

CLASS

LESSON NUMBER

344 A

THOUGHT PROVOKING BIBLE STUDIES



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THE TEMPLE, THE NT CHURCH

- Defining The OT Temple** The word *temple* is used in several contexts. It is first used in the Bible to identify (1 Sam. 1:9) the tabernacle which is called "*the _____ of the _____.*" Most frequently it is used in the Scriptures of the house of Jewish worship on the summit of Mount Moriah. Solomon's Temple, the original OT temple was (1 Ki 6:1) begun "*in the _____ year of Solomon's _____ over Israel*" and took 20 years to complete. It was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar about 586 BC and rebuilt by order of the Persian King _____ (Ezra 1:1-4) and known as Zerubbabel's temple. By about BC 18 this temple was badly decayed and Herod the Great received permission from Rome to rebuild it. Herod's Temple was finally completed in 65 AD but was forever lost in the (A.D. 70) destruction of Jerusalem.
- Other NT Usage** Herod's Temple is used figuratively (John 2:19-21) of Jesus' human body. Heaven is also called God's temple (Rev. 7:15). There were also heathen temples. In (Acts 19:27) we read of "*the _____ of the great _____ Diana*" which was located in _____.
- Depicting The Church** The NT Church is (1 Cor 12:27) "*the _____ of _____, and _____ in particular.*" These members (Eph 2:21) collectively form "*an holy _____ in the Lord.*" That's because God dwells in each saint comprising the church.
- More** A saint is a Christian, meaning an obedient believer sanctified by his obedience to the gospel. Paul said: (1 Cor. 3:16) "*Ye are the _____ of _____.*" He reminds by way of a question that "*the _____ of God _____ you.*" Obviously, (Jn 4:24) "*God is a _____.*" The only way God indwells anyone is spiritually, so if a man is spiritual God is in him; if not, God is not in him. Individuals comprise the church; the church is the focus.
- Getting It Straight** (1 Cor 3:17) "*If any man _____ the _____ of God, him shall God _____.*" Paul is talking about the individual(s) that defile the collective body by reproachful sins and false doctrine. He states the reason why this can't be allowed: "*For the _____ of God is _____, which temple _____.*" Many assume this scripture means to misuse one's body (eg: gluttony, drugs, fornication). Such things are clearly sinful but are not the focus here. When we (1 Cor 8:12) "*_____ so against the _____,*" whether one-on-one or in a collective manner, we nonetheless "*_____ against _____*" because it harms His Church.
- God Owns His Children** (1 Cor 6:20) "*Ye are _____ with a _____.*" The individual Christian has (Eph 1:7) "*_____ through his blood, the _____ of sins.*" The Church (Acts 20:28) was "*_____ with his _____ blood.*" So (1 Cor 6:19), "*your _____ is the _____ of the Holy Ghost---and ye are _____.*" This is the scripture involving individuals. Salvation is free. It is already paid for. God's grace cannot be merited. The terms: Since Jesus has freely done everything possible for us all that remains is for us to "Live for Jesus, 0 my brother, His disciple ever be, Render not to any other, What alone the Lord's should be." Saints belong to Christ.