

THE TEMPLE

By
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I was truly blessed this morning during our time of worship. Folks, songs must become a Living Reality if they are based upon The Truth that is in Christ. That's why sometimes I may make the statement that it's not just singing songs. It's seeing and knowing what these songs are all about: glorifying Him; the Reality of what He has done and what He is in the Believer's Life. I'm just going to take a little time with this. There were three different songs we sang that were saying something. The last song said "Know ye not that you are The Temple of the Holy Ghost?" You are The Temple. See, God is not dwelling in this physical building. The only time God is in this building is when you are here – the Believer: those that are gathered together unto Him. And yet at the same time we must also respect, reverence and honor The House of God.

Now what "House" am I talking about? I'm not talking about a physical house: I'm talking about this House – all that are "in Christ" is The House of God, The Dwelling Place of God. And sometimes people lose reverence and respect and honor because we preach this building is not God's House. So people don't respect that. But we must learn to honor and people must respect and reverence God because God is inside this building. Where? Because He is inside of you! If every one of us that is here this morning are Born Again (and I believe we all are) even at very different stages of growth

and understanding in Believers: but if everyone has been Born Again by The Spirit of God, The Spirit of God has come in you. He's not outside of you: He's inside of you. So you become The Dwelling Place, The Habitation that God lives in: The Abode, The Abiding. And so that's the understanding that God desires to bring us all into: that you are The House of God. And there is a House. The House of God is the vessels of honor and the vessels of dishonor. Now the "dishonor" was the old creation vessel without God, without the birthing of The Spirit of God in it. So the vessel of dishonor: but then it becomes a vessel which is your body, your temple becomes the vessel of God. **II Corinthians 4:7:** *"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us."*

Now this treasure is speaking of the Lord Jesus Himself: The Word of God, The Spirit of God. That's what the treasure is. And he says we have this treasure in earthen vessels. This is why God has given us our earthly bodies. These vessels are given in order that God Himself, The Word of God Himself can have an expression, have a manifestation: showing forth The Life and that which He is. That's what we're here for! That's the only purpose - Eternal Purpose that any of us, anyone who is ever born into this world: the only real Purpose was for God to have fellowship with us by His Spirit through His Son. **I Corinthians 1:9:** *"God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord."* He has called us unto the fellowship of His Son. So you see this is why we teach and why we say about The House of God: that God doesn't dwell in that stucco. He doesn't dwell in brick and stained glass. He doesn't dwell in any part of the natural building except there is a people who are inside the building. So if the people

that are inside the building is The House of God, or is The Temple of God: even though the natural house is not The House of God, yet there is a reverence, respect and honor that must be given unto God. Why? Because God is in The House because He' s in you! He's in me! He's in every one that's been Born Again by The Spirit of God!

That's why John 15 says "*My Father is the husbandman, I am the vine, you are the branches.*" We are the branches of the vine. We've been grafted into that true Olive Vine which is Christ Himself, the very Root of our Salvation. So He says He is the vine and we are the branches. And He says except the branch abides in the vine it cannot bring forth fruit of itself. In other words unless we abide in The Word, abide in The Vine that He is, then we'll never be able to bring forth the fruit.

See, God is after fruit in our lives! And that fruit is Christ to come forth: The Word of God, The Nature of God, The Character of God is to come forth into our lives. That's why we became The Temple of God for Him to have expression: for Him to show Himself unto the world – those that are in darkness. So that they can see The Light that Christ is in you – The Word. **Ephesians 5** says you were children of darkness, but now you are children of The Light. Why? Because Christ who is that Light has now come forth to shine in our hearts, and to give unto us the knowledge in the Face of Jesus Christ. That's what it says. He has come to light all men that would come to, receive and believe in that Light. So we were once children of darkness, but now we are children of Light: Christ who is that Light. Christ who is that Life, Christ with that Spirit now comes within The Temple of God.

