

Hebrews 8:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

Analysis

Christ serves as 'minister of the sanctuary' (Greek 'leitourgos ton hagion'—servant of holy things) and 'of the true tabernacle.' This 'true tabernacle' was 'pitched' (established) by 'the Lord, and not man,' contrasting with Moses' man-made (though divinely patterned) structure. The earthly tabernacle was a copy; the heavenly is the reality. Christ ministers in the true, original sanctuary.

Historical Context

The tabernacle pattern shown to Moses (Exodus 25:9, 40) was a copy of heavenly realities. What Moses built in the wilderness was always meant to point to the eternal, heavenly sanctuary where Christ ministers.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does knowing Christ ministers in the true, not copied, sanctuary enhance your worship?

2. What does it mean that Christ's priestly work happens in heaven, not on earth?

Interlinear Text

τῶν ἀγίων λειτουργὸς καὶ τῆς σκηνῆς τῆς
G3588 of the sanctuary A minister and G3588 tabernacle G3588
G39 G3011 G2532 G4633

ἀληθινῆς ἦν ἐπηξεν ὁ κύριος καὶ οὐκ ἄνθρωπος
of the true which pitched G3588 the Lord and not man
G228 G3739 G4078 G2962 G2532 G3756 G444

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 33:7 (Temple): And Moses took the tabernacle, and pitched it without the camp, afar off from the camp, and called it the Tabernacle of the congregation. And it came to pass, that every one which sought the LORD went out unto the tabernacle of the congregation, which was without the camp.

Romans 15:8 (Truth): Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers:

2 Corinthians 5:1 (Temple): For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.