

A Dwelling Place For God

June 20, 2021

2 Chronicles 6:1-42 ESV

1 Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he would dwell in thick darkness.

2 But I have built you an exalted house, a place for you to dwell in forever."

Church is not a product that must be sold to the public; but a holy communion between God and His children.

- *The biblical Church has to be understood in the context of the temple and the New Jerusalem.*
- *The temple was the symbolic forerunner of the Church and the Church is the forerunner of Heaven.*
- *As the temple was where God abided and communed with His people, so is the Church and heaven.*
- *God does not dwell in buildings, but in and among His people, who gather together in buildings.*

Genesis 3:8-9 ESV

8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

9 But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

Exodus 25:8 ESV

8 Let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst.

Psalm 63:1-4 ESV A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.

1 O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

2 So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

3 Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

4 So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.

1 Kings 6:11-14 ESV

11 Now the word of the LORD came to Solomon,

12 "Concerning this house that you are building, if you will walk in my statutes and obey my rules and keep all my commandments and walk in them, then I will establish my word with you, which I spoke to David your father.

13 And I will dwell among the children of Israel and will not forsake my people Israel."

14 So Solomon built the house and finished it.

Ephesians 2:21-22 ESV

21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Matthew 18:18-20 ESV

18 Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

19 Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.

20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

Revelation 21:2-4 ESV

2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

2 Chronicles 6:3-10 ESV

3 Then the king turned around and blessed all the assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel stood.

4 And he said, "**Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who with his hand has fulfilled what he promised with his mouth to David my father, saying,**

5 'Since the day that I brought my people out of the land of Egypt, I chose no city out of all the tribes of Israel in which to build a house, that my name might be there, and I chose no man as prince over my people Israel;

6 but **I have chosen Jerusalem that my name may be there, and I have chosen David to be over my people Israel.**'

7 Now **it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel.**

8 But the LORD said to David my father, 'Whereas **it was in your heart to build a house for my name, you did well that it was in your heart.**

9 Nevertheless, **it is not you who shall build the house, but your son who shall be born to you shall build the house for my name.**'

10 Now **the LORD has fulfilled his promise that he made.** For I have risen in the place of David my father and sit on the throne of Israel, **as the LORD promised, and I have built the house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel.**

- *As God fulfilled His promise in the building of the temple, so God, and God alone, builds the living temple of His Church today.*
- *God forgive us for trying to build His Church by man's methods and wisdom, for man's glory and for man's entertainment.*
- *God forgive us for trying to use the Church for other purposes than what God intends.*
- *God builds His Church today through the people; their life experience, their unique personalities, skills, talents and gifts, through which He flows to unify and strengthen the congregation.*
- *There is blessing, life and grace that comes to the Christian through the members of the Body of Christ, that can't be received anywhere else.*

Ephesians 2:19-22 KJV

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner [stone];

21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:

22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:4-12 ESV

4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;

5 and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord;

6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

8 For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,

9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,

10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

11 All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:18 ESV

18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

1 Corinthians 12:14-21 ESV

14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body.

16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body.

17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell?

18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

19 If all were a single member, where would the body be?

20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

Ephesians 5:18-21 ESV

18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,

19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart,

20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
21 submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Hebrews 10:23-25 ESV

23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.
24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,
25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.