So I want us to look at this. We're going to look at this and in Jerusalem and The Ark of The Covenant. And now we see The New Covenant. The Ark represented something. It had in it The Ten Commandments, the Manna: it had in it Aaron's Rod that budded. But when it came time to build The House of Solomon, or The House of The Lord we'll see there was a progression of God bringing down through the time when the children of Israel would come from having a tent. Everywhere that God led Israel they had to pull up the tent, set it back up. And all the camp of Israel was surrounded about that tent. And that was called "The Tabernacle". God spoke to Moses and said see that you build it according to the pattern. See The Tabernacle was a pattern of all that was there that would be fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

And then there came the time: 480 years after God brought them out of Egypt (I don't know whether they ever got Egypt out of their hearts) was when God began to speak through David and said your son Solomon shall build a Temple. Now that's a natural Temple. We're going to go into these things and show you that it goes from a natural house, a natural Temple to The Temple of The Living God with The Spirit of God living in it. And Solomon's House was powerful – we'll see that. It was a powerful building, and there's a lot to this, but I'll just touch on the Queen of Sheba. See here's the glory, folks. We all have heard so much. And yes God wants us to hear, but you know God wants us to SEE. God wants us to come to an understanding of what we hear. It's not just saying words or taking Scriptures in the Bible and just saying things. But God wants us to HEAR. That's why The Spirit of God in the book of Revelation said, *"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the church."*

And this is the Reality of it: The Spirit is speaking to you and to me, and to those that are in The Body of Christ: those who have been Born Again of The Spirit of God. That's who God is speaking to. He convicts those who are "in sin" that they may come to Him. He died for their sins. He died as them: that He might bring them out from that sin, and from that darkness and out from that realm of death. He's done all of that in order that He might bring you and I into Himself: bring us into a relationship with Him. So God who is faithful has called us unto the fellowship of His Son (**One Corinthians 1:9**) and **1 John 1** says the same thing. **1 John 1:1**: *"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; 2: (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) 3: That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ."* So John goes on to explain what is this fellowship that we have with The Father and with His Son. It is that Believers – you and me: that all Believers would have that same fellowship as we have.

I've never met anyone who has truly been Born of The Spirit of God that doesn't desire that others who haven't come to the Lord Jesus would want to come and want to express that joy and that Life. And people will say, "Man, what happened to you?" "Woman, what happened to you?" There's been such a change! What happened? Well what happened was that glory to God, Jesus Christ came in! They were Born Again of The Spirit of God. So He brought you in onto

Himself and now that He has brought us into Himself, you know what? Now He wants to have an exhibiting. He wants to have a manifestation. He wants to show Himself. How? Through you, through me. Made known to the world, that those that are in darkness can see The Great Light. That's why John said that men loved darkness. **John 3:19:** *"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."* Before we ever came to Christ what did we love? We loved darkness, loved to walk in our own ways, in our own understanding. A lot could be said there. Men loved darkness rather than Light. What happens when men come to The Light? When we come to The Light then God reveals the darkness that is there and shows us the darkness that is in our hearts, and we turn to that Light.

So you see men loved darkness rather than Light lest their deeds be reprov'd. So what reprov's the darkness that we've been in? It's The Light of The Lord Jesus because it's The Living Word of God Himself that comes forth. So that Light that comes in begins to shine within our hearts, in our understanding. And God by The Spirit giving us understanding of His Word, then you see that Light begins to bring forth and causes darkness to just begin to fade away.

It's like the old song years ago we used to sing but don't sing much anymore. "The things of this world will go strangely dim." **Romans 12:1:** *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2: And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect,*

will of God.” See, God pulls us out of that old man. The word “world” there is dealing with the old creation that you and I were in. So you see our mind is going to be renewed by The Spirit. And so when The Mind of the Spirit begins to bring us into The Mind of Christ, into The Mind of The Spirit; then there comes understanding that God wants to have in His people in the Earth... not just take them out! You can do nothing after you’re gone! You’ve got to do it here. You’ve got to allow God to work now. You’ve got to allow God to be manifested now! And in the Reality of this you see that’s what happens. The Light comes in, The Word of God comes in, and The Word is Life unto us: for Thy Word is Spirit and Thy Word is Life. **John 6:63:** *“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”*

