#### 2. Worship & the Tabernacle of David

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Sub-title: Gentiles seeking the Lord

Recently we launched a series of messages about worship. We are studying God's Word about worship in connection with the Tabernacle of David.

- Worshipping God is the highest expression of our faith
- Worshipping God is/will be a major feature of the end-time church
- We sense a renewed drawing of God's Spirit into the place & practice of worship
- The Tabernacle of David foreshadowed the worshipping church

#### James 4:8 (NKJV) Draw near to God and He will draw near to you ...

- As we draw near to God in worship, He draws near to us
- The level & intensity of God's presence in our lives is determined by the level & depth of our worship

#### Main points of our 1<sup>st</sup> message:

- 1. Old Testament Worship versus New Testament Worship
- 2. A new and living way of Worship
- 3. God is rebuilding the Tabernacle of David

Amos 9:11–12 (NKJV) On that day I will raise up the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, and repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old; 12 That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and all the Gentiles who are called by My name," says the Lord who does this thing.

- The Tabernacle of David was primarily about:
  - God's Presence (Ark of the Covenant)
  - Unrestricted Worship
- Acts chapter 10 onwards became a partial fulfilment of Amos' prophecy concerning the rebuilding of David's Tabernacle
- Since the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on the cross, Gentiles (non-Jews) can be saved and come into the Presence of God

- Today we will discuss the Tabernacle of David in further detail
- Since God is rebuilding it, we should know how it relates to us today!

### 1. Three main Records of the Tabernacle of David in the Bible

- a. When David built it and brought the Ark of the Covenant into it1 Chronicles chapters 15 & 16
- b. When Amos prophesied saying that God would rebuild it Amos 9:11–12
- c. When Pastor James of the Jerusalem church quoted Amos' prophecy in connection with Gentiles getting saved Acts 15:13-17

#### 2. The First Council of the Church at Jerusalem

- From Acts 10 onwards, Gentiles (non-Jews) started to come to Christ
- Simon Peter, in response to a vision from God, went to the home of a Roman soldier (Cornelius) & preached the gospel to him & his household
- In Acts 11, Simon Peter had to justify himself before the other apostles
  & leaders in Jerusalem, since he has gone to the house of an "uncircumcised" Gentile
- Thereafter, the gospel began to be preached freely to Gentiles (Hellenists)
- Some Judaizers demanded that the new Gentile converts be circumcised
- So the church in Antioch sent a delegation to the church in Jerusalem to discuss the matter with the apostles and elders

Acts 15:13–17 (NET) After they stopped speaking, James replied, "Brothers, listen to me. 14 Simeon has explained how God first concerned himself to select from among the Gentiles a people for his name. 15 The words of the prophets agree with this, as it is written, 16 'After this I will return, and I will rebuild the fallen tent of David; I will rebuild its ruins and restore it, 17 so that the rest of humanity may seek the Lord, namely, all the Gentiles I have called to be my own,' says the Lord, who makes these things.

- James summarised their discussions about Gentile conversions, and quoted Amos' prophecy about God rebuilding the Tabernacle of David
- Vs. 17 So that the rest of humanity may seek the Lord, namely, <u>all the Gentiles</u> I have called to be my own,' says the Lord
- Clearly, the "rebuilding of the Tabernacle of David" has to do with Gentiles seeking the Lord & coming to Christ

- The early church (up to Acts chpt. 10) were (exclusively) Jewish believer
- Thereafter, Gentiles started to get saved en masse

#### 3. The Gentile Church

Galatians 3:6–9 (NLT) In the same way, "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." 7 The real children of Abraham, then, are those who put their faith in God. 8 What's more, the Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would make the Gentiles right in his sight because of their faith. God proclaimed this good news to Abraham long ago when he said, "All nations will be blessed through you." 9 So all who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith.

- The church today is largely made up of Gentile believers
- But the day is coming soon when all Israel will be saved

Romans 11:25–27 (NET) For I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: A partial hardening has happened to Israel until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. 26 And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion; he will remove ungodliness from Jacob. 27 And this is my covenant with them, when I take away their sins."

- We are in the Times of (the Fulness of) the Gentiles
- A partial hardening (blindness) has happened to Israel, which will end when the full number of Gentiles have been saved
- Then, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus Christ, all Israel will be saved

## 4. In Christ, God creates "One New Man" from both Jews and Gentiles

Ephesians 2:11–22 (NLT) Don't forget that you Gentiles used to be outsiders. You were called "uncircumcised heathens" by the Jews, who were proud of their circumcision, even though it affected only their bodies and not their hearts. 12 In those days you were living apart from Christ. You were excluded from citizenship among the people of Israel, and you did not know the covenant promises God had made to them. You lived in this world without God and without hope. 13 But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ. 14 For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that

separated us. 15 He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups. 16 Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death. 17 He brought this Good News of peace to you Gentiles who were far away from him, and peace to the Jews who were near. 18 Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us. 19 So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. 20 Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. 21 We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. 22 Through him you Gentiles are also being made part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit.

#### 5. In Christ, there is neither Jew nor Gentile

Galatians 3:26–29 (NLT) For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. 28 There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.

# 6. <u>Amos' prophecy of the restoration of David's Tabernacle complete</u> <u>fulfilment</u>

Revelation 5:8–10 (NKJV) Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9 And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, 10 And have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth."

• We have been called "out of" **every** <u>tribe</u>, <u>language</u>, <u>people</u> and <u>nation</u> to worship Jesus Christ