

PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

1 CORINTHIANS 3:16-23

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

JESUS CHRIST AND HIS NEW HOME – PART 2

HOW TO BE A CHURCH THAT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Maturity, Carnality, Judgment, Fruitfulness, Discipleship

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Do you not **know** that **you are the temple of God** and that the **Spirit of God dwells in you?** :17 If anyone **defiles** the temple of God, God will **destroy** him. For the temple of God is **holy**, which temple you are. :18 Let no one **deceive** himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. :19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "He **catches** the wise in their own **craftiness**"; :20 and again, "The LORD knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are **futile.**" :21 Therefore let no one boast 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 **you are Christ's**, and Christ is **God's**.

The Apostle Paul's Remarkable and Radical

Introduction to the Corinthian Mind was this - - **The Eternal Doctrine of The Indwelling Christ**, That the Living God had come down to earth, to live, love and die for all mankind - to be resurrected from the dead & to conquer death and to hand over to us the keys of that Victory – So that we could have a Personal Salvation !!!

Romans 8:10-11

And **if Christ is in you**, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. :11 But **if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you**, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through **His Spirit who dwells in you**.

That's a Remarkable and Radical Thought

*And justifiably so, because to the Greek and Hebrew Mind –
this news was - “too good to be true”*

How Can a Holy God Interact with Unholy Man???
((thus the need for innocent blood))

Colossians 1:20

Now, having made peace (with God) through **the blood of his cross**,
by Him, He reconciled all things unto himself;

JESUS CHRIST AND HIS NEW HOME

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER!

1.) Your body is a holy house

v.16-17

1a.) He's desiring a house for Himself

1b.) He's a protector of His house

17a If anyone **defiles the temple of God**, God will **destroy** him.

NEWS FLASH CHURCH

!!! CHRISTIANITY HAS NO TEMPLE !!!

The Real Temple of God is Now Every True Believer in Jesus As Christ.

Dr. Charles Ryrie writes;

“So grave the warning, so certain the judgment upon *any man* or woman who creates or contributes to the harm, division or collapse of a local church whether it be by a Christian or a non-Christian – it is clear that peril awaits them. Verse 17 puts the church and its leaders on notice that division is to fought against - If it be in the form a bitter, backslidden Christian or from the devil himself – the temple of believers is to protected.

1 Corinthians 6:18-20

Flee **sexual immorality**. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. :19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? :20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

pornei ÷ a porneia, por-ni'-ah;

aberrant or unsanctioned sexuality, adultery, incest, fornication, sexual arousal outside marriage - (*sexting is porneia, internet porn is porneia, any form of sexual activity outside of marriage is porneia*)

Galatians 5:19-21

Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, :20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, :21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

What a Party Pooper - Why Can't I Goof Off ???

NLT 2 Corinthians 6:14-16

Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can goodness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? :15 What harmony can there be between Christ and the Devil? How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever? :16 And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God said: "I will live in them and walk among them.

YOUR BODY IS A HOLY HOUSE TO GOD

1c.) He's a renovator to His house

17b For the temple of God is **holy**, - which temple you are.

We have no idea just how **radical** and **outrageous**
This revelation was to the 1st century Corinthians.

Acts 17:24

God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, **does not dwell in temples made with human hands.** :25 Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything,

Colossians 1:27

To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this **mystery** among the Gentiles: which is **Christ in you, the hope** *(the sustained confidence)* of glory.

mystery. musth/rion musterion

meaning to "hold back the mouth from speaking", a contained secret. Concealed information of ultimate worth. The mystery that is made known.

Here's Some Temple Talk For Ya – Any Old Testament Priest Would Understand This – BTW to them, it's Still Heresy in Judaism Today.

Ephesians 2:18

For **through Him we both have access** by one Spirit to the Father. :19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, :20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ** Himself being the chief *cornerstone*, :21 in whom **the whole building**, being fitted together, **grows into a holy temple in the Lord**, :22 in whom **you also are being built** together for a **dwelling place of God in the Spirit**.

A true Christian, possessed by the Holy Spirit is Recognizable by how they live their lives. There's a "Practical Holiness" about them – it's attractive !!!

Revelation 19:8

And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in **fine linen**, clean and white: for the **fine linen** is the righteousness of saints.

“JESUS CHRIST AND HIS NEW HOME”

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER!

2.) Your body is a wise house

v.18-20

2a.) His children make good decisions

18 Let no one **deceive** himself.

Romans 8:14-15

For as many as are **led** by the Spirit of God, ***these are sons of God.***

led a † gw ago, ag'-o
to go with. To hold the hand

The wisdom, knowledge and science of men - is biased.

It has to be biased because it cannot face the reality and the evidence.

Human philosophy has an Instant Bias – “Argue Away their Existence of God.”

1 Timothy 6:20-21

O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane *and* vain babblings, and oppositions of **science** falsely so called: **:21** Which some professing have erred concerning the faith.

science gnw◇siß **gnosis**, gno'-sis;
the knowing or **the act** of knowing something that is true. The science (knowledge) of a factual, knowable reality.

Human beings **apart from God** cannot understand **the things of God.**

Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; **:6** In all your ways acknowledge Him, And **He shall direct your paths.**

In The Wilderness of Arabia – 4,000 years ago

Numbers 9:15-16,18

Now on the day that the tabernacle was raised up, the cloud (shekinah) covered the tabernacle, the tent of the Testimony; from evening until morning it was above the tabernacle like the appearance of fire. **:16** So it was always: the cloud covered it *by day*, and the appearance of fire by night.... **:18** At the command of the LORD the children of Israel would journey, and at the command of the LORD they would camp; as long as the cloud stayed above the tabernacle they remained encamped.

