## What Is Jesus Doing Now?

One of the great themes of the Bible is the desire of Jesus to be your friend. He wants to dwell with you! He wants to be near you!

"And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them." (Exodus 25:8 NKJV) "After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people." (Jeremiah 31:33 KJV) "as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

(2 Corinthians 6:16 KJV)

This sanctuary that God asked Israel to build was filled with lessons and illustrations about his work for us. Many books have been written about the deep symbolism of this wonderful system. But one of the most important elements of this living parable was to teach us how we are saved and made ready for Heaven. We first come to the alter of sacrifice, and the first thing a sinner must do is accept the sacrifice of Jesus to forgive them and enable them to live a righteous life. Then they are baptized, a public symbol of accepting Christ and allowing him to wash away our sin. Then we get to the holy place which shows us how we grow in our walk with God. The Table of Shewbread representing the Word of God, the Bread of Life, helps us to understand that we grow by reading the Bible every day. The Alter of Incense represented the prayers of God's people, and teaches that it's important to take time every day for prayer if you want to grow as a Christian. And the Candlestick represents letting our light shine, sharing Jesus with others. And through these things, we are prepared to finally enter heaven, which is symbolized by Most Holy Place which is where the presence of God dwelt, the Shekina Glory, a brilliant light.

Sinners would come to the courtyard, and confess their sins, laying their hand on a sacrificial animal, symbolically transferring the guilt of their sin to the animal.

This was to remind them of Jesus who bears our sin:

"Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29 NKJV)

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

Then some of that animals blood was sprinkled in the sanctuary, and the record of sin was transferred symbolically to the sanctuary, just as the record of our sins are placed on the books in the heavenly sanctuary which you can read about in Hebrews 8 and 9.

"And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Also another book was opened, the book of life. And the dead were judged according to their works, as recorded in the books." (Revelation 20:12 NRSV)

Once a year, there was a service called the Day of Atonement, where the record of sin in the sanctuary was cleansed! This was a day when all the people were judged. If they had not confessed all their sins, then they bore the guilt of their own sin. But if they had confessed and forsaken their sin, if they took advantage of the substitute provided, their sin was forgiven!

Day of Atonement symbolized the final day of Judgement when God will finally cleanse the universe from sin.

## Would it affect your life, if you could know when the Day of Judgement would begin? What if you knew when you would begin living in the final judgement hour, symbolized by that Day of Atonement?

It is actually possible for us to know. The Bible tells us:

"And he said to me, "For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed." (Daniel 8:14 NKJV)

"Understand... that the vision refers to the time of the end." (Daniel 8:17 NKJV)

There must be some symbolism here, because 2300 days is only a little over 6 years. That doesn't take us to the end.

"I have appointed thee each day for a year." (Ezekiel 4:6 KJV) "...each day for a year..." (Numbers 14:34 KJV)

When we are dealing with prophetic time, a day symbolizes a year. So that means 2300 years from Daniel's day should take us to the final Judgement. But when exactly did those days start?

"...from the going forth of the word, to build up Jerusalem..." (Daniel 9:25 DOUAY)

That command was given in 457 BC by king Artaxerxes. That is the start of the 2300 days!! Now we could just count from 457 BC 2300 years in the future and find out when the judgement would begin, and we'll do that in a moment, but there are a few more amazing predictions in the prophecy.

"...from the going forth of the word, to build up Jerusalem again, unto Christ, the prince, there shall be [483 years] seven weeks, and sixty-two weeks:" (Daniel 9:25 DOUAY)

That takes us to AD27. AD 27 is the exact year that Jesus was baptized. By the way, Christ means the Anointed one, and Jesus was Anointed with the holy spirit at his baptism Acts 10:38.

"Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for [7 years] one week; But in the middle of the week [3.5 years] He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering." (Daniel 9:27 NKJV)

So 3.5 years after Jesus was baptized, he would bring an end to sacrifice and offering. That takes us to AD 31. Which is precisely when Jesus was crucified.

Then 3.5 years more take us to AD 34 which finishes out the 490 years that applied to the Jews.

"Seventy weeks [490 years] are apportioned out upon thy people" (Daniel 9:24 DRBY)

Stephen the missionary was stoned by the Jews for preaching about Jesus. The Jews rejected the message of Jesus were no longer the chosen people of God. Now anyone who accepted Jesus was considered a spiritual Jew and the promises that God made to the Jews would be fulfilled to the Christian church!

"For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit." (Romans 2:28–29 KJV)

"Unto 2300 days then the sanctuary be cleansed." If we go from 457BC, 2300 years into the future, we arrive at the year 1844. That was the year that the Judgement began in heaven. God is going through the record books. Those whose sins have been confessed and who exercise faith in Christ have their sins washed away in the blood of the lamb. But those who have not confessed, repented and served Christ will bear the punishment of their own sin.

Any time your name may appear. Mine may appear. When the judgment is finished, and everyone has made their final decision for or against Jesus, then He will come.

"For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;" (Hebrews 9:24 NKJV)

"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." (2 Peter 3:9 NKJV)

Jesus is ministering in the heavenly sanctuary right now, doing everything in this Judgement hour to give you strength, and power to live a faith filled victorious obedient life. Remember you do not succeed in the judgement because of anything you did in your own strength. Only because of what you allowed Jesus to do for you and in you and through you.

The good thing is, that if you have given your life to Jesus, he represents you in the judgment! He can't represent you if you're holding on to things that are wrong, that separate you from him. But if you say Lord, take whatever separates me from you! I give myself to you! I believe Lord, Help my unbelief! Christ represents you. He cleanses the sanctuary in heaven of the sins recorded in your record book in heaven with his blood, just as the sanctuary was cleansed on earth long ago, and you appear before him as though you had never sinned. Would you like to take this step now?