

THE GREAT EXCHANGE

*Then the Spirit took me up and brought me into the inner courtyard, and the glory of the LORD filled the Temple...
“This is the place of my throne and the place where I will rest my feet ... Now let them put away their idols
and the sacred pillars erected to honour their kings, and I will live among them forever” (Ezekiel 43:7, 9 NLT).*

A professor I had used to say, “Wherever you are be all there.”

After grocery shopping last night, I put our purchases away in the appropriate places – so I thought. That is until this morning when I heard a great outburst of laughter from my husband when he went into the cupboard for the coffee to discover his shaving cream canister perched nicely beside the spices on the next shelf up.

I had to laugh as I recalled how I sincerely thought it was *Johnny’s Magic Seasoning Salt* I set in that place, based on the similar size, shape, and color of the container—apparently I forgot, or overlooked something basic—to focus on the real thing! How easily deceived I was!

It made me think how inadvertently we can substitute God’s love with idols, trying to fill His place in our inner being with what I do, what I have or what others think of me based on the deception that God’s love will never be enough or I will never be good enough or that I am not lovable.*

There is great comfort to discover God is able to ‘put His feet up’ and be completely at home in our living space because of Jesus. Here we ultimately share the laughter and/or tears of relief as we believe in His total provision for our wicked sinfulness, Satan’s lies, death’s grasp—even our absent mindedness, stupidity, and easy distraction. This is the great exchange—the real thing worthy of focus.

The basic law of the Temple is: Absolute Holiness. The Holy Spirit helps us, *Give attention to the entrance of the temple and all the exits of the sanctuary* (Ezekiel 44:5 NIV).

The King of Heaven’s glorious, holy presence desires to make our everyday lives His throne room individually and corporately as the Church! We are His sacred dwelling place by His provision alone, as we surrender – no other substitute or look-a-like will do. Relax. We don’t have to be deceived.

Get Real

What do you allow to enter and depart the sacred place of your heart, mind, body, and soul?
Wherever you are, is He all there?

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:2 NIV).

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness (2 Peter 1:3 NIV).

Embracing the great exchange with you,

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*Scazzero, Peter, *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality*, 2006. Nashville, Thomas Nelson. P 75.

WEEKLY FACTS SCRIPTURE VERSES

JANUARY – APRIL 2010

Based on the Following Scripture Theme:

Then the Spirit took me up and brought me into the inner courtyard, and the glory of the LORD filled the Temple ... 'This is the place of my throne and the place where I will rest my feet ... Now let them put away their idols and the sacred pillars erected to honor their kings, and I will live among them forever' (Ezekiel 43:7, 9 NLT).

	FOCUS	ADORATION	CONFESSION	THANKSGIVING	SUPPLICATION
	Sparked Faith to Remain	Intentional Praise	Listen and Agree	Faith Exchange	Unified and Empowered
JANUARY 2010 THEME: GLORIOUS THRONE					
3	Psalm 47:8-9	Ezekiel 1:26-28	Jeremiah 14:21-22	Revelation 22:3-5	Psalm 132:13-18
10	Psalm 99:1-3	Psalm 93:1-2	Psalm 97:7	Psalm 96:10-13	Psalm 2:7-8
17	Isaiah 6:1-4	Psalm 97:1-6	Psalm 2:10-12	Revelation 11:16-17	Revelation 11:19
24	Acts 7:48-50	Psalm 46:4-7	Ezekiel 43:9-12	Psalm 91:1-2	Psalm 91:9-13
31	Joel 3:17-18	John 1:14	2 Corinthians 6:16-18	Revelation 21:2-5	John 14:23
FEBRUARY 2010 THEME: SUFFERING					
7	Isaiah 53:1-3	Isaiah 53:4-5	Isaiah 53:6	Isaiah 53:10-11	Isaiah 53:12
14	Ecclesiastes 7:1-2	Nehemiah 9:9-12	Lamentations 1: 20-22	Psalm 119:71-72	Psalm 22:1-5
21	1 Peter 4:12-13	Hebrews 10:19-23	Ecclesiastes 7:21-22	Psalm 22:24-25	Hebrews 10:36-37
28	Jeremiah 31:2-4	Isaiah 61:1-3	James 5:7-11	Exodus 3:7-10	Jeremiah 31:9-10
MARCH 2010 THEME: RESTORATION					
7	Ezekiel 39:27-29	Deuteronomy 30:3-6	Ezekiel 37:23	Luke 1:76-79	Romans 11:25-27
14	Ezekiel 34:15-16	Zephaniah 3:14-15	Ezekiel 36:24-27	Isaiah 11:11	Amos 9:14-15
21	Jeremiah 30:3-9	Isaiah 43:4-7	Isaiah 2:17-18	Psalm 107:2-9	Jeremiah 23:3-4
28	Jeremiah 30:18-19, 22	Jeremiah 32:37-41	Jeremiah 3:21-22	Ezekiel 37:26-28	Jeremiah 31:11-12
APRIL 2010 THEME: DELIGHTFUL REST					
4	Zephaniah 3:17	Titus 3:4-7	Titus 3:3	Zephaniah 3:15	Zephaniah 3:5
11	2 Timothy 1:9	1 John 4:16	Ephesians 2:1-3	Matthew 1:21	1 Corinthians 1:18
18	Ephesians 2:4-7	Romans 5:1-2	1 Thessalonians 4:7-8	Colossians 1:11-14	2 Thessalonians 2:13
25	Ephesians 1:3-6	Hebrews 3:1	Ephesians 3:7-10	1 Peter 2:9-10	Deuteronomy 7:7-9