

The Ministry of Suffering – Part D
IN HIS PRESENCE
Knowing God in the Sanctuary
Whitmore SDA Church
August 14
Sabbath Service

Play Video (Foundation Page)

This is a condensed view of the purpose of our Foundation. It was birthed out of intense suffering, for those who weren't here last week. This is part 3 & 4 of back to back Sabbaths where we see God's plan to restore us through the Sanctuary.

Our Opening Texts—John 11:25 – I am the Resurrection and the Life

{Just look at first one here}

Show slide with text

The first text you recognize from last week, though John 11:35, was in reference to my experience that first night at 3 am, when I woke up with that surge of emotion and grief, telling God I felt I was gonna go insane unless I get a handle on it. How do people survive the loss of a child?

Immediately Holy Spirit brought these 7 words to me

“I am the Resurrection and the Life”

“I am the Resurrection and the Life”

“I'm an ever present help in trouble”

If any of you are going through an unbearable situation, remember, God knows our grief, He understands, He has been there, He grieves with us.

At the end of that weekend, someone had told us,

there are two types of lights in the world;
the one burns slowly and for a long time,
the other **burns quickly**, but **very bright**.

Show slide of Mia's Tombstone.

The Lord gave her this drive, this focus, to put all her energy into the plans He had given her, for truly a case can be made, with biblical support, that Brianna's life was to follow a pre-determined path (like John, the Baptist)--

To burn quickly, but very bright.

But isn't this the case with all of us? God has a “pre-determined” path for each life, that if we respond to Holy Spirit's calling, especially early in life, we will fulfill His plans for us?

She was a Photographer/ Cinematographer
Pilot and Scuba Diver all at 19

Sharing Brianna's story has opened doors for us to go share it more widely.

Jesus was sealing her that week in the blessing that Monday night—a sponsor had come forward to assist with her commercial aviation. {There was more that I didn't share last week on this account}. After receiving the initial news at the dinner table, she went and called a couple friends to tell them to have faith in God, for this is what He was doing for her. Then she came back to the table and told her mother —

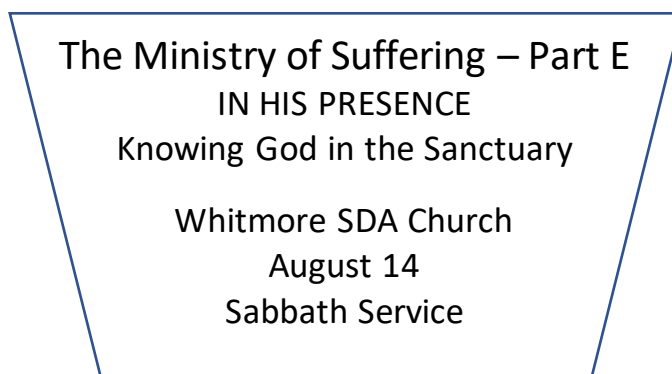
“I just can't believe the Lord would do that for me.” To which her mother replied, “That's how much God has faith in you.” He needed her to grab hold of His faith and run without, even if it was only for the rest of the week.

That week (the last week of her life) Brianna informed her mother about a letter she had written some months earlier. I'm going to read portions of that letter now, it is very touching. You will see that she was responding to the Lord's leading in an area most Christians struggle with their entire lives.

{Read Brianna's Letter to Dena}

We just rely on donations, trusting the Lord to supply our needs.

Now we turn our attention to the Spiritual food for the Hour...



I. Opening Texts:

John 11:25 – I am the Resurrection and the Life; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

Philippians 3:10 – That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His suffering, being made conformable unto His death.

II. Jeremiah 17:12 – A glorious high throne from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary.

III. Statement on the Sanctuary

There are many precious truths contained in the Word of God, but it is "present truth" that the flock needs now. I have seen the danger of the messengers running off from the important points of present truth, to dwell upon subjects that are not calculated to unite the flock and sanctify the soul. Satan will here take every possible advantage to injure the cause.

But such subjects as the sanctuary, in connection with the 2300 days, the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, are perfectly calculated to explain the past Advent movement and show what our present position is, establish the faith of the doubting, and give certainty to the glorious future. These, I have frequently seen, were the principal subjects on which the messengers should dwell. {EW 63}

- IV. We will be looking at the Three Steps to Victory process for the rest of the service this morning, since there are concepts we need to become more familiar with and it is easier to show these concepts than in the Seven step process we looked at in more detail with the furniture.

Benefits of the Atoning Death of Jesus involves:

Three Steps to Victory:

1) Come to the Cross Daily

-Claim Those Atoning Benefits of the Death of Jesus in order to embrace His resurrected life.

2) Put on the Mind of Jesus –Daily

-Embrace His resurrected life. It is Jesus life in you that is not attracted to sin. (All the Benefits of Christ in us!)

3) Establish Habits That Will Glorify God in Your Life –Daily

-New Thoughts, New Feelings, New Motives are Implanted via Holy Spirit—Thus, New Pathways are formed

- V. Rest of the segment focus on Sanctuary slides.

