GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE VISION AND EXPERIENCE OF THE GOLDEN INCENSE ALTAR

Message One
The Significance of the Golden Incense Altar

Scripture Reading: Exo. 30:1-10; Heb. 7:25; Rom. 8:34, 26-27; Rev. 8:3-4

I. We need to see a vision of the golden incense altar—Exo. 30:1-10.

II. The incense altar signifies Christ as the Intercessor to maintain the relationship between God and His people—Heb. 7:25; Rom. 8:34:
   A. The incense altar is a type of the person of Christ—Exo. 30:1-3.
   B. The incense altar signifies Christ praying, Christ interceding—John 17.

III. The incense altar is the place from which the activities at all the other places in the tabernacle and the outer court are motivated; Christ’s interceding life motivates us to experience the altar, the laver, the table, the lampstand, and the ark—Heb. 7:25.

IV. The executing center of God’s administration in the universe is the incense altar in Revelation 8:
   A. The book of Revelation is a book of God’s administration, a book of divine execution:
      1. This book reveals the throne of God and the administration of God throughout the universe—4:1, 5; 5:6.
      2. In the book of Revelation, a book of God’s executing, we see that the divine administration, the divine executing, is always carried out by the incense altar—8:3-4.
   B. In Revelation 8:3 the incense altar is directly in front of the throne of God’s authority:
      1. Christ as another Angel comes and adds His incense to the prayers of the saints—v. 3.
      2. This incense then ascends to God at the throne of administration, and God answers the saints’ prayers—v. 4:
         a. When the prayers of the saints ascend to God with the incense of Christ, God executes the policies of His administration.
         b. As a result, fire comes down to earth to execute the divine judgments.

V. Christ’s interceding life, His prayer life, is the center of the divine administration and of the execution of His government on earth—Rom. 8:34; Rev. 8:3-4:
   A. The executing of God’s administration is motivated by the prayers offered to Him from the incense altar.
   B. The prayers offered at the incense altar govern the universe.
   C. This is a picture of the incense altar being the administrating throne of God for God to execute His judgments in His administration.
D. It is crucial for us to see that the execution of God’s administration is motivated by the prayers offered to Him from the incense altar.

VI. After His resurrection and ascension, the individual Christ has become the corporate Christ; thus, before God today not only is the individual Christ interceding, but the corporate Christ, the Head with the Body, is interceding as well—1 Cor. 12:12; Acts 12:5, 12:

A. Today the intercessor is not merely Christ Himself but is Christ with His Body.
B. Christ the Head is interceding in the heavens, and the church the Body is interceding on earth.
C. As the members of Christ and parts of the Body-Christ, we cooperate with Christ in His ministry of intercession, carrying out His intercession in our prayers of intercession—Rom. 8:34, 26-27; 1 Tim. 2:1.

VII. If we have a clear view of the incense altar, our prayer life will be revolutionized, and we will pray for the executing of God’s purpose, for the carrying out of the divine administration, and for the dispensing of God’s supplying grace.