So in saying all this, let’s go to the book of 1 Corinthians. We’re going to touch several different things from the songs this morning. This is why I’m always telling people: I say we don’t sing many hymns. Maybe once in a while we might, and I’m not degrading that. But there’s something about singing The Word of God, and every song that we sing is based upon The Word of God and The Truth and The Reality of it. And that’s why it has to become more than just singing songs. See, you can sing songs, you can preach – you can do all kinds of things and say words to no effect, and to no meaning. But when these songs become a message in our hearts, a lifestyle that is coming forth in us, then we are singing unto Him.

All right, **1 Corinthians 3**. And we’re going to look at this as The Temple of God. *“Know ye not...”* Now let me elaborate just a little on this “know ye not.” Do you know? Do you

understand? Do you comprehend? When we read something, do you really know that? Now see in **Romans 6** there are three “knowing”. He talks about “know ye not...” Don’t you know? Don’t you understand? I want to elaborate on that. See, God desires for us to know. How will we “know”? We will know by The Spirit of God! Over in the Old Testament you know we talked about man not seeing and man not knowing, and all of that. But you see in the Reality all things are made known to you and I as Believers in Christ by The Spirit of God. **I Corinthians 3:16:** *“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”* What are you? You are The Temple of God! You see He’s not just outside of you. *“Know ye not ye **ARE**... not you are “going to be”.* Now what we will have to understand here is that God is speaking to The Church. And when I say “The Church” **Ephesians 1** makes it plain what The Church is. The Church is The Body of Jesus Christ. (**Ephesians 1:22**) That’s what “The Church” is. It’s not this building.

And as I’ve said before it’s not being Pentecostal, Methodist, Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian ... and name them all. It’s not being that: but knowing and understanding that you are The Temple of God. So what happens to The Temple of God? The Spirit of God dwells in you. Why would The Spirit of God dwell in you? Because you have now been Born Anew, Born Again by The Spirit of God – that’s why! See, that’s why it’s necessary that everyone be Born Again of The Spirit of God. “Going to Church” isn’t the “Born Again” experience. But “Born Again” is receiving and acknowledging and accepting the Lord Jesus and what The Father has done through His Son upon that Cross. **John 3:16:** *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

God so loved the world. God didn't send His Son to condemn the world. You think of that! See, Jesus is not out here condemning the world. Regardless of where they all are: how much sin, whatever they are in. He didn't come to condemn the world: He came to save the world from sin. He came to save the world and bring them out from the darkness that was there because **John 3:18** says man is already condemned. **John 3:18**: *"He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."* He is condemned because he has not come into Fellowship: he's not been Born of The Spirit of God so they are already condemned. All mankind is condemned by Adam: by the first birth, by the first creation.

I can't jump off on that, but that's what he's saying. Jesus didn't come to condemn the world, He came as a sacrifice for sin and in that sacrifice for sin, to bring us out that we no longer be sinners, but we be saved by the Grace of God and the Mercies of God being in our heart. So here, **I Corinthians 3:16**: *"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?"* We must come to that understanding. **I Corinthians 3:17**: *"If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."* Ye are! Now what does it mean: if any man defile The Temple of God? It means if you and I live there and do not allow God to live there and get to have control over our lives, and God to lead and to guide us: and we only live after the dictates of our own hearts and our own flesh. Then we defile The Temple of God because why is it "The Temple of God"? It is The Temple of God for **GOD** to dwell there: for God to have a manifestation of Himself by The Spirit and The Word to be

manifested in the earth. And that's what it means: if any man defile The Temple of God, him will God destroy. What will God destroy? God will destroy that which is in that Temple that is not of God. And what happens? For the Temple of God is holy. See it's showing you that because God is in you, God is holy so you are holy. But then it tells us all that we can take The Temple of God and we can live there and then we defile The Temple of God.

