

The Colorful Entrance

“And for the gate of the court shall be an hanging of twenty cubits, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework...” (Exodus 27:16).

I read an interesting article about a business in Dunedin, Florida where an unknown artist painted a colorful mural of two large oranges on the façade near the entrance of the building. It appears that the nighttime muralist was making a statement about public art in the area. Although it was a surprise to the owners, both they and their patrons seemed to be intrigued by them. It was said that the oranges were “very well done” and very “artsy.”

Other business owners in the downtown area of Dunedin, whose establishments have also become targets for similar paintings, however, feel somewhat violated by the unwanted murals. One proprietor did film two people painting a mural on the wall of her restaurant with surveillance cameras. While some think the muralists should be praised for their creativity, the authorities are looking into the matter.

The entrance to the Tabernacle in the Wilderness was not decorated with murals or paintings. But the beautiful linen curtains that hung on the main gate on the east side, made for a colorful entrance to the outer court. Again, like the many items in the Tabernacle, the blue, purple, and scarlet, combined with the white fine linen, points us to varied facets concerning Christ’s Person and work.

The blue and white linen curtains declare that there is entrance into divine realms through Christ’s heavenly revelation! It cannot be denied that the color blue is a heavenly color, and thus speaks of the heavenly nature of Christ. He Himself declared, “I came down from heaven, not to do Mine own will, but the will of Him that sent Me” (John 6:38). Because God has come to us in Christ, we can now come to God through Him.

The purple and white linen curtains declare that there is entrance into divine realms through Christ’s honorable royalty! Several scripture verses attach the purple color to the wealthy and the well to do (see Esther 8:15; Luke 16:19; Revelation 18:16). The gate with its purple curtains, therefore, reminds us that we may approach the royal Sovereign of heaven by virtue of His royal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Ah, those who know Christ know true wealth!

The scarlet and white linen curtains declare that there is entrance into divine realms through Christ’s humble redemption! In the Bible, scarlet is not only descriptive of the pronounced marks of sin (see Isaiah 1:18), but the cleansing of sin, as well (see Leviticus 14:4, 6). On the cross, the Savior certainly suffered for all of our sins (see Isaiah 53:5). Yet His humble death also brought redemption and cleansing for all those who come to God through Him. “The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin” (1 John 1:7).