

MELEAH HOUSE OF PRAYER – Rob Giesey

“Partakers of the Heavenly Calling.”

I. IDENTITY THEFT

- a. One of the biggest issues today is “identity”.
- b. The enemy is out to steal identity. Satan steals identity by not allowing us to know our identity. When identity is not spoken to the human spirit then people will live according to cultural norms and not the kingdom of God.

Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint...(Prov. 29:18)

- c. When our eternal identity touches our heart there is an awakening to purpose in the now.

II. OUR IDENTITY AS A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS BEFORE GOD

- a. The reason Jesus loved us and washed us from our sin was TO BE apart of a kingdom of priests to His God.

⁵ And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood—⁶ and He has made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father—to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. (Rev. 1:5-6 NASB)

- b. The call to be a partaker of the heavenly calling.

¹...Holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, CONSIDER the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, ² who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house. (Heb. 3:1-2)

- c. Peter’s revelation of the church as a temple: The apostle Peter gave us the revelation that the church is a temple with each individual being like a stone. When the stones come together it makes a temple for the presence of God.

⁴ And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, ⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

- d. Peter’s revelation of the church as a royal priesthood: The apostle Peter gave us the revelation that the churches identity is a royal priesthood. This priesthood’s role is to proclaim the praises of God. This touches the reality of day and night worship around the throne of God being declared on the earth.

⁹ But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ ***who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy. (1 Pet. 2:9-10)***

- e. Paul's revelation of the church sitting with Christ in heavenly places: The apostle Paul gave the church revelation that we are seated with Christ in heavenly places (Eph. 2:6). In light of this reality we need to meditate on the realities of what are in heaven (Col. 3:1-4).

⁶...Raised us up together and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. (Eph. 2:6)

¹ Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. ³ For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. (Col. 3:1-4)

III. THE DESIRE OF GOD

- a. The desire of God:

By giving ourselves to the study of heavenly things we enter into the desire of God. Jesus demonstrated this desire through His teaching on prayer and through His prayers before the cross.

⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." (Matt. 6:9-10)

²⁴ "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me...(John 17:24)

IV. PROPHETIC PROMISES OF PRIESTHOOD FILLING THE EARTH

- a. Malachi 1:11, Habakkuk 2:14

God speaks through the prophets that He will raise us a priesthood that fills the earth with incense and the glory of God.

"For from the rising of the sun even to its setting, My name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense is going to be offered to My name, and a grain offering that is pure; for My name will be great among the nations," says the LORD of hosts. (Mal. 1:11)

“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.” (Hab. 2:14)

b. Isaiah 2:2-3, 56:7

Isaiah describes the Lord's house in Jerusalem and all nations flowing to it. He describes that the Lord's house is “A house of prayer” and will involve Jews and Gentiles in worship. ***² Now it will come about that in the last days the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; And all the nations will stream to it. ³ And many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; That He may teach us concerning His ways and that we may walk in His paths.” For the law will go forth from Zion and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. (Is. 2:2-3)***

⁷Even them [gentiles] I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.” (Is. 56:7)

- c. The prophets Amos and Ezekiel give us prophetic promises of priesthood established at the second coming of Jesus in the Millennial Reign.

Amos 9:11:

The prophet Amos pointed to a reestablishing of David's Tabernacle in Jerusalem. As in the days of David there is no veil with this priesthood. This is the glory of God near His people.

Ezekiel 40-48:

This prophet pointed to detailed descriptions of the coming temple in Jerusalem in the Millennial age. This temple includes singers, musicians, and priests ministering to God with the glory of God coming through the east gate into the temple.

V. THE PRIESTHOOD AND TEMPLE IN HEAVEN

- a. Jesus is our High Priest that ministers right now in heaven's temple (house of prayer). Paul teaches us that we are seated with Christ in heavenly places (position of priests) (Eph. 2:6).

We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, ² a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man. (Heb. 8:1-2)

b. Jesus' priestly order

The bible speaks of only two priesthoods.

- 1) The Aaronic order performed by Levites according to the law.
 - 2) The order of Melchizedek performed by Jesus.
- c. The order of Melchizedek is one not of law but according to endless life.

¹⁹ This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, ²⁰ where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. (Heb. 6:19-20)

¹⁵ And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest ¹⁶ who has come, not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life. ¹⁷ For He testifies: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." (Heb. 7:15-17)

- d. Jesus has ascended into heaven's temple and is making intercession for us continually.