You'll Recognize One of His Kids by The Decisions They Make

YOUR BODY IS A WISE HOUSE TO GOD

2b.) His children walk in wisdom

18b If anyone among you **seems to be wise** in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. (why?) **:19** For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, “He **catches** the wise in their own **craftiness**”; **:20** and again, “The LORD knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are **futile**.”

Luke 7:35

But **wisdom is justified by all her children.**”

The way of the world, the spirit of the world - is hostile toward God.

Romans 12:16c

Do not be wise in your own opinion. = *If you're impressed with yourself – watch out*

James 1:5

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

A Pedometer records how many steps we take in a day.

But what if there was a **Bobometer** or a **Jillometer** recording where our feet go every day?

We, Christians, walk in Wisdom

1 John 1:5-7

This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. **:6** If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and **walk in darkness**, we lie and do not practice the truth. **:7** But **if we walk** in the light as He is in the light, **we have fellowship** with one another, and **the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us** from all sin.

2c.) His children live in holiness

20 “The LORD knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are **futile**.”

Hebrews 12:14

Make **every effort** to live in peace with all men and to be holy; (*separated from the world*) without holiness (*in a state of being separated from the world*) no one will see the Lord.

Isaiah 57:15

For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name *is* Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy *place*, I dwell with him *who* has a contrite and humble spirit,

2 Corinthians 6:15

And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? **:16** And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "*I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.*" **:17** Therefore "*Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.*"

JESUS CHRIST AND HIS NEW HOME

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER

3.) Your body is a forever house

v.21-23

3a.) Because He builds on eternity

21 Therefore let no one **boast in men**. (*that is deception*) For all things are yours:

There is nothing that you can obtain from man,
or from this world system that will translate into Eternity for your profit.

Don't Trust in Men, or in Others to Rescue you or to Provide for you.

The temple / the priesthood / prophets / kings / sacrifices /
All these things **accommodate our human weakness.**

1 John 5:11-12

And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is **in His Son**.
:12 He who **has the Son** has (*eternal*) life; he who **does not have the Son** of God does not have (*eternal*) life.

John 14:17

the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

**PAUL IS REMINDING THEM TO MOVE ON INTO
THIS RADICAL REALITY OF - CHRIST BEING IN YOU**

This Fact, This Reality, is the Most Challenging Concept

for Mankind to Cope With – it is that the one true eternal God of all creation would desire to interact with His creation, talk with His creation, and redeem His creation.

My dear Buddhist - - can your god or gods do this?

My Islamic listeners - - you know that Allah cannot do this = **be among men**

My Hindu neighbor - - you know inside of you is an empty room

YOUR BODY IS A FOREVER HOUSE TO GOD

3b.) Because He gives us everything we need

:22 whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas, or the world or life or death, or things present or things to come - all are yours.

These Men Exist for Your Benefit, To Serve You.

John 17:22

And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: **:23** I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one,

Hebrews 10:1,5,9-10

For the law, being a shadow of the good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect.... **:5** Therefore, when Christ came into the world, He said: *“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me... :9* then He said, *“Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.”* So then He takes away **the first** that He may establish **the second**. **:10** By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. (*Church - this is not available in an earthly temple*)

YOUR BODY IS A FOREVER HOUSE TO GOD

3c.) Because He belongs to us

23 And **you** are **Christ’s**, and Christ is **God’s**.

John 17:23

I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made complete in one,

I'd like to encourage you to take on a

very exciting study in the Bible about the Temple in Jerusalem throughout Israel's history and see how it relates to you personally.

Hebrews 8:5

The instruction given to Moses was "Copy and shadow of the heavenly things."

Hebrews 9:8-9,11

Now the Holy Spirit was indicating this, that the way into the Holy of Holies was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle on earth was still standing. :9 It was symbolic for the present time...

...:11 But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.

Hebrews 9:22-24

In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. :23 It was necessary, then, for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. :24 For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence.

This Is Christianity – a true, deep, internal, transformation that emanates outward and onward wherever we may be...

"Experiencing" The Born Again Experience

John 20:21-22

So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." :22 And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

1 Peter 2:9

But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

(In a few Moments – You're Going Outside to Reveal to the World what your God is like)

Can you say for a fact that you are someone very different from this world?

your **language**, your **habits**, your **location**, your **sex**, your **lifestyle**

Do you have a biblically-based, Supernatural relationship with God?

Christian - your life is now a **“Living Temple at Large”**

That is, wherever you go in this world, so goes the ministry of Jesus - 24/7/365

1 John 4:15-17

Whoever **confesses** that Jesus is **the Son of God**, God abides in him, and he in God. **:16** And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and **he who abides in love abides in God**, and God in him. **:17** Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world.

Think of the **“beauty and grandeur”** of the earthly temple!

Think of the **“costs and expense”** of the earthly temple!

Think of the **“significance and place”** of the earthly temple!

(all of that beauty, grandeur, cost, expense, significance and place was a sorry representation of your new reality in Christ)

So Remarkable and Radical

Is Your Need For The Biblical Jesus Christ, The Bible Says...

1 John 2:22-23

Who is a liar (in a state of lying) but he who denies (in a state of denying) that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. **:23** Whoever denies in a state of denying) the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

End of Study