

# THE REBUILT TEMPLE

Tract C5

John 2:19 Jesus answered and said unto them, **Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.** 20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? 21 **But he spake of the temple of his body.** 22 When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.

Jesus rebuilt the temple in 3 days, just like He said He would.

**Following are all of the verses that include the term "temple of God":**

Matthew 21:12 And Jesus went into the **temple of God**, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves,

This first verse is a reference to the literal temple that Jesus prophesied would be torn down - every stone - as it indeed was.

Matthew 26:61 And said, This [fellow] said, I am able to destroy the **temple of God**, and to build it in three days.

The temple of God referenced in the verse above is Jesus' body. John 2:21 But he spake of the temple of his body.

The building again in three days is further confirmed by the following:

1 Corinthians 3:16 Know ye not that **ye are the temple of God**, and [that] the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

1 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.**

2 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.

So we learn that the bodies of regenerate believers, individual and corporate, are the temple of God - the body of Christ. **The above three verses are not open to interpretation.** New Testament scripture offers no option other than our bodies as the location of the temple of God, through Christ's death and resurrection.

The following, and last two, verses that use the term are found in the

figurative language of John's vision in Revelation. These are sometimes **interpreted** to suggest a literal temple, but this would be contrary to the verses that clearly describe the location of the "temple of God". It would also suggest that Jesus' perfect and finished work on the Cross is incomplete. Plus, the temple in Rev 11:19, is located in the heavenlies.

Revelation 11:1 And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the **temple of God**, and the altar, and them that worship therein.

Revelation 11:19 And the **temple of God** was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament:...

The prior seven verses are the only ones that use the term "temple of God".

Some suggest that Ezekiel's book calls for a future rebuilt temple, perhaps because of the extent of detail. But within the context of that description we find:

Ezekiel 43:7 And he said unto me, Son of man, the place of my throne, and the place of the soles of my feet, **where I will dwell** in the midst of the children of Israel **for ever**, and my holy name, shall the house of Israel no more defile, [neither] they, nor their kings, by their whoredom, nor by the carcasses of their kings in their high places.

Are we really to expect God to live in an earthly temple, built by the hands of men, **for ever**? We have assurance that He will not, in the

New Testament:

Acts 17:24 **God** that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, **dwelleth not in temples made with hands;**

So how could a man "desolate" a future rebuilt temple that would necessarily already be desolate by God's own design?

A rebuilt temple for resumption of animal sacrifice would be a restoration of the Old Covenant and ignores Jesus Christ and His perfect blood atonement for our sins. Why was the veil of the temple rent when Jesus died? Why was it torn down almost 40 years later? Maybe not a surprise for some sovereignly blinded Jews to have that interest, but unthinkable from a perspective.

But even before the Cross we read: Mat 23:33 [Ye] serpents, [ye] generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

Matt 23:38 "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.",

Jesus gave us a new covenant:

Hebrews 8:13 In that he saith, A new [covenant], he hath made the first old. **Now that which decayeth and waxeth old [is] ready to vanish away.**

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is **the power of God unto salvation** to every one that believeth; **to the Jew first**, and also to the Greek.

Mark 12:33 And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love [his] neighbour as

himself, **is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.**

Matthew and Mark send us to "Daniel the prophet" - not Paul - for help in understanding the abomination that maketh desolate that is "set up".

Daniel 12:11 And from the time [that] the daily [sacrifice] shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate **set up**, [there shall be] a thousand two hundred and ninety days.

We learn from Matthew and Mark that we should expect it to "stand" in the holy place not "sitteth".

Matthew 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, **stand** in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains

We learn that it was to be **Jerusalem** that was to be desolated in the future to Jesus' words:

Luke 21:20 And when ye shall see **Jerusalem** compassed with armies, then know that **the desolation thereof** is nigh

By the early 1800s Islamization had desolated the Holy Land physically and spiritually, with only about 550 residents left in Jerusalem.

In "A History of the Jews" Paul Johnson writes: "Between 1827 and 1839, largely through British efforts, the population of Jerusalem rose from 550 to 5,500 and in all Palestine it topped 10,000 - the real

beginning of the Jewish return to the Promised Land. In 1838 Palmerston appointed the first western vice-consul in Jerusalem, W.T. Young, and told him 'to afford protection to the Jews generally'."

Even by 1867 Mark Twain described it as: "...[a] desolate country whose soil is rich enough, but is given over wholly to weeds-a silent mournful expanse....A desolation is here that not even imagination can grace with the pomp of life and action....We never saw a human being on the whole route....There was hardly a tree or a shrub anywhere. Even the olive and the cactus, those fast friends of the worthless soil, had almost deserted the country."