

God proclaims - we believe

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

(Rev 3:20)

Voice of God

Ps 29

1 **Ascribe to the LORD**, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. 2 Ascribe to the LORD the **glory due his name; worship the LORD** in the splendor of holiness. 3 The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters. 4 The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. 6 He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. 7 The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. 8 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. 9 The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, "Glory!" 10 The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; **the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.** 11 May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace! **(Note: begins with praise, ends with a prayer).**

John 1:1-3

1 In the beginning was the **Word**, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 **All things were made through him**, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Heb 1:1-3

1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, **God spoke** to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days **he has spoken to us by his Son**, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and **he upholds the universe by the word of his power.** After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Col 1:15-17

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and **in him all things hold together.**

This same voice echoes through the ages over everything, over everyone and over every situation.

God speaks – His voice

- Creates
- Sustains
- Is true (absolutely, irrefutably)
- Has all authority (100% validity)
- Has all power (to accomplish His word)
- Declares promises (reveal His will, His way, are delivered personally – relationally)
- Oath? (May be on offer at times and for specific promises related to our destiny in Him)

We believe

Ps 37:1-11

1 Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers! 2 For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb. 3 **Trust in the LORD**, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. 4 Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. 5 **Commit your way to the LORD**; trust in him, and he will act. 6 He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. 7 **Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him**; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices! 8 Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. 9 For the evildoers shall be cut off, but **those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.** 10 In just a little while, the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there. 11 But **the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.**

Heb 11:1-3

1 Now **faith is the assurance** of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2 For by it the people of old received their commendation. 3 **By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God**, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

Rom 4:16 - 5:5

16 That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring-not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, 17 as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"-in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. 18 In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." 19 He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. 20 No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, **but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, 21 fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.** 22 That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness." 23 But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, 24 but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, 25 who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces **endurance**, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Heb 6:9-12

9 Though we speak in this way, yet in your case, beloved, **we feel sure of better things-things that belong to salvation.** 10 For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do. 11 And we desire each one of you to show

the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, 12 so that you may not be sluggish, but **imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.**

Receive / inherit promises

- Faith
- Perseverance

Rom 10:17

So **faith comes from hearing**, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Is 50:4-5

4 The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. **Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear** as those who are taught. 5 The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward.

Hear

- Today
- Relational not transactional (what we do in order to get God to do something)
- Opportunity for faith – comes from **hearing** not from pulling promises out of a promise box or simply finding the one in the Bible we think will meet our need
- Trinity is God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. **Not** – Father, Son and Holy Bible
- Depend on Him and not on what we do – implies that we regularly ‘enquire of God’
- Do not replace the immediacy and intimacy of our relationship with Him with ‘ritual’, our ‘works’, faith in faith, etc...

Temple (Pictures below)

- Tent of meeting (presence of God, voice of God, glory of God)
- Table and shewbread (provision, fellowship, eaten by priests, live by every word that proceeds from His mouth)
- Lampstand (always burning, daily care, people provided the oil - Spirit is for all)
- Altar of incense (prayer, precious to God)
- Approach now in Jesus name - His righteousness (Heb 10:19-23)
- No more veil anymore between ‘tent of meeting’ and ‘most holy place’
- Behold His glory (2 Cor 3:18)
- Hear His voice daily (indwelling Spirit)
- Hear His voice specifically (He will show us what promises are relevant and how He wants to apply them)
- Daily immediacy of our relationship with Him is primary (worship, fellowship, prayer)

Live by Faith

- Hear God ('Today', Fresh, first hand, Relationship)
- Believe God
- Persevere (In life, through trials, mature in faith, in prayer)
- Inherit

Promises

- Approach God in prayer as the only one who is sovereign and who has all authority. King of glory
- He has proclaimed (He makes them true, His authority establishes their validity, His power brings them to pass)
- Our part is to believe what we hear Him 'proclaim' and persevere (includes taking the promises to God, hearing Him today and then, if necessary, prevailing in prayer)
- Not wavering in our faith is only possible when we have heard God first hand
- Approach Him with freedom and confidence because of Jesus – we are reconciled, have peace with Him. Find our rest in Him