I Corinthians 3:18: *“Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. 19: For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. 20: And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.”* He's dealing with the wisdom of man; not the wisdom of God here; the intellect of man. And so many times in that people have no understanding of the Lord. So, **I Corinthians 3:20:** *“And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain. 21: Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours; 22: Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; 23: And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.”* What he's showing is you belong to Christ: you have been Begotten by Christ. You have been Begotten by His Death, by His Burial, and His Resurrection. Now go to **1 Corinthians 6**. What did he say? *“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God? The Spirit of God dwells in you.”* Sometimes I have people to say this to me (and I'm not saying this in a condemning way), but they say this because they don't know: they don't have an understanding. Many times they've not gotten before God to hear The Voice of God and they say, 'Well I know The Spirit of God dwells in

me, but one day I'm waiting for Him to come back.' Now this tells me that if The Spirit of God is in you, and in me: then The Spirit of God is here. But they say Jesus is up there... and so The Spirit of Jesus is far apart from us. That isn't what the Bible teaches!

See, He has come IN you! You are the one that holds this Living Christ, this Living Spirit which is in you. Know ye not you are The Temple? Yes I am, yes I am! See The Temple of God has to declare these things. The Apostle has said in **I Corinthians 6:16**: *“What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. 17: But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. 18: Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.”* Now here's the question: **Verse 19**, *“What? Know ye not that your body...”* Now over there in the third chapter it said you are to know that you are The Temple of God. Really and truly there is no difference in the word “Temple, House, Church, Body, Bride”. I'll just say it that way and leave it alone. But there's really no difference: they are speaking of the same thing. The City of God... it's all speaking of the same thing. Now, **I Corinthians 6:19**: *“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?”* See, the Holy Ghost and The Spirit is one and the same. The third chapter says The Spirit dwells in you, but here it says “The Holy Ghost which is in you.” Then it goes on, **20**: *“For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.”* You belong to God! You are the property of God. So glorify God in your body and in your Spirit. Why? Because your body is The Temple, your body is The Place, The Dwelling

Place for God to live in.

Now there is another place in **2 Corinthians 6**. There's a lot of Scriptures we could go in and just follow this through, but what I want to show is we are not singing songs just to be singing songs. Please let's get a hold of that! We're singing songs because there's TRUTH: there is an understanding when we sing a song or when we read The Word and God gives us an understanding. See, without understanding we will never be fruitful. I've used this as an example: about a brother being an equipment operator. You can send a man someplace to take down trees, and do all that. And without understanding he can really mess things up! Now when understanding comes he can go down there and do what needs to be done. He isn't going to damage houses or buildings. Why? Because now he knows: he's had experience, he's got understanding. The same thing with you and I. Without the understanding of The Word, The Word cannot be fruitful in our lives: The Word cannot bring forth that Fruit that The Word is, and that Christ is.

So here in **2 Corinthians 6** we are going to look at this in the context of what I'm sharing: the Temple of God, The House of God; that which we are. Now **Verse 14**: "*Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness...*" See, as long as we were in the world we got along with the world, didn't we? We all did. See, no exception for mankind. But as long as we were in darkness: we hung with those, we stayed with those and we fellowshiped with those. Because why? We were in darkness as they were! So what fellowship hath darkness with righteousness? Again, **II Corinthians 6:14**: "*Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what*

fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?” Now that is not telling you that you can’t be around people that are not in Christ if you are strong enough to stay away from whatever controlled us while we were in darkness. See Jesus went up and ate with the sinners and the Publicans, and you know what? The Pharisees condemned Him! They called him a winebibber and glutton and all of that.

But you see you don’t ignore people because they are not Born Again. But at the same time there is no real relationship. **1 John 1** goes on to say that our fellowship that we have one with another is because we are in Christ. So here you see we don’t have real communion and fellowship with darkness. **II Corinthians 6:15:** “*And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?*” That word “Belial” actually deals with evil spirits and forces of powerful spirits under the influence of Satan and so forth. “... *or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel.*” Have you ever met someone who says I don’t believe in God? I don’t believe there is a God. He is an infidel. “*A fool has said in his heart there is no God.*” Go to Proverbs and that’s what it says. So what part do we have with someone who says that he doesn’t believe? We don’t! What fellowship do we have as children of Light and Righteousness with them? I want you to understand that Light and Righteousness is not just you: Light and Righteousness is that which you put on, which is **The Lord Jesus Christ Himself:** which is The Word of God Himself! See this is The Word of God and God has given us this Word whereby we can know and we can understand. So I want you to understand I am not ever declaring to you that you can’t talk to people who don’t know God, or you can’t even go

amongst them.

