



LIVING AS TEMPLES OF SKIN

Introduction

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In the beginning, God's habitation for man was called Eden, which is derived from the word *adan*, meaning to live full of, producing or characterized by sensual delights and pleasures. The Garden was designed for man to fellowship with God and to discover the depths of relationship with His Creator. It was not a place of trouble, toil, and despair, as the earth would later become due to separation. The Garden was designed as the ideal place for divine fellowship. Man's original job was to keep the Garden so that it might remain as a continual meeting place for God and man.

We need to see heaven not just as a destination, but as a resource.

After the fall, man was separated from God, separated from the way to the tree of life. The way was guarded and kept (shamar) by the cherubim and the flaming sword. Sin was not allowed in nor was there to be any encroachment upon the meeting of place of God and man.

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”
Matthew 18:20

We must redefine the church as a wherever two or three gather.

One of those words is the Greek word *ekklesia*, which means a gathering of citizens called out from their homes into some public place. Implicit in *ekklesia* is a summoning, so this is not just a collection of people, but people called out to a public meeting for a particular purpose.

Jesus came to restore the meeting place of God and man.

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. **Hebrews 1:1**