. W. (The Great Controversy, cp. 28, p. 489)**