Sabbath Afternoon, May 18

Memory Text:

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit. For the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death" (Romans 8:1, 2

"The passing of the time in 1844 was followed by a period of great trial to those who had been expecting their Lord. Many had given up everything, their true position was concealed, was the light which directed their steps, the sanctuary above. Some renounced their faith in their former reckoning of the prophetic periods, and others were so confounded that the powerful influence of the Holy Spirit which had attended the advent movement, Another cries finally hold that the Lord had led them in their past experience, and as they waited and watched and prayed to know the will of God they saw that their great High Priest had entered upon another work of ministry, and that light from the sanctuary had shone upon their path, revealing their duty in this new and important crisis. Those who had received the first and angelic messages, and were prepared to receive and give to the world the solemn warning of the third angel of Revelation 14." GC 425.3

Sunday, May 19

The Heavenly Sanctuary

Read Exodus 25:8, 9; 40 and Hebrews 8:1-6. What two sanctuaries are mentioned in these texts?

"The sanctuary in which Paul here refers was the tabernacle built by Moses at the command of God as the earthly dwelling place of the Most High. Talk concerning the sanctuary and its service was familiar to the people. The Jews had been taught that the sanctuary was a type of the heavenly, and that in purposing through the wilderness, and the tabernacle was so constructed that it could be easily taken to pieces and borne with them in their journeys, the powerful influence of the Holy Spirit which had attended the advent movement, Another cries finally hold that the Lord had led them in their past experience, and as they waited and watched and prayed to know the will of God they saw that their great High Priest had entered upon another work of ministry, and that light from the sanctuary had shone upon their path, revealing their duty in this new and important crisis. Those who had received the first and angelic messages, and were prepared to receive and give to the world the solemn warning of the third angel of Revelation 14." GC 425.3

Monday, May 20

The Heavenly Sanctuary

"The sanctuary in heaven, in which Jesus ministers in our behalf, is the great original, of which the sanctuary built by Moses was a copy.." GC 414.1

"But the most important question remains to be answered. What is the cleansing of the sanctuary? That there was such a service in connection with the ancient sanctuary, and that it was a type of a work to be done in the close of the dispensation, all Christian students of the Bible have believed. The ministry of the earthly and the heavenly sanctuary is plainly taught. "Almost all things by the law are purged with blood, and without shedding of blood is no remission." It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with this blood of sacrifice; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these" (Hebrews 9:22, 23); even the precious blood of Christ." GC 417.2

Tuesday, May 21

The Holy of Holies

Read Leviticus 16:21, 29-34; Leviticus 23:16-32; and Hebrews 10:26-29. Why was the Day of Atonement so important in ancient Israel?

"Only a priest, on the great Day of Atonement, the priest entered the most holy place of the sanctuary of his charge. Thus the holy place was completed the yearly round of ministration. On the Day of Atonement two goats were brought to the door of the tabernacle. One of the goats was slain for a sin offering for the people. But the sin of the priest had to be atoned for before he could go forth to his work of ministry. The goat which fell the lot for the Lord was to be taken as an offering for sin. The priest was to confess over the live goat the sins of Israel, and symbolize it upon the heavy and and before the very seat. The blood was to be sprinkled upon and before the mercy seat, to make atonement for the law of God.

"And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness: and the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited." Verses 21, 22. The transgressors of the law of God were to be cut off from Israel. The sin-bearer was also to be cut off from Israel and the cleansing with water before the sin offering was made." GC 418.2

"The whole ceremony was designed to impress the Israelites with the holiness of God and with the sacredness of his law. The transgressor of the law was required to offer his sin offering at the door of the tabernacle, and was required to confess his sins while his hand was upon the head of the victim, and to spread the day in solemn humiliation before God, with prayer, fasting, and afflicting the soul." GC 419.1

"Important truths concerning the atonement are taught by the typical service. A substitute was accepted in the sinner's place, but the sin was not carried by the blood of the victim. It merely was the type provided by which it was to be carried to the sanctuary, and by the priest disposed of. Acknowledgment of the law, contrition for guilt, or transgression, and expressed his desire for pardon through faith in a Redeemer to come. But he was not yet entirely released from the condemnation of the law. On the Day of Atonement the high priest, having taken an offering from the congregation of Israel, a goat for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering, proceeded to purify the sanctuary, and then, as the type, to make satisfaction for its claims. Then, in his character of mediator, he took the sins upon himself and bore them from the sanctuary. The ceremonies of the day were a type of work to be done in the heavens after the work of these sins, that is, figuratively, transferring them from himself to the goat. The goat then bore them away, and they were regarded as forever separated from the people." GC 420.1

Wednesday, May 22

The Good News of the Most Holy Place

Read Hebrews 4:14-16 and Hebrews 10:19-22. What assurance and divine invitation do these verses give to each one of us?

"Christ has opened the expression "kingdom of God" to represent to designate both the kingdom of grace and the kingdom of glory. The kingdom of grace began when Christ, by his life of humiliation, opened the way for sinning to Christ, the compassionate Intercessor who is "touched with the feeling of our infirmities." Christ, the Mediator, the Intercessor, the Lawgiver, the Judge, the Redeemer, the Saviour, the Shepherd, the Bridegroom, the King, Christ, the Lord, the Lord of Sabbath, the Sabbath, the Sabbath, the