

# The Tabernacle

## The Badger Skins - Conveying The Wonder of The Lord

### Introduction

In the previous paper it was observed that, “the badger” what ever it was, had to be a clean creature for God would never have approved it for His Holy dwelling place. Being clean it foreshadowed the purity of the Lord in every aspect of His life, His speech, joys, purposes or thoughts in His heart and mind. They were always pure. That which is natural in our hearts and minds was never found in His for:

- a) There was no deceit in His heart (Jer. 17:9); “evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies” were never found in him (Matt. 15:19), neither was the proud heart (Prov. 21:4). Concerning the purity of His mind, He never rejected or suppressed the will of God, the rights of God, or the word of God as the people Paul spoke of (Rom. 1:21-31). His mind loved the Lord His God with all His heart, soul and mind (Matt. 22:37) and always thought of others (Phil. 2:5). We all imagine things or what it would be like to have abundant wealth etc., the Lord never imagined anything. He only dealt with truth, therefore when He said the Father “had given all things into His hands” (Jn. 13:3), that was not imagination but was the truth of God.
- b) In the Old and New Testament, apart from the specific verses which prophetically or specifically speak of the impeccability of the Lord, the Holy Spirit gives seven typical negatives of the Lord. In the instructions for the offerings it is specified there was to be “no blemish, no spot” (Num. 19:2); “no feathers, no crop” (Lev. 1:16); “no leaven, no honey” (Lev. 2:11); “no yoke” (Num. 19:2); and “no ill blemish” (Deut. 15:21).
- c) This amazing man was the only one who could ascend the hill of the Lord and stand in the holy place, for He alone had, “clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully” (Psa. 24:4). The Lord was and ever will be the only man being in complete conformity to God the Father, who could lift up His eyes to heaven and speak to God without a sacrifice.
- d) In the New Testament one can easily think of the words of Pilate’s wife (Matt. 27:19); Judas (Matt. 27:4); Pilate (Lk. 23:4; Jn.19:4, 6); and the thief (Lk. 23:41).
- e) It is irrelevant how enlightened one is by the Holy Spirit to the richness of the impeccable holiness of the Lord, that is a truth only God can fully appreciate.

Being clean indicated the beauty of the Lord to God. The beauties of the Lord, again is something which only God has the judicial ability to perfectly evaluate (Matt. 11:27; Lk. 10:22), and only He has the expertise to determine what is beautiful. Understanding that beauty to God is perfect conformity to Himself, then since God is righteous, only a person who is perfectly and perpetually righteous can be beautiful to Him. God is Light, only a person who is perfectly and perpetually light can be beautiful to Him. God is love, only a person who is perfectly and perpetually love can be beautiful to Him. This is what Christ was.

How wonderful are the words of the Psalmist when they come from our hearts, “One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD” (Psa. 27:4). There were those who saw something special in the Lord, but it was with a limited comprehension of the glory of His person or the magnificence of the purposes of God for His future. He is and will be, “A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel” (Lk. 2:32).

### The Beauties of The Lord

It has often been said that beauty is in the eyes of the beholder! To the natural sin darkened individual there was nothing beautiful in the life of the Lord. John wrote, “And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not” (Jn. 1:5). Furthermore, John gives the reason the natural individual sees nothing lovely in Christ, “And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil” (Jn. 3:19).

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Despite our common concepts, Isaiah 53:1 is not speaking of His physical characteristics, His were not what they were looking for. When our Lord came He was not the militarily, religiously, vocationally, environmental leader which they had been looking for. They looked for someone who would keep the traditions of the fathers and religious leaders, not rejecting pseudo spirituality as was the practice, or a military leader. They did not see the carpenter of Nazareth as this. They expected someone high born and aristocratic, not someone from Galilee. "They answered and said unto him, Art thou also of Galilee? Search, and look: for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet" (Jn. 7:52); "Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?" (Jn. 1:46). To the unbeliever He was a nothing, a common carpenter, yet in the eyes of God, His beloved Son was beautiful in every way. He was beautiful in: His consistency (Jn. 8:29); His sighs (Mk. 7:34; 8:12); His yielding to His Father's will (Lk. 22:42); His thoughtful compassion (Matt. 15:32); His tears (Lk. 19:41); His speech (Lk. 4:22); His censuring of the disciples (Matt. 8:26), and in the other thirty plus features of His person.

