

27. Christ - A Better Intercession

Ex 30:1-10, 34-38; Hebrews 7:23-25

- Altar of Incense: 3ft x 1.5 x 1.5ft. Incense offered twice daily
- Incense linked to prayer: Ps 141:2, Luke 1:8-10, Rev 5:8, 8:3-4

1. Prayer is a privilege for Forgiven People

- Incense Altar (the privilege of prayer) comes after the Sacrifice Altar (forgiveness)
- Strong connection between altars—same name, design, time of use, coals
- Ex 30:10 Incense altar had to be atoned for before prayer offered.

a) Christ's prayer for you is a blood-bought privilege

- High Priest offering incense a picture of Christ praying (Heb 7:24-25)
- Christ's praying is tied to the people he sacrificed himself for (Is 53:12, Rom 8:34)
- Without the cross Christ could ask for nothing for you

b) The Christian's prayer is a blood-bought privilege

- God hears all prayers, he may answer unbeliever's prayers, but he isn't bound to.
- Prayer is a family privilege to those brought into God's family through his Son
- "In Jesus' name"—the foundation of our prayers, the reason we can ask.

2. Christ prays for his forgiven people

- Almost right in the presence of God prayer is offered for God's people
- Christ prays for his people (John 17:9), every (17:20) and each one (Luke 22:31,32)

a) He prays Perfectly for you

- Incense is Holy, perfectly balanced, unique
- Christ's prayers for you flawless, balanced, right

b) He prays Pleasingly for you

- Incense is fragrant, sweet, pleasing
- Christ's prayers for you pleasing to the Father, not wearisome
- The Father delights in Christ's requests for you

c) He prays Powerfully for you

- The altar has horns a symbol of power
- Christ's prayers for you powerful and effective (Ps 21:1,2)

d) He prays Persistently for you

- Incense offered twice daily (Ex 30:7,8)
- Christ prays for you every step of the way (Heb 7:25)

3. Christ enables his people to pray

- Both a challenge and an encouragement to prayer. We aim, he enables.
 - Christ makes your prayers Perfect
 - Christ makes your prayers Pleasing
 - Christ makes your prayers Powerful (James 5:16)
 - Christ makes your prayers Persistent (1 Thess 5:17)



Notices

Sunday Evening meeting at Day Centre

Tuesday Review and planning meeting

Sunday 26th Rev Jon Maginn speaking at evening meeting

Presbytery News

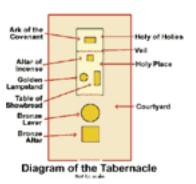
Gateway Christian Fellowship formally established yesterday. Rev Stephen Neilly installed as pastor

Peter Jemphrey to be installed as pastor in Galway on 12th May



The Altar of Incense

8pm



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