Why? There were years ago that I would never go to a Christmas party. I was too religious! I would never go to a Christmas party because you never knew what was going to happen: especially a lot of drinking. I wouldn't go. But God began to change my view and change my understanding. I would go and I would never have a drink, but I enjoyed those oysters! They had bushels of oysters. I worked for that company for 17 years and I went there and you know what happened? Not a Christmas party that I ever was in but those men came around and gathered around me, and they wanted to hear The Word of God! They saw a Light! It wasn't Henry: it was The Light that was in Henry! So "let your light so shine before men". That's the Scripture: **Matthew 5:16:** *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."*

You don't have to be a Child of God for me to have something to do with. Paul said this, *"all things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient."* See, we are a people that has been made free: been brought out of bondage and captivity of the old creation man. We don't have real fellowship there. But now **II Corinthians 6:16:** *"And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."* What is The Temple of God? It's you, it's me; it's those that are in Christ. *"... the Temple of **the living God**..."* My God this is exciting to me! You are The Temple of The Living God – not a dead God! You are The Temple of The Living God. I'm going to throw another verse

in here. **Romans 8:11:** *“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”* Now what is “your mortal bodies”? This right here, the flesh body we have. See, the mortal body has been quickened. Does that make our body “spiritual”? No, this is a misconception so many people have about the body and about the Christian. Does this make our bodies spiritual? No, it only makes our body a vessel or a vehicle for The Living God and for The Spirit of God, and for The Word of God to have an expression in the earth.

It is to show others that Light: that Light that is in you – it shows it to others. And there is a separation. In Revelation 18 it says *“come out from among them and be separate.”* What he’s saying is there is a separation that comes. This is what he’s saying: get away from idols and images. See folks, you and I may not take a piece of wood or gold and make some kind of golden image like the children of Israel did. But a lot of times there are idols, there are false gods: there were things that we allow to be set up in our hearts. Those things God deals with. Over and over in Israel there were so many idols and false gods and everything they built that they had to tear down the high places.

All right, let’s get back to **2 Corinthians 6:16**. So you are The Temple of The Living God. Now let’s just look for a second here. What is he saying? **II Corinthians 6:16:** *“And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”* Regarding idols: that was one thing that word “Belial” means. It was people caught up with idols,

false worship, false gods – all of that. Now, “... *as God has said...*” and if God says it: then it is so! In the book of Jeremiah chapter 31 and in other places God said I will be a God unto you, and you will be My people; and I will dwell in you, and you will dwell in Me. So this is a quotation from **Jeremiah 31:33**: “*But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.*” And **32:38**: “*And they shall be my people, and I will be their God:*” He says I’m going to dwell in you. I’m going to live in you. You are The Temple of The Living God and I’m going to dwell in them. Now how is He going to dwell in you and me and walk in us? Sometimes I take the time to try to explain because of what is taught sometimes to people. God dwells and walks in you by His Spirit and by His Word. Jesus Christ is not a man now that is in the flesh and can get down inside of you and me. He’s not that kind of man anymore. He became that man for the purpose of the sacrifice: as a Lamb to fulfill all of the prophecies of the Old Testament.

But you see the Reality of it is how is He walking in you and me this morning? He’s walking in us because The Word of God that is HIM has a manifestation, and that Word is being walked out. Sometimes we say its walked out “in shoe leather”. We can read it: we can hear it, but then it has to be walked out. So He said I’ll be your God and I’ll live in you, and I’ll walk in you. It’s The Spirit and The Word of God that is living and working and walking in you. It has a manifestation in your life! It brings a change in our lives. And folks, believe me. I go back as a young lad when I first accepted God in my life, and I made many mistakes and many blunderings along the way. And I realize that I’ll ever

be learning Christ. Don't ever come to a place of complacency wherein now I'm Born Again; so that's all I need to know. Now I'm Born Again, and now I'm not going to hell and I'm going to heaven.