¹¹ But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. ¹² Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. (Heb. 9:11-12)

²³ Also there were many priests, because they were prevented by death from continuing. ²⁴ But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. (Heb. 7:23-25)

VI. PROPHETIC PROMISES OF THE PRIESTHOOD IN HEAVEN

- a. Jesus promises a dwelling place in the Father's house in eternity. This is a reward for following Him to the end. Dwelling places were normal for Levites (priests) in the temple.

² In My Father's house [temple or HOP in heaven] are many mansions [dwelling places]; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (John 14:2-3)

- b. Those who overcome by persevering by keeping God's word are rewarded to be set as pillars in the heavenly temple.

¹² He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name. (Rev. 3:12)

- c. The fifth seal martyrs are rewarded in eternity by ministering to God in His temple.

¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?"¹⁴ And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. (Rev. 7:13-15)

- d. The bondservants of God are rewarded in eternity by given ministry to God face to face.
³ And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. ⁴ They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. ⁵ There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever. (Rev. 22:3-5)

VII. THE BOOK OF REVELATION'S INSIGHT ON THE TEMPLE IN HEAVEN - ARTICLES IN HEAVEN'S TEMPLE

- a. There is an ark in heaven's temple.

¹⁹ Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. (Rev. 11:19)

- b. The glory of God manifests in smoke filling the temple in heaven:

Like in the earthly temple found in the Old Testament, the glory of God manifests like smoke filling the temple prohibiting movement.

⁸ The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed. (Rev. 15:8)

VIII. ACTIVITY IN AND OUT OF HEAVEN'S TEMPLE

- a. God sends messengers out of the temple in heaven:

- Messenger angels are released from the temple in heaven to declare harvest time.

¹⁴ Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. ¹⁵ And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap,

for the harvest of the earth is ripe.”¹⁶ So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped. (Rev. 14:14-16)

- Messenger angels are released from the temple in heaven to declare judgment. *¹⁷ Then another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle.¹⁸ And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, “Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe.” (Rev. 14:17-18)*
- The temple in heaven is opened and seven messenger angels are released from the temple in heaven to release the seven plagues on the antichrist and those who worship the antichrist.

⁵ After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. ⁶ And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands. ⁷ Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God who lives forever and ever. (Rev. 15:5-7)

IX. INTERACTION ON EARTH WITH THE HEAVENLY TEMPLE

6...Raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. (Eph. 2:6)

- a. Psalm 27:4, Psalm 2, Psalm 110 – David longs to be in the heavenly temple. His request is granted by seeing two conversations in the heavenly temple with the Father and the Son.
- b. Isaiah 6:1-7 – Isaiah is commissioned as a prophet when encountering the King in the heavenly temple.
- c. Rev. 11:6 and 16:1-21 – The church (two witnesses) are releasing the judgments of God found in the hands of angels commissioned from heavens temple.
- d. Matthew 27:51 – At the death of Jesus the veil was torn in the earthly temple representing an open vail in the heavenly temple.
- e. Rev. 11:19 – The heavenly temple is opened and the ark is seen releasing a change in weather patterns on the earth through hail and earthquakes.

X. THE CALL TO KEEP THE CHARGE

- a. Ez. 44:15 - The Lord calls the sons of Zadok (those who follow the Lord even through controversy) to come near Him and minister to Him by taking His charge.
 - This commissioning to keep charge is in the context of Levites following a backslidden nation as they worship idols.

- God is calling His people to “keep His charge” by ministering to Him.

b. The charge of the Lord is found in 1 Chronicles 16.

- King David positioned the priests around the ark with no veil with instruments to minister to God. This is the exact scene that is found in Revelation 5. It is my conviction that David was allowed to see the reality of Revelation 5 worship due to the positioning and nature of what he told the priests to do.

So they brought the ark of God, and set it in the midst of the tabernacle that David had erected for it. Then they offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before God. ² And when David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD... ⁴ And he appointed some of the Levites to minister before the ark of the LORD, to commemorate, to thank, and to praise the LORD God of Israel: ⁵ Asaph the chief, and next to him Zechariah, then Jeiel, Shemiramoth, Jehiel, Mattithiah, Eliab, Benaiah, and Obed-Edom: Jeiel with stringed instruments and harps, but Asaph made music with cymbals; ⁶ Benaiah and Jahaziel the priests regularly blew the trumpets before the ark of the covenant of God. (1 Chron. 16:1-2, 4-6)

- They were positioned to COMMEMORATE, TO THANK, and to PRAISE the Lord. This is keeping the charge of the Lord.
 - 1) Commemorate: Reminding God of the things He has spoken.
 - 2) To thank: To be grateful before Him.
 - 3) To praise: Joy and singing to God.

c. I believe the Lord is calling His people back to “the charge of the Lord” as a lifestyle.