Dig-a-bit Month 2 Episode 4
The Hand of God: Hand Delivery
Cindy Colley

The Forever Sanctuary of His Hands

Well, Good morning. We are spending most of our Dig-a-bit time this month in the book of Exodus. We'll discuss some more of what's outside of the Book of Exodus, of course on our podcast, but this is a rich section here full of the hand of God in Exodus chapter seven through 15. And I wanted to take that last reference to the hand of God that we have in Exodus 15:17.

It reads —and this is in the song of Moses, where he is praising the deliverance of God from Egyptian captivity, specifically the opening up of the Red sea— And he says in verse 17, you will bring them in, and you will plant them in the mountain of thine inheritance. How prophetic is that? When we're thinking about that God is going to procure, he is going to acquire that mountain in Jerusalem, and he's going to plant Israel there in the mountain of his inheritance in the place, O Lord, which you have made for you to dwell in, in the sanctuary.

That's where the temple was going to be built. O Lord, which thy hands have established. But this prophecy is much bigger than Judaism being administered from Jerusalem, because the next verse says, the Lord shall reign forever and ever. So when we read about that sanctuary KJV is an uppercase S, there we are reading in the big term prophecy about the church.

Well, Cindy, how do you know that? How do you know this is about the church and not just Zion, Jerusalem, Judaism? Well, let's turn over to the New Testament really quickly. This will be brief, but let's turn over in our New Testaments first of all to Hebrews 12. And we're going to look at the context that is around verse 22,

And remember, we've just gone through this hall of faith In Hebrews 11. We began chapter 12, Seeing, we are also compassed about with a great cloud of witnesses. Let's lay aside every weight and the sin which easily besets us, and let's run with patience the race that's set before us.

Looking to who? Looking to Jesus, the author and perfector or finisher of our faith, who, for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down where? At the right hand of the throne of God. Think about him who endured this gain, saying this mocking of sinners against himself, lest you be wearied and faint in your minds.

You've not yet resisted the blood striving against sin, and you've forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as children, my son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord. Don't faint when you are rebuked of him, for the Lord loves whom he chastens. We are in a context here of Jesus finishing our faith, and of God loving us enough to chasten us and bring us through the trials and tribulations.

And then we come down to verse 17, you know that when he would have inherited the blessing he was rejected, for he didn't find a place of repentance. We're talking about Esau here. We're going back to the blessing of promise that Esau didn't get. For you are not come to the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire —talking about Sinai here— blackness, darkness, and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words.

Which voice? Those who heard entreated that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. They didn't want to hear it anymore, for they could not endure that which was commanded. And if —they're talking about the children of Israel here who rebelled over and over and over— and so terrible was the site that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake.

This is a contrast between Sinai and our Mount Zion. Verse 22, get this, but you are come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels. I love that we in the church have access and are going to an innumerable company of angels to the General Assembly. What's he talking about here?

The New Jerusalem— the church of the first born. Verse 23, whose names are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of all just men made perfect. Where did our Savior, go when that eternity changing event happened that we talked about last time? The resurrection, he went. This same chapter tells us he is set down, verse two, at the right hand of the throne of God.

And he's going to bring the Zion there. That's where the Zion's going to be. This is the church. We are the New Jerusalem, and we are going to the heavenly Zion. When I see first Peter 2:6, well, we're going to have to start earlier than verse six. If so, it is that you've tasted that the Lord is gracious to whom you are coming as unto a living stone rejected of men. He was the stone rejected of men, chosen of God. Remember that sanctuary on the mountain that was spoken of by Moses in Exodus prophetically?

Let's think about that sanctuary. There was a building, stone upon stone, built in Jerusalem, the Solomonic Temple, replaced later by the temple of the Zerubbabel. But now he says, we're going there. You also, verse five, as living stones are built up, a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up not those blood of bulls and goats, but spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Verse six. Here we go. Wherefore also it's contained in the Scripture. Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious. And he who believes on him shall not be confounded. What is the chief cornerstone of the sanctuary today, of the temple today? Unto you therefore which believe he is precious, but unto those who are disobedient the stone which the builders rejected, that same stone is made the head of the corner, a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense to those who stumble at the word being disobedient.

But you, verse nine, or a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you should show forth the praises of him who have called you.

They were called out of the bondage of Egypt into freedom to go to a mountain and establish a sanctuary. But we have been called out of darkness into his marvelous light, escape from bondage to our Zion, which is identified in Hebrews as the church which is going to the heavenly Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem that we read about, of course, in many places, but specifically a lot in the book of Revelation.

Christ is the chief cornerstone in the sanctuary that was prophesied about in that reference to the hand of God in Exodus chapter 15, that sanctuary, that forever sanctuary, as it said, he will rule there forever and ever. That forever sanctuary is the heavenly Jerusalem, the church which will, whose names are enrolled in heaven. And that company will one day join in innumerable company of angels in the heavenly Zion.

All right. I hope that you have a good day. I love God's Word. I love digging into the study of the hand of God. Don't you? Have a great one!