That's the view of so many Believers: 'Now I'm saved, I won't go to hell. So when I die I can go to heaven.' But the Reality of it is... oh my God... that God wants to walk in this earth. God wants to manifest His Glory and His Power and His Excellency. **He wants to glorify Himself in you and in me!** He wants to be an expression in the earth so that those that are in darkness can come. In **Matthew 4** is the fulfillment of it and it talks about those in Zabulon: those that walked in the shadow of death, but The Light has come! And you see that Light was Christ: and when Christ who is that True Light comes and He begins to shine, and He begins to walk in us: I'm telling you that you're going to see there are people who were going to want to have what you've got. They are going to want what you have. They are going to want to experience what you experience. Why? Because it's The Living God: it's The Spirit of God, it's The Word of God Living and Abiding in you - so walk out this. There's a scripture in Psalms I believe it is, that says "walk about Zion". Zion is a people who are walking in the High Thought of God. They are the people who are in relationship and union with God who will come forth and have an expression in the earth. Glory to God!

So what does it mean: "I'll live in you and I'll walk in you"? Jesus can't get inside of you as a flesh man. And I'm going to say something else now about "the coming of the Lord" that most people have been taught. And if He would ever come back again out of the Heavens, and out of the sky as preached so many times folks: if He would ever come back

again like that, He would never be inside of you! He would be on the outside of you. He would be no different from me, standing here beside you and walking down this aisle with you. I am on the outside of you. And if He ever came back again in that form, He would never be living in you: never abiding and dwelling in you. And that's why we have to come to The Truth of The Gospel of Christ: that you are The Temple of The Living God and He lives in you and dwells in you, and that where He is – that's exactly where you are this morning!

Almighty God! That's exactly where we are this morning! See folks, I'm telling you that's The Truth. Just think of it. If a man came out of the sky like the Church has preached (and I've preached it for years): but if a man comes out of the sky and here are these thousands of people who were Born Again: they all have bodies. And here's Jesus again with a body. He isn't going to be in you! He's in you and me and in His Body that is called "The Church" by His Spirit and by His Word. Now again, **II Corinthians 6:16**: *"And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17: Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18: And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."* And what a glorious thing: to know that you are the daughter, the son of The Living God!

Turn with me to **Ephesians 1**. There are so many scriptures that establish that your body is The Temple of The Holy Ghost and The Living God lives in you. The Spirit of God

lives in you, The Word of God: we take on The Word of God. **Ephesians 1:18**, *“The eyes of your understanding...”* That word “the eyes of your understanding” is the same thing as having a comprehension: to be able to see, to be illuminated, lightened by The Spirit, by The Truth. **Ephesians 1:18**: *“The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints”*. Did you see that? What is the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints. See, what God is interested in Brothers and Sisters, once we are Born Again and we come into The Family of God, The Household of God; then God wants to teach us and show us His ways. He wants that we can know His ways and walk in His path. And see it’s the riches of the glory of HIS inheritance which is in the Saints. **Ephesians 1:19**: *“And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,”* As we believe according to the working of His mighty Power: this is how He’s done it. He’s brought it about: He did it **IN CHRIST**. **Ephesians 1:20**: *“Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places.”* I want you to pay attention to that verse. And “the right hand” means the power of authority: the right of authority to rule.

