

Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.

Series: "The Kingdom of God"



Teaching Sermon: "The Temple Was Built on a Threshing Floor"
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Live Tele-service, March 21, 2021

The Temple was built on a threshing floor. *"You are to seek only the place the LORD your God chooses from all your tribes to put His Name to dwell—there you will come." (Deuteronomy 12:5) The place was marked out back in Genesis 21, when God told Abraham where he was to sacrifice Isaac, on Mount Moriah, the mount of bitterness. Abraham's faith spoke when he said that God would provide Himself a sacrifice. His provision would be seen (Jehovah Jireh).*

Then we have this: "So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning until the appointed time, so that 70,000 men of the people died from Dan to Beersheba. When the angel stretched out his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD relented from the calamity and said to the angel who was destroying the people, 'Enough! Now withdraw your hand.' The angel of the LORD was then by the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite." (2 Samuel 24:15-16)

"So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for 50 shekels of silver. Then David built there an altar to the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. So the LORD was moved by prayer of entreaty for the land, and restrained the plague from Israel." (2 Samuel 24:18-25)

The circumstance involved how to stop a plague of death. See also 1 Chronicles 21. Araunah is also known as Ornan. David bought the threshing floor, built an altar to the LORD, offered burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. This moved God's hand for the land. The angel of death was destroying the people, but when the angel was by the threshing floor, God said to stop. Death was stayed. God accepted David's appeal and offerings; they were legal. And remember, God hates robbery in the/for burnt offering.

For I, the LORD, love justice, I hate robbery in the burnt offering; And I will faithfully give them their reward, and make an everlasting covenant with them. (Isaiah 61:8)

Then David said, This is the house of the Lord God, and this is the altar of the burnt offering for Israel. (1 Chronicles 22:1)

On that site both the First and Second Temples were built. Today that site is referred to as "The Dome of the Rock."

Now there's a great sermon by Charles Spurgeon on David and the threshing floor of Ornan. Go here: <https://www.spurgeon.org/resource-library/sermons/the-threshing-floor-of-ornan/#flipbook/>

Threshing involves separating, sorting, and sifting. For the believer undergoing tribulations and trials, it means being sanctified. The winds of adversity separate people. Trials and

tribulation separate those who believe in Jesus from those who don't. **The one who has the Son has life; and the one who has not the Son of God has not life.** (1 John 5:12)

Psalm 1 contrasts the righteous and the wicked.

[the righteous one] He will be like a planted tree over streams of water, producing its fruit during its season. Its leaf never droops—but in all he does, he succeeds.

The wicked are not so. For they are like chaff that the wind blows away. Therefore the wicked will not stand during the judgment nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. (Psalm 1:3-5)

Of the increase of His government and shalom there will be no end—on the throne of David and over His kingdom-- to establish it and uphold it through justice and righteousness from now until forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of Hosts [Lord of the Heavenly Army, Lord Sabaoth] will accomplish this. (Isaiah 9:6, a prophecy of the Messiah)

Listen to Malachi and then to John the Baptist:

“Then you will return and distinguish between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.

“For behold, the day is coming—it will burn like a furnace—when all the proud and every evildoer will become stubble. The day that is coming will set them ablaze”—says the LORD of hosts/the Lord of Armies, leaving them neither root nor branch.” (Malachi 3:18-19)

“His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He shall clear/purge His threshing floor and gather His wheat into the barn; but the chaff He shall burn up with inextinguishable fire.” (John the Baptist referring to the Messiah, Matthew 3:12)

Therefore just as the weeds are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks and those who practice lawlessness. They will throw them into the fiery furnace; in that place will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear! (Jesus, in His parables of the Kingdom, Matthew 13:40-43)

What's it to us? God met David on a threshing floor. He met Adam in the Garden, Noah to build the Ark, Abraham under a tree, Moses at the burning bush, Jonah in the belly of a great fish, a man in a dungeon, and can you think of others? The threshing floor was so ordinary, so every day. Wherever God is, however, that place is holy ground. And think about the Jebusites. They were aliens and strangers to the Covenant, a nation accursed, doomed for their iniquities, Gentiles, and yet King David's ancestry included Ruth, a Moabite. A threshing floor has significance in that story, too.

David bought this place with money. He could have taken it, demanded it, etc., but he paid a full and fair price for it. He had said that he would not offer burnt offerings to the Lord his God of

that which cost him nothing. This was 600 shekels of gold; David put down 50 shekels of earnest money, even though Ornan had offered to give the land and oxen, the threshing instruments and grain to David. 1 Chronicles 21:23.

David meets God at a place of simple plainness, a place of earth and rock, a place where grain is threshed for food and winnowed to blow away the chaff. It is a place of tribulation.

“In the lion of trial we find the honey of communion. The temple of glory is built
on the threshing-floor of affliction.” Charles Haddon Spurgeon

Until we come under the irresistible conviction of the Holy Spirit and are shown the drawn sword of the angel of the LORD dispensing death at God’s decree, we will not seek the Creator/Redeemer for mercy, the grace that saves. We will not worship in Spirit and in truth. We will not ask, seek, and knock. We will not understand that we need a Savior, a Mediator, a Surety, a Covenant of Grace made on the ground of the blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the Infinite God-Man. We will not confess that our sin deserves just punishment and that we cannot figure that God will just “overlook” it. We must repent to the core of our being.

“A reconciled God is only to be seen through the smoke of the great sacrifice.

The wounds of Christ are the windows of the heart of God.

If thou canst believe in Jesus Christ, by faith presenting him again to God as thy sacrifice,
then God will meet with thee.” Charles Haddon Spurgeon

70,000 men from Dan to Beersheba died as a result of David’s sin. But at the altar on that threshing floor, God accepted David’s prayer appeal and offering. The sword of the LORD rested, and David saw peace.

True believers belonging to Jesus Christ will see that Peace. The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, righteousness, and judgment. The Holy Spirit convinces us, converts us, and corrects us. The Father will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask. It is our Heavenly Father’s good pleasure to give us the Kingdom. Remember that, in this time to thresh in meekness. Amen.

Pray. James 1: 2ff KJV

<https://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/James-1-1/>

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