**Rivers**

Tabernacle/Temple - patterned after Heaven (Heb 8:5)

 Moses, David, Solomon, Ezra

1. Ark/Mercy Seat - meeting place with Holy God/Father (Ex 25:22, Lev 16:2, Num 7:89)

 Veil - David replaced veil with worshippers, Solomon/Ezra kept both

 Tabernacle of David is the one God is rebuilding (Acts 15:6/Amos 9:11)

2. Bread - Jesus the Bread of Life (Jn 6:35, 48)

3. Lampstand - Holy Spirit (Rev 4:5)

4. Incense - prayers of the Saints (Rev 5:8) ~ necessary! (Lev 16:13)

 He has always intended full partnership with us!

Immanuel - “God with us” (Mt 1:23/Isa 7:14)

(Rev 21:3) 3And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.

 It has always been about Dwelling Together!

Garden:

 no barrier/veil (Gen 3:8)

 ever expanding shared dwelling place, open fellowship (Gen 1:28)

 river (Gen 2:10), special trees (Gen 2:9), supernatural provision (Gen 1:29, 2:5-6, 9)

Fall:

 barrier to dwelling place (Gen 3:24)

 limited fellowship (Gen 4:26 men began to call upon the name of the Lord)

 natural provision (Gen 3:17-20)

Tabernacle/Temple:

 veil/barrier

 limited fellowship - contained to mercy seat, under special circumstances

 reintroduces some supernatural provision, but relationship is through the Law

 compare to future Millennial Temple (Ezek 40-47)

 Ezek 47 - River flows from Temple bringing life, trees for food and healing

(Rev 22:1-2) 1And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

 River and Trees (supernatural provision) missing from OT Tabernacle/Temple

Resurrection:

 Veil is torn (Mt 27:51), access to Father restored through Jesus, only way to Father (Jn 14:6)

 We become the Temple (1 Cor 3:16), relationship now through His Spirit

(Jn 14:23) 23Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

 We get Rivers! Fully Restored Supernatural Provision

(Jn 7:37-39) 37On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38“He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” 39But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

 His fully functional temple always has a River of Life!

Year End Self Evaluation Questions:

1. Is God veiled to you or are you gazing fully and freely?

(2Co 3:14-18) 14But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. 15But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. 16Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

2. Is your relationship more with His law or His Spirit?

3. Are you living more naturally or supernaturally?

4. Is His presence/life contained or flowing out freely? (Church building?)

Story: Hercules and the Augean Stables

5. Is your life filled more with shoveling or flowing?

 John 7:37-39 “come to Me”

(Mt 11:28-30) 28“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29“Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30“For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

Take our position in the Temple through prayer

Come to Him for supernatural Rivers of Life