Now **Ephesians 1:21**: *“Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:”* And that word “come” means in the New Creation: that which is to come. **Ephesians 1:22**: *“And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,”* What has He given? He’s given HIM to be The Head over all things to The Church. Now what is “The

Church”? **Ephesians 1:23:** “*Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.*” The Church is His Body that He fills Himself with. He fills all and in all. He fills Himself in you: He brings Himself in you. How does He do it? Again I want us to see it is not by the flesh: but He brings Himself in you by His Spirit and by His Word. But I want you to notice again **Verse 20** “*Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,*”

Now look in **Ephesians 2:1:** “*And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;*” He has quickened those who were dead: that’s where you were, where I was. We were dead in trespasses and in sins. See, our body was the body of death. That’s why if The Spirit of Jesus Christ reigns in us, our body becomes a vehicle, a vessel for God to have expression of this, of this Light: of Christ that is in us to have a manifestation. So you see when we look at this we see God has raised Him up from the dead, and set Him at His own Right Hand in Heavenly Places. But we were quickened who were dead. The next two verses tells us what we were in “time past”: this is how we used to walk. “*Wherein in time past...*” In other words, now you’ve been Born Again so your walk is going to be different: your Life is going to be different. It is going to change. Now folks, I’m telling you this walk, this change isn’t going to happen overnight. It’s progressive, and as we give ourselves to God then the more we give ourselves to God, the more that it will happen in us. I’m telling you.

Ephesians 2:2: “*Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of*

disobedience.” He is saying that’s where we were in time past. We all had our manner of life in time past. We must notice that. The reason the Scripture says “time past” is because that’s what we were as the old sinful creation, that we were as a sinner – in darkness. **Ephesians 2:3:** *“Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.”* See, we were no different from anyone else that’s out there who hasn’t come to Christ. But now I want you to notice these next couple of verses. **“But God...”** See now something changes here. **Ephesians 2:4:** *“But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,* **2:5:** *Even when we were dead in sins...”* See that? For God so loved the world, even when we were dead in sins because of His Great Love wherewith He loved us. Notice this now in **Verse 5,** *“...hath quickened...”* This word means ‘made alive, made fresh, anew.’ It’s a New and Living Life. It’s a New and Living Way. **Ephesians 2:5:** *“Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)* **6:** *And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”* I want you to see where you are this morning Brothers and Sisters. Where are you raised this morning? Where are you seated this morning? **Ephesians 2:6:** *“And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”* Where is the “heavenly place”? By you being in Christ Jesus: by Jesus Christ being in you: by The Spirit and The Word of God being in you. God’s Mercy, God’s Great Love: He loved while we were dead (verse 5).

See, we were dead in sin. We didn’t have Life. I know people say, ‘Oh boy, I’m living it up!’ Yeah – they are not living! You

know why they're not living? Because they don't have The Living One. They don't have Eternal Life dwelling and abiding in them until they are Born Again. You and I didn't have Life: we had natural existence, but we didn't have Life: we didn't have Eternal Life. Now we have Eternal Life! Why? Because it's The Son of God Himself: The Spirit, The Word that has come to live in us. Now beloved, and there is so much in it: this is "in Christ." See, when you were dead to Christ: dead in sin you were dead to Christ. Now that The Spirit of God is in you, now you are alive. Why are you alive? You are only alive because The Living One lives in you. See, in reality you and I even right now do not have Life on our own. Our only existence; The Life we have is **CHRIST**. That's The Life that we now have.

It's **IN** Christ. See, you are seated **IN** Christ. You are seated **IN** the heavenlies. The word "heaven" and "heavenlies" – you can search it out. All through the New Testament it's the same Greek word that says it's a state of happiness. It's really The Abode of God. It's got His Spirit and it is The Abode of God. So we are seated, and the thing that He's done is He took us out from being dead, and now He has quickened us and raised us up together with Christ. As Christ was raised up from the dead, so we are raised also up with Him. This is a New Creature, a New Creation World.

All right, let's go to **Colossians**. Now keep in mind what we just read in **Ephesians**. You were dead. And now hath He quickened you – made you alive, anew. And when I say "made you alive", you were only made alive because now Christ is The Living One who is in you. It's Him living. Raised you up together with Him. See, He brought you into His death, and from His death He raises you up into Himself.

Now when you go home look at **Romans** chapters **5** and **6**: both of those entire chapters because it ties right in here, but I'll leave that alone now.

