

ENJOYING GOD'S PRESENCE

SUNDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2021: JOEL JEEVARAJ

Confused by 'God's presence'?

1. What the Bible Says

a. God's Presence in the Beginning

God and people 'face to face'

b. God's Presence after the Fall

Cloud and the fire (Exodus 13), the tabernacle (Exodus 25, Exodus 29:45-46), the temple (2 Chronicles 7:1)

The prophets promise a greater experience (Ezekiel 40-43, Joel 2:28-32)

c. God With Us - Jesus

God present physically - Jesus is the true tabernacle (John 1:14)

He would leave and send his Holy Spirit (John 16:7)

d. God in Us - The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is poured out to live in Christians (Acts 2:2-3)

2. Enjoying God's Presence

Until we are perfectly in God's presence in Heaven (Revelation 2:2-3) ...

a. The Eden Experience: Be Aware of God in Creation

b. The Tabernacle Experience: Be a Participant

c. The Jesus Experience: Be in the Word

d. The Holy Spirit Experience: Be in Community

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE:

Psalm 16 (ESV)

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

² I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord;

I have no good apart from you."

³ As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones,

in whom is all my delight.

⁴ The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply;

their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out

or take their names on my lips.

⁵ The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;

you hold my lot.

⁶ The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;

indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.

⁷ I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;

in the night also my heart instructs me.

⁸ I have set the Lord always before me;

because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being[e] rejoices;

my flesh also dwells secure.

¹⁰ For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,

or let your holy one see corruption.

¹¹ You make known to me the path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy;

at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.