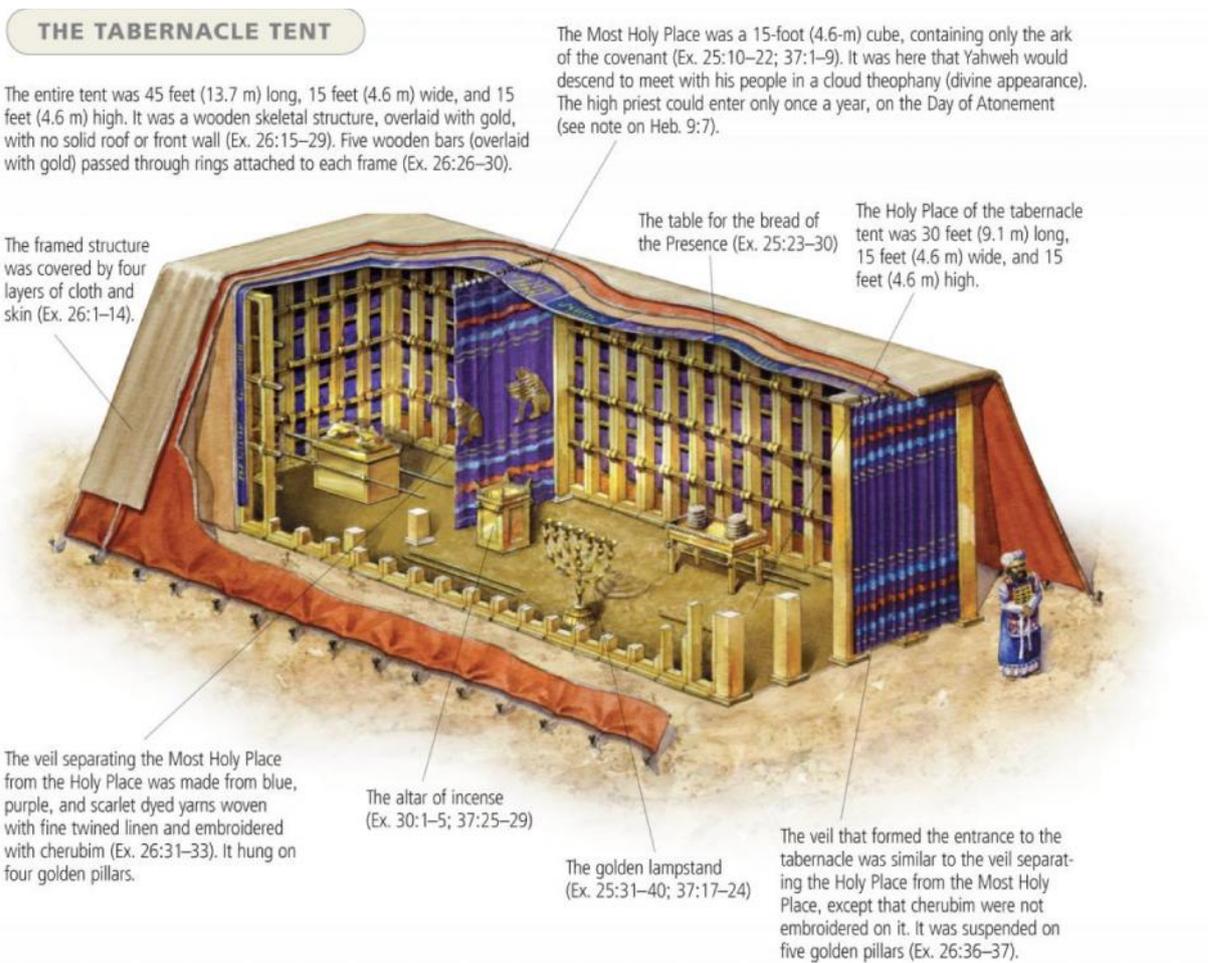
Examples

Jer 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Phil 4:19

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.



Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.
(Rev 3:20)



The Golden Lampstand

The golden lampstand (Ex. 25:31–40) was made of pure gold, hammered out of one solid piece. Resting on a base, the central stem had six branches, three on either side, together carrying seven lamps. The lampstand with its branches was modeled on a flowering almond tree.



The Altar of Incense

The wooden altar, overlaid with pure gold (Ex. 30:1–10; 37:25–28), was 3 feet high, and 1.5 feet long and wide (1 m x 0.5 m x 0.5 m). It stood in the Holy Place before the veil which separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place. It was transported by means of wooden poles which were overlaid with gold and inserted through rings attached to the sides of the altar.

