

SECOND PETER CHAPTER 1

Lesson 20

PHYSICAL TABERNACLE

19 December, 2014

“Shortly I must put off this my tabernacle” (vs. 14)

Good men and bad men rise and fall. Our Lord Jesus Christ is the only one who possesses an everlasting kingdom. If your hope is in him, it shall not fail.

The physical body is referred to as a tabernacle. It is temporary. It is frail. It won't last long. While in the body, you can participate in things that matter and will last permanently—even after you put off your “tabernacle.”

EXODUS 26:1, 7 God told the Israelites to build the tabernacle out of linen curtains and goats hair; materials which will not last, and which speak of death.

EXODUS 36:8-15 The tabernacle served only one purpose: it was a place in which God was to be worshipped.

Your body is referred to as a “tabernacle” because of its frailty and temporary nature, but also because it is a place in which God is to be worshipped.

NUMBERS 1:50-53 The tabernacle is moveable. It doesn't stay in one location very long. But everywhere it goes, it is to be a testimony unto the Lord.

Sometimes people are carried where they don't want to go (John 21:18). You're frail, you're moveable, but you are always to be a testimony unto the Lord wherever you go.

1 KINGS 5:15-17, 6:7 God replaced the tabernacle with a temple. Still a place where God is to be worshipped, but now it is strong and permanent. Great stones are quite an improvement over linen curtains and goat skin coverings. This is a move from the temporal to the permanent.

The new temple was “fitly framed together” (Eph. 2:21).

1 KINGS 8:1-8 At the completion of the temple, the Ark of the Covenant is carried by the staves in the tabernacle—INTO—the temple. The Ark was translated to the temple, but the tabernacle ceases to be mentioned, as though it just disappeared.

This is a picture of the believer putting off the old body, which served its purpose for a season, and moving into a permanent glorified body where God will continue to be worshipped forever and ever.

2 COR. 5:1-8

When this “tabernacle” (our mortal body) is dissolved, we’ll move into a new “**house not made with hand, eternal in the heavens.**”

Just as the tabernacle disappeared as the temple swallowed it up, your frail mortal body will disappear as it is swallowed up and changed into a glorious body like unto His glorious body (Phil. 3:21).

God has made you (“wrought” vs. 5) so that you could dwell with Him forever. We ought to begin living for Him today. Don’t occupy yourself with the things of this life that make people “groan” (vs. 4).

2 PETER 1:15

Peter speaks of his soon decease. Decease speaks of the failure to stay alive. It is certain that we all will face our decease (unless caught out to meet the Lord in the air, 1 Thess. 4:17).

LUKE 9:28-31

When the Lord died on Calvary’s cross, it wasn’t failure; it was a great accomplishment! Jesus ACCOMPLISHED death! God could not die unless he prepared a body of flesh (Heb. 10:5) in which He COULD die. Death is a great accomplishment for an eternal God.

It is also an accomplishment because of one wonderful result: we live because He died!
