

## NUMBERS 7:84-89

**BIBLE STUDY** 

#### MT. ZION FIRST AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

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#### VISION

The vision of the Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church of Charlottesville, Virginia will reach and reproduce within its surrounding community, a people inspired and equipped with a passion for the truth of God's Word and His compassion for others who will be enablers of change.



# Numbers 7:84-85 **Speaking With God**

This was the dedication offering for the altar, on the day when it was anointed, from the leaders of Israel: twelve silver plates, twelve silver basins, twelve golden dishes, 85 each silver plate weighing a hundred and thirty shekels and each basin seventy, all the silver of the vessels two thousand four hundred shekels according to the shekel of the sanctuary...

# Numbers 7:86-87 **Speaking With God**

<sup>86</sup> the twelve golden dishes, full of incense, weighing ten shekels apiece according to the shekel of the sanctuary, all the gold of the dishes being a hundred and twenty shekels; 87 all the cattle for the burnt offering twelve bulls, twelve rams, twelve male lambs a year old, with their cereal offering; and twelve male goats for a sin offering;



# Numbers 7:88-89 Speaking With God

<sup>88</sup> and all the cattle for the sacrifice of peace offerings twenty-four bulls, the rams sixty, the male goats sixty, the male lambs a year old sixty. This was the dedication offering for the altar, after it was anointed. <sup>89</sup> And when Moses went into the tent of meeting to speak with the LORD, he heard the voice speaking to him from above the mercy seat that was upon the ark of the testimony, from between the two cherubim; and it spoke to him.

"When Moses was gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with him, then he heard the voice of one speaking unto him from off the mercy seat that was upon the ark of testimony, from between the two cherubims; and he spake unto him."

#### Speaking With

WHEN the Tabernacle was first set up, a great dedication time followed. For twelve days the tribes of Israel brought offerings for the service of the Tabernacle. When all of this was finished, our verse says Moses went into the Tabernacle to commune with God. This action of Moses gives us some good lessons about speaking with God.

Supplication. "Moses was gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with him." What does supplication mean? It means the act of asking God or someone who is in a position of power for something in a humble way:

Mankind needs to speak with God. Moses sensed his need of speaking with God and so he went into the Tabernacle to speak with Him. Throughout Scripture, men and women are exhorted to speak with God. We need to always be on speaking terms with God. Prayer is vital to the well-being of our spiritual life. If you do not have a prayer life, you will not have much of a spiritual life.

Reciprocation. "Then he heard the voice of one speaking unto him." What does reciprocation mean? It means:

the <u>fact</u> of <u>feeling</u> or <u>behaving</u> toward someone <u>else</u> in the same way as they <u>feel</u> or <u>behave</u> toward vou:

It was when Moses went into the Tabernacle to pray that God spoke to him. God reciprocated Moses' actions. The principle is in James 4:8 which says, "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you." If God seems far off to you, the problem is not God; but it is you. If you want to enjoy the presence of God, you need to keep company with God. If you want to enjoy the blessing of God speaking to you, you need to speak with Him. It is a two-way street.

Location. "He heard the voice of one speaking unto him from off the mercy seat that was upon the ark of the testimony, from between the two cherubims." God promised that this is where He would commune with Israel (Exodus 25:22).

Exodus 25:17-22 - 17 "Now make a lid of pure gold for the Chest, an Atonement-Cover, three and three-quarters feet long and two and one-quarter feet wide. 18-22 "Sculpt two winged angels out of hammered gold for either end of the Atonement-Cover, one angel at one end, one angel at the other.

Exodus 25:17-22 - Make them of one piece with the Atonement-Cover. Make the angels with their wings spread, hovering over the Atonement-Cover, facing one another but looking down on it. Set the Atonement-Cover as a lid over the Chest and place in the Chest The Testimony that I will give you.

Exodus 25:17-22 - I will meet you there at set times and speak with you from above the Atonement-Cover and from between the angel-figures that are on it, speaking the commands that I have for the Israelites.



It is a significant location in that the mercy seat was sprinkled with the blood of the offerings. All of this represented Christ and Calvary. Thus, the location speaks of the vital truth that God communes with man through Jesus Christ Who is the Mediator between God and man (1 Timothy 2:1-7)

(1 Timothy 2:4-7). "He wants not only us but everyone saved, you know, everyone to get to know the truth we've learned: that there's one God and only one, and one Priest-Mediator between God and us—Jesus, who offered himself in exchange for everyone held captive by sin, to set them all free..."

(1 Timothy 2:4-7). "Eventually the news is going to get out. This and this only has been my appointed work: getting this news to those who have never heard of God, and explaining how it works by simple faith and plain truth."