So we've established the fact that you are The Temple of God: you are the place that God lives in. How many really believe that this morning? You are really The Temple of God: you are The House of God. So many things can be said, but now that we've established that while we were dead God has raised us up together, quickened us together, raised us up to be seated together with Him in heavenly places. If you want to say it is a "place", I'll tell you the place – **Christ Jesus!** That's where you're raised. You're raised up together with Him and **Romans 6** from verse 3 on through will show you that very same thing. That if you've been planted together in the likeness of His death, you'll be raised in His resurrection. And you have been raised folks! People I know: I've preached for years, people preached it to me – that we are waiting on the Resurrection. But I am telling you Jesus Christ is The Resurrection and The Life, and He's brought you into that.

Now **Colossians 3** – my Lord Jesus! And again you see this is dealing with knowledge. In fact this is dealing with a renewed mind: The Mind of The Spirit to bring renewed knowledge: that we understand the knowledge of The Spirit, the knowledge of what God has done. Now look at **Colossians 3:1**: *"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God."* What is he saying? Seek those things which are above. It's a realm above the flesh. Isaiah said it like this: *"My thoughts are above your thoughts. My ways are above your ways."* *"If you be risen..."* What he's saying here is if

you really understand: if you really know that He died as you, and that in His Resurrection He brought you out of that death, and He raised you up with Him to be seated together. Then if you know this: *“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.”* Now I’m telling you a lot of people think that Jesus is sitting up there beside God when they read “the Right Hand of God”. But I’m telling you: you can do a search. It simply means His Authority, and He’s been given all Authority.

Matthew 28:18: *Jesus said all power and authority has been given to Me in heaven and in earth.* But look in Colossians 3 again: *“If you have been risen...”* How many understand this morning that you have been risen together in Him? You are seated together with Him: in Christ in the heavenly realm, in The Spirit, in Christ. Now **Colossians 3:2:** *“Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth”.* In other words the “above” realm is the Heavenly, the Spiritual. **Colossians 3:3:** *“For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.”* It can’t get any plainer than this folks. See this is what God wants us to know. You are not going to be dead: you are dead! This isn’t dealing with you being naturally dead – put in the grave. You are dead, and your Life, which is The Life of Christ is hid with Christ in God. *“When Christ our life...”* when you see writings in italics that means it really was not in the original manuscript. Now in some places it fits good to fill in the sentence of what is being said. **Romans 6** does the same thing. **Colossians 3:4:** *“When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.”* There’s really nothing wrong to say Christ who is our Life: it is Christ who is, who is present.

My Lord, that's **1 John 3**, but I can't go there now. **Colossians 3:5:** *"Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: 6: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:"* And the Reality is that we must understand when Christ Who is our Life shall appear, we appear with Him. When are we appearing? We are appearing with Him right now! Why? Because He's in you, and you are in Him. Time doesn't permit it, but we could go to the Scriptures to show you are IN HIM! You're not waiting someday to go where He is: to see Him. When The Spirit makes The Truth known, you see Him. Where do you see Him? You see Him in you. You know Him in you. And there's just so much! It's a never ending Reality.

Folks, this is Reality. This is The Gospel of Christ. The Gospel of Christ is not a future thing. If we look at 10,000 years from now: do you know what it would be when it got to be 10,000 years? It would be NOW: always in the present tense – now! So you see, you are The Body. Look at **Revelation 1:18:** *"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."* Think of that: what was that 'hell and death'? That was the hell and death that all mankind came down in through Adam. Sin and death, sin and death. What did Jesus do? He took all of that in The Cross: in His Death, and He conquered hell and death. He did it through His Death. He says I was dead, but now I am alive for evermore! And I have the keys. There is the keys for the release of hell and death!

We sing this song:
Alive, alive, alive forever more.
My Jesus is alive, alive forever more.

Alive, alive, alive forever more.
My Jesus is alive, alive forever more.

Sing Hallelujah, Sing Hallelujah.
My Jesus is Alive forever more.

My Jesus is alive. Where is He alive at? Have you found out where He's alive? Have we all found out where He's at this morning? He said you are The Temple of The Living God!

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