### 1) The mystery of His person:

- a) That which the common Israelite saw was only the outward appearance of the Tabernacle. They could never see the glories of that which was within it, so with our Lord. Years ago when in a home where I was staying, some visitors came. Some I knew and one I did not know, so being introduced I was told, "This is B. J. Singh, he is a golfer". I had never heard of the man but since he was from Fiji and I had been there on several occasions, we had a delightful time speaking about his homeland. It was not until later I learnt that he was one of the greatest golfers of the world. I only saw the outer man not his skills, etc. To those around, the Lord was spoken as being a "just man" (Matt. 27:19); an "innocent man" (Matt. 27:4, 24); "A teacher come from God" (Jn. 3:2); "A man" (Matt. 11:19); "This fellow" (Matt. 26:61), "This man" (Lk. 15:2); a "deceiver" (Matt. 27:63); all the while failing to see the wonder of His person.
- b) After Ulysses Grant won the Civil war, with deep desires and expectations he returned to his home. Sadly, neither did his family or wife recognize him, for the passing of time and agony of war had been hard on him. There was one work by which He could show to them that would perhaps assure them he was Ulysses. Taking a bow so strong that only he could draw it, he drew the bow, and pulling until the string came across the side of his face. Immediately he was recognized as Father and Husband. At first he was a stranger in his own house, rejected by his own until they saw the work of assurance. So it was with the Lord, "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not" (Jn. 1:11).
- c) When our Lord was here, while He was seen as prophet, a miracle healer, a great teacher, they did not see the:
  - i) Perpetual finality of His eternal sacrifice, the Ram skins dyed red.
  - ii) Personal accountability for the death of Christ, the Goat's hair curtain.
  - iii) Purposes God had for the glorification of Christ, the linen curtains.

### 2) The glory of the Lord's resurrected body:

- a) We cannot restrict ourselves to the wonder of the Lord while here on earth, for it was the man "Jesus" who ascended to heaven, and the "same Jesus" will come to bring us home. Expanding on the present body of the Lord, we know His resurrection body was a body that can live on earth and also in Heaven, for the Lord was on earth 40 days after His resurrection and ascended into Heaven in the same body. His body of glory is such that weariness, sleeping hunger and thirst, death, pain, suffering, and temptation are all things of the past, all experiences He knew on earth. That which we are afflicted with, which He never knew on earth, will be gone forever, such as sinful tendencies, sin's domination, satanic belittlement, and sickness. Surely we can say with the Psalmist, "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it" (Psa. 139:6).
- b) But such is the grace, mercy and love of God, the Holy Spirit through Paul informed the saints of God that they will have a body like the Lord's. Two matters are made clear:
  - i) The body of the Lord is a glorious body or more perfectly, "A body of glory" (Phil. 3:21; 1 Cor. 15:43, 49), thus we shall have bodies like His physically. John informs us that, "we shall be like Him" (1 Jn. 3:2), and since John is dealing of moral likeness, we shall be like Him morally.

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- ii) It will be a spirit body, a body of power, incorruptible, heavenly (1 Cor. 15:42-49). These are truths so profound our minds can never, even in eternity, comprehend. Never shall we cease to praise and adore the Son of His love who not only delivered us from going to the pit and being forever under the wrath of God, but in marvellous grace given is the place of Sonship (1 Jn. 3:2).

And is it so! I shall be like Thy Son?  
Is this the grace which He for me has won?  
Father of glory—thought beyond all thought!  
In glory, to His own blest likeness brought!

Oh, Jesus, Lord, who loved me like to Thee?  
Fruit of Thy work, with Thee, too, there to see  
Thy glory, Lord, while endless ages roll,  
Myself the prize and travail of Thy soul.

Yet it must be: Thy love had not its rest  
Were Thy redeemed not with Thee fully blest;  
That love that gives not as the world, but shares  
All it possesses with its loved co-heirs.

Nor I alone; Thy loved ones, all complete  
In glory, round Thee there with joy shall meet  
All like Thee, for Thy glory like Thee, Lord,  
Object supreme of all, by all adored.

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**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.**

**John 16:13**

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