- VI. Read this last statement

“The temple of God is opened in heaven, and the threshold is flushed with the glory which is for every church that will love God and keep His commandments. We need to study, to meditate, and to pray. Then we shall have spiritual eyesight to discern the inner courts of the celestial temple...When Zion shall arise and shine, her light will be most penetrating, and precious songs of praise and thanksgiving will be heard in the assemblies of the saints. Murmuring and complaining over little disappointments and difficulties will cease. As we apply the golden eyesalve we shall see the glories beyond. Faith will cut through the heavy shadow of Satan, and we shall see our Advocate offering up the incense of His own merits in our behalf. When we see this as it is, as the Lord desires us to see it, we shall be filled with a sense of the immensity and diversity of the love of God. {6T 368.2}

- VII. Read Pastor Bill’s Letter.

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I. Show Video, “Am I worth Something?”

Have you felt like that because you keep making the same mistakes over and over again? Wondering how can I ever get the victory?

You may feel like trying harder, but that just digs the hole deeper.

II. Seven Steps to Prayer through the Sanctuary *(make ref to Outline)*

First the Review

These Seven Steps will bring the Victory of Christ to Maturity in His people:

1. **Praise** – Begin Worship with Praise to God *(Psalm 100:4)*
2. **Come to the Cross Daily** – Claim the **atonement benefits** of death Jesus
(Psalm 116:12)
3. **Laver** – Let the precepts of God’s word **wash** through your mind
empowered by **the cleansing agent** of the **Holy Spirit**
(Titus 3:5,6; Heb 10:19-22)

{Courtyard}

{Holy Place}

4. **Seven Branch Lampstand** – solid piece of gold furniture, heated & beaten 7x to reflect light through suffering. **Wicks / Oil / Flame** used to **consume** our sinful characters and transform them into **holy** temples for the Lord. (*Ex 25:6; 30:7,8; Zech 4:1-6; Rev 4:5; 5:6*)
5. **Table of Shewbread** – The body (bread) and blood (grape juice) of Christ is taken into the life for the strength of mind, body, spirit, and character that comes only from a living relationship with Christ. Shewbread was renewed every Sabbath.
(*Heb 7:25; John 6:47-58, 63; Rev 1:10; 21:2*)
6. **Altar of Incense** – Here is where we commune with God, coming boldly to the throne of grace. At this point in our prayer, we are emptied of self, covered by the righteousness of Christ, imbued and assisted by the Holy Spirit. (*Rom 6:26, 27; Rev 8:3, 4; Psalm 141:2*)

We get so afraid of the word “Perfection” (read SOP stmts) that we pull back.

People have told us that they were led to believe growing up that when their name comes up in judgment at the Sunday law crisis, its pass or fail.

No, the Judgment of the Living is a process we are going through now
– A Preparatory Process –

{Read Judgment of the Living Page}

We now will take a look at the last furniture in our 7 step process of prayer through the Sanctuary. This will be the most exciting of all the seven steps.

Step 7. **The Ark of the Covenant**

The Ark of God is where God weighs characters to see if they are in harmony with His holy law.

If we have taken steps 1-6, we have nothing to fear, for we are in Christ and there is no condemnation, for we are **forgiven by His blood** and covered **by His righteousness**. But we need to participate with God as **He shines light** on our

motives, and all the secrets of our heart, for only thus can He cleanse and purify us completely.

Judgment is participating with God in *searching* for deep inner motives and roots of sin, and sins of ignorance which also must be revealed and cleansed by the blood of Jesus.

So what we are now going to look at is an organ in the brain which is almond shaped. Does anyone know where in the sanctuary there is something almond shaped?

[Show picture of the Amygdala]

Practically Speaking

Take any emotion, say

Show HHG Book & Card

- Shame
(Who was shamed for you?)
- Pornography
(Possible sexual abuse)
- Fear

Lord take this thing out of my experience.

Show Sanctuary Chart again

Altar of Sacrifice >> Wash at the Laver >> H.P
(sanctification process)



Q&A

Go over material

Lev 16:16, 30 – The DOA was to cleanse both the sanctuary and the people of their sins.

Jer 17:1 – Sin is graven up the table of the heart as well as the horns of the altar

Jer 17:9, 10 – The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? The Lord searches the heart and tries the reins to give every man according to the fruit of his doing.

Psalms 11:4,5 – From His throne, His holy temple, the Lord tries the righteous.

Isaiah 4:3,4 – God's people are cleansed by judgment.

Isaiah 1:27 – God's people are redeemed with judgment.

Ezekiel 18:30-32 – The purpose of God's judgment is to make our sins known to us so we can repent, cast our sins away from us (through the blood of Jesus) and have a new heart and spirit.

Ezekiel 20:11 – God shows us His judgments so we can do them and live.

Psalms 27:5 – In the time of trouble He shall hide me in the secret of His tabernacle.

Rev 18:1-4 – The loud cry is a call to come out of the errors of Babylon into the protection of the true sanctuary of God before the plagues fall.

Psalms 91 – God is our refuge and fortress during the plagues.

“The life we live is to be one of continual repentance and humility. We need to repent constantly, that we may be constantly victorious. When we have true humility, we have victory. The enemy never can take out of the hand of Christ the one who is simply trusting in His promises.” -7BC 959