

The White Linen Curtain-Wall

“And he made the court: on the south side southward the hangings of the court were of fine twined linen, an hundred cubits” (Exodus 38:9).

Along with *The Skenfrith Castle* and *The Grosmont Castle*, *The White Castle* makes up the third of “The Three Castles” in Wales built by the Normans as they won control over the North Gwent area. The largest of the three, much of this special fortress is still in tact for tourists to enjoy. The White Castle gets its name from the coat of white rendering that once covered its walls, spots of which can still be seen here and there.

A white wall also encircled the Tabernacle in the Wilderness. No, it was not a wall of stone or a wall of wood to bar out an approaching army. It was a white linen wall, more like a covered fence, which measured a hundred cubits long and fifty cubits wide, or approximately 180 feet by 90 feet. The only distinction or break in the wall was on the east side, where a gate led in to the outer court of the Tabernacle.

Like all the other materials of the Tabernacle, which are typical of God’s redemptive purposes in Christ, the fine white linen speaks of divine righteousness. In the last book of the Bible, we read that it “was granted” to the Lamb’s wife “that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints” (Revelation 19:8). This righteousness must be the righteousness of God in Christ, for believers possess no righteousness of their own.

In the white linen curtain-wall of divine righteousness, the sanctity of God is exposed! As an Israelite approached this place of worship, the first sight beheld was that of the white linen curtain-wall. The great truth set forth is that as one approaches or comes to God, the first reality to be discovered is that God is righteous. From every perspective, from the east, west, north or south, God is righteous; He is totally righteous.

In the white linen curtain-wall of divine righteousness, the sinfulness of man is opposed! To view God’s untainted righteousness is to see our own defilement and unrighteousness. “As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one” (Romans 3:10). Nothing in us relates to the righteous nature of God. Thus, like the children of Israel, we see ourselves shut out from the presence of God. In ourselves, we are distant to and void of a righteousness He accepts.

In the white linen curtain-wall of divine righteousness, the saint of God is enclosed! While beholding His righteousness and our unacceptable condition, lo, a gate of entrance is witnessed. There is only one way in to God’s presence and that is through His righteous Son. “No man cometh unto the Father,” Jesus proclaimed, “but by Me” (John 14:6). By entering the gate, which also typifies Jesus, the very wall that opposed us encloses us! Although we are unrighteous in ourselves, God makes us “accepted” in the righteous Christ, “the Beloved” (Ephesians 1:6).

