

Tentmaker

Paul worked as a tentmaker to pay his way. It's in Acts 18:3

3 *"So, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked; for by occupation they were tentmakers."*

I was reading these chapters of John. Three times Jesus mentions 'The ruler of this world', in 12:31, 14:30 and 16:11, but Jesus doesn't say exactly who this is. It wasn't until I got to Romans 5, that I think I've discovered the answer.

17 *For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.*

20 *Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more,*

21 *so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through the righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

So I think sin was the ruler of the world that ruled by death, now Jesus brought grace to reign through righteousness to eternal life.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Rom 6:23)

I am reading 'The wisdom of Solomon' it's amazing, what I read yesterday was echoed today, regarding the tabernacle being a copy of the one in heaven.

Let's say the book of Wisdom of Solomon = Wis. Solomon says in Wis 9:8

8 *"You told me to build a temple on your sacred mountain, an altar in Jerusalem, the city you chose as your home. It is a copy of that temple in heaven, which you prepared at the beginning."*

Hebrews 8:1-5

1 *Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,*

2 *a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.*

3 *For every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices. Therefore it is necessary that this One also have something to offer.*

4 *For if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law;*

5 *who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain".*

Hebrews 10:1

1 *For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect.*

Solomon knew, like Moses that he was only building a replica of the true tabernacle in heaven. I was pondering the phrase, 'shadow of the good things to come' and realised that if the 'sun' is behind an approaching object, an image of the object is cast in front of the object, in the form of a shadow. This could also be seen as the earthly tabernacle was before the 'Son of God' came, hence it is a shadow of the true tabernacle in heaven. Also now that we are reborn in Christ, we have received the deposit, the Spirit of God has entered us and we now become the earthly tabernacles where God's Spirit dwells.

Hosea 6:6

6 *For I desire mercy not sacrifice, And the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.*

Solomon also said Wis 6:12, 15 and 17-19.

12 *Wisdom shines bright and never grows dim; those who love her and look for her can easily find her.*

15 *To fasten your attention on Wisdom is to gain perfect understanding.*

17 *Wisdom begins when you sincerely want to learn. To desire Wisdom is to love her;*

18 *to love her is to keep her laws; to keep her laws is to be certain of immortality;*

19 *immortality will bring you close to God.*

Psalms 111:10

10 *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.*

Psalms 112:1

1 *Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, Who delights greatly in His commandments.*

1John 5:1-3

1 *Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.*

2 *By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments.*

3 *For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.*

Regarding all scripture

Test all things; hold fast what is good. (1Th 5:21)

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2Ti 3:16-17)

We must share what we have learned

How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification. (1Co 14:26)

I think that by sharing interpretations and personal thoughts it is the fastest way to grow in God's Word. Also by sharing with others, one's ideas are better thought through, and when challenged, it compels one to justify with valid reasons. Struggle develops spiritual muscle, and fitness in the Word is key to the accurate discernment of error.

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