

## The Spirit of Prophecy Encountering His Mercy - Pt. 2

### Testimonies Reveal Covenant

- a. The whole focus of a covenant is upon the relationship between the parties that have entered into it. The Testimony performed the vital task of describing the nature of the covenantal relationship (that God entered into with His people, and they with Him) and defining the context in which it was to be walked out.
- b. The Testimony and Old Covenant reflect God's full awareness of Israel's sinful condition. God had to put up some strong boundaries so that sinful man could approach Him without dying instantly.
  - a. They did not know how to approach Him, so He set up parameters for their first few meetings: He told them to consecrate themselves and stay away from the Mt.
  - b. God displays his power and holiness: Exodus 20:18-21
    - i. They thought they needed to move away from God rather than learn how to approach Him, as Moses did.
    - ii. If you think that everything God says and does is an expression of His highest will, then the bible is confusing and contradictory.
      1. Ezekiel 18:4 - "The soul who sins shall die."
      2. 2 Peter 3:9 - "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."

### A Man After God's Heart

- a. David was a unique individual because he discovered the hidden dimensions of God's higher will for His relationship with His people. He discovered that God did not want the blood of bulls and goats but the sacrifice of a contrite and thankful heart.
  - a. Psalm 119: 24, 99
    - i. Wisdom, insight and passion for God are gained through testimonies
- b. Why would God want to establish a covenant with sinful people?
  - a. God gave the Testimony to train and prepare His people for the coming of the Messiah.

### Jesus: The Living Testimony

- a. Hebrews is a book end for the Exodus account of the giving of the Testimony and the building of the Tabernacle by detailing how each aspect of the Tabernacle's furniture and the ministry within it prophesied the superior, spiritual ministry accomplished by Christ through His death and resurrection.
- b. Christ was the living Testimony of God to the world. Everything that he was, said and did revealed the nature of the covenant that God desired to have all along with his sons and daughters.

## Accelerated Growth - Wednesday PM

- a. Being “In Christ” means that we actually get to participate in both dimensions of Christ’s priestly ministry.
  - b. Hebrews 10:19-22
  - c. Jeremiah 31:31-34
- c. Our job is to learn how to release the reality and power of the Testimony in the same way Jesus did. Jesus represented God much differently than the Ark of the Testimony represented Him. There is a difference between a box of inanimate objects that points to spiritual realities and a living testimony that interacts with and manifests those realities.

Hebrew word for testimony comes from a root word meaning; “to repeat, to do again.” This carries a dual dimension of “saying” and “doing”

- a. The testimony is something to be repeated, both in word and in deed. His Word cannot be separated from His works.
- b. If we are going to fulfill our role in this relationship, we must learn to keep the testimony, and in doing so learn to release His power to the world around us.