God's Presence With Man: 4

I AM In The Midst

Ezekiel 48.35

"All the way around *shall be* eighteen thousand *cubits;* and the name of the city from *that* day *shall be:* THE LORD *IS* THERE"

The name of the city will be: Jehovah-Shammah

This was a prophetic utterance concerning the new city of Jerusalem and the Temple that was at the time of Ezekiel. This is a new name for the city, it had been called other things such as City of Zion, City of David, Jerusalem, city of peace, but under it's new name there would be no doubt that God was in her. Jehovah-Shammah, the Lord is there.

Of course this was also a prophetic utterance of the New Jerusalem that John saw in his revelation. We read in **Revelation 21.1-3**

"Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. (2) Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (3) And 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."

The psalmists wrote these words -

"There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God, The holy *place* of the tabernacle of the Most High. (5) God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God shall help her, just at the break of dawn."

Psalm 46.4-5

These allusions to the city of God can also be taken to mean the church. In the Scripture, the term Zion, can be taken to mean the church. God is in the midst of His church.

Let us look at a New Testament verse which is often misunderstood.

It is usually quoted to justify, give reason or even as an excuse for a few people gathering together. I myself have even used this verse in this way, until one day, as I was meditating on it, God gave me a great revelation on it.

Matthew 18.20

"For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them"

Jesus promises to be in the midst of us as we gather in His name.

Now, I've been in services where there have been literally just two of us, three or a few more. On almost every occasion you would hear this verse referred to: 'it's ok brother, God is in the midst'. It was said to give encouragement to each other. Yes this is true, and a great comfort to know that when we come together in His name, He is in the midst of His people. But it has a much deeper revelation than just being used parrot fashion whenever numbers are low.

'For' connects it to the previous thought/verse – dealing with prayer

- Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven
- Whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven
- If two of you agree concerning anything it will be done
 - Because I am in the midst.

I AM was a covenant name of God. First revealed to Moses.

".. I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28.20

The Lord in Our Midst is...

Deuteronomy 23.14 Deliverer

Psalm 46.5 Helper

Psalm 74.12 Saviour

Isaiah 12.6 Holy One – our Sanctifier

Ezekiel 5.8 Righteous Judge

Joel 2.26-27 Provider

Zephaniah 3.17 Mighty One - Miraculous Power / Omnipotent One

John 20.19 Prince of Peace

Because of God's presence with man we have a Deliverer, we have a Helper, a Saviour, a Sanctifier, a Provider, a Righteous Judge, we have an All Powerful, Miracle working God, and the Prince of Peace.

He is with us, so when we call on Him, we can be assured of His intervention.