

# Bible Study Notes: Tabernacled with God

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## Introduction

During the Feast of Tabernacles we normally dwell on what this festival has to teach us about mankind and our tabernacling as sojourns and pilgrims in this world; as we wait for the Jesus' return and the earthly establishment of the kingdom of God. The Feast of Tabernacles also teaches us about God the Father and Jesus tabernacling or dwelling with mankind in the past, in the present and in the future.

## I. Jesus tabernacled with mankind in human flesh

A. The Feast of Tabernacles reminds us that Jesus came to earth and "tabernacled among us" in human flesh (**John 1:1-5, 9-14**).

1. "And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us. And we beheld His glory, glory as of an only begotten from *the* Father, full of grace and of truth" (John 1:14 *Green Literal Translation*).

2. "And the Word became flesh, and did tabernacle among us, and we beheld his glory, glory as of an only begotten of a father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14 *Young's Literal Translation*).

a. The Greek word translated as "tabernacled" is skenoo (4637) "to pitch tent, encamp; to tabernacle, dwell in a tent; to dwell, have one's abode" (*Mounce Concise Greek-English Dictionary of the New Testament*).

B. Jesus became a flesh and blood human (**Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 2:14-17**)

1. The Bible refers to the human body as a tabernacle or tent. By being born of a human mother, Jesus shared this same tabernacle of flesh:

a. "But I deem it right, so long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by a reminder, knowing that the putting off of my tabernacle is soon, as indeed our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me" (2 Peter 1:13-14 *Green Literal Translation*). *The King James Version* and *Young Literal Translation* use the word "tabernacle." *The New King James Version* uses "tent."

(1). The Greek word translated as "tabernacle" is skenoma (4638) "a habitation, abode, dwelling, the corporeal tabernacle of the soul" (*Mounce Concise Greek-English Dictionary of the New Testament*).

b. "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle is taken down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in Heaven. For indeed in this we groan, greatly desiring to be clothed with our dwelling place out of Heaven, if indeed in being clothed, we shall not be found naked. For indeed, being in the tabernacle, we groan, having been weighted down, inasmuch as we do not wish to be unclothed, but to be clothed, so that the mortal may be swallowed up by the life. And He having worked in us for this same thing is God, who also is giving us the earnest of the Spirit. Then always being fully assured, and knowing that being at home in the body we are away

from home from the Lord (for we walk by faith, not by sight), we are fully assured, then, and are pleased rather to go away from home out of the body, and to come home to the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:1-8 *Green Literal Translation*). *The King James Version* and *Young Literal Translation* use the word "tabernacle." *The New King James Version* uses "tent."

(1). The Greek word translated as "tabernacle" is skenos (4636), "*a tent, tabernacle, lodging; met. the corporeal tabernacle,*" (*Mounce Concise Greek-English Dictionary of the New Testament*).

## II. The Father and Jesus now dwell or tabernacle with us

A. Through the Holy Spirit the Father and Jesus now "tabernacles" or dwells in us (**John 14:15-17, 23-27; Galatians 2:20; Romans 8:9-11; 1John 4:12-16**).

## III. Jesus will dwell or tabernacle on earth after His return

A. Jesus will return and dwell or tabernacle with mankind during the thousand years (**Zechariah 2:10-11; 8:3; 14:1-4; Revelation 20:4-6; 5:10**).

## IV. The Father comes to tabernacle on earth

A. After the thousand years and the establishment of the New Heaven and Earth, Jesus and the Father tabernacle with mankind (**Revelation 21:1-3, 10, 22-23; 22:1-5**).

1. And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and the sea no longer is. And I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of Heaven from God, having been prepared as a bride, having been adorned for her Husband. And I heard a great voice out of Heaven, saying, Behold, **the tabernacle of God with men!** And He **will tabernacle with them**, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God (*Revelation 21:1-3 Green Literal Translation*).

(a). The Greek word translated as "tabernacle" in the phrase "the tabernacle of God with men" is skene (4633) "*a tent, tabernacle; genr. any temporary dwelling; a tent, booth; the tabernacle of the covenant, the celestial or true tabernacle; a division or compartment of the tabernacle, a small portable tent or shrine; an abode or seat of a lineage; a mansion, habitation, abode, dwelling,*" (*Mounce Concise Greek-English Dictionary of the New Testament*).

(b). The Greek word translated as "tabernacle" in the phrase "will tabernacle with them" is skenoo (4637) "*to pitch tent, encamp; to tabernacle, dwell in a tent; to dwell, have one's abode*" (*Mounce Concise Greek-English Dictionary of the New Testament*).

This dwelling or tabernacling with mankind described in Revelation 21-22 is not something temporary. Where Jesus' physical life was temporary. Our physical lives are temporary; so after we die the Father and Son no longer abide in us. Although when resurrected to our glorified spirit bodies I think some sort of union or dwelling together occurs, but I am not clear on that. The messianic age in which Jesus tabernacles or dwells on earth ruling for a 1000 years is temporary, to be replaced with the new heavens and earth which will last forever; A time when both the Father and Son will tabernacle with us, on earth forever.

**Conclusion**

\*Jesus tabernacled with mankind in human flesh

\*The Father and Jesus tabernacle with us now through the Holy Spirit.

\*Jesus tabernacles on earth after His second coming.

\*The Father comes to tabernacle on earth after the establishment of the New Heaven and Earth.

**We see the Father and Jesus in the Feast of Tabernacles through their tabernacling with mankind in the past, in the present and in the future.**