

Types And Shadows: Wilderness journey

- After being set free from bondage and slavery and then passing through the Red Sea the Israelites begin their wilderness journey. This wilderness journey will be a type and shadow of earthly lives after salvation. The final destination is the Promised Land.
- The Israelites did not have permanent homes in their wilderness journey, but rather lived in tents that were temporary. These tents were taken down and put up at the camp where God would lead them. At the center of the camp was always the Tabernacle where the ceremonial sacrifices and ordinances would take place and where Yahweh's presence would dwell in the Holy of Holies. All the tents were arranged according to their tribes (**Numbers 2:1-3:39**) and subsets of the Levites (**Numbers 3-4**) would be camped the closest around the Tabernacle.
- The Tabernacle was always at the center of the camp, and it was to go with the Israelites wherever they went.
- The tents the Israelite camped in represent the temporary nature of the journey.
 - Tents is also the analogy Paul uses to describe our bodies while we are on our wilderness journey marching to the promised land.
 - **2 Corinthians 5:1-5** For we know that if the **earthly tent** which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For indeed in this *house* we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven, ³inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not be found naked. ⁴For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed but to be clothed, so that what is mortal will be swallowed up by life. ⁵Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.
 - The tents the Israelites used were temporary until they reached the Promised Land and this is the same for us. We are nomads journeying through the wilderness of life living in our tents until we enter our permanent dwelling (the Promised Land).
 - As we are in our earthly tents, just like the Israelites had the Tabernacle in the center when they camped, so should God and His presence be the center of our lives.

(Numbers 20: 1-12) to only speak to the rock and not strike it for the water to come out. What was the difference this time? The Rock represents Jesus. He was struck (crucified) only once so that the Living water that would quench our spiritual thirst permanently. Now we speak to this Rock for the living waters in prayer for the guidance of His Spirit. We speak and confess He is Lord and speak to ask the Rock for forgiveness, guidance, wisdom, etc via the Holy Spirit. We are able to come and speak to Him because He was struck for us on the cross.

- The feast of booths was the last of the fall festivals (Leviticus 23:33-43). It was the end of the agricultural year when grapes and olives were harvested in Israel. This was a time to give thanks to God for His provision and ask God for His future providence.
 - Other places in the Bible where the feast of booths is mentioned(Not an exhaustive list):
 - This was considered one of if not the most joyful of all the feasts and festivals. The people live in tents or booths for 7 days to commemorate and remember living in tents in their wilderness journeys and how God provided for them and dwelled among them.
 - Gentiles were allowed to come and worship and learn of Yahweh via the feast of booths, but only through Israel. This is the mystery of the Gospel in the Old Testament. (Deuteronomy 31:10-13)
 - The tents were made of foliage of beautiful trees, **palm branches**, and boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook.
 - **John 12:12-13** On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, ¹³took the branches of the **palm trees** and went out to meet Him, and *began* to shout, “Hosanna! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, even the King of Israel.”
 - He tabernacled us, made his tent with us, dwelt with us!
 - **Revelation 7:9-12** On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, ¹³took the branches of the **palm trees** and went out to meet Him, and *began* to shout, “Hosanna! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, even the King of Israel.”
 - **Revelation 21: 1-4** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer *any* sea. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, “**Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them,** ⁴and He

will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be *any* death; there will no longer be *any* mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”

o We are finally being tabernacled by Yahweh, we are in the Promised Land and our earthly tents have been done away with in lieu of our permanent residence.

- Moses could enter the Promised Land.
 - At first glance this may seem unfair since God disqualified Him from entering the Promised Land after one sin (**Numbers 20:1-12**). The wage of one sin is death (**Romans 3:23**). If you are guilty of breaking one part of the law, you are guilty of them all (**James 2:10**)
 - Moses represents the Law which no one will ever be justified (**Romans 3:19-20**)(**Galatians 2:16**) and is fitting that he not enter the Promised Land.
 - The one coming after Him, Joshua (who is a type of Christ, whose name is where the name Jesus is derived, and whose name means “God is deliverance”) would be the one to lead them into the Promised Land.

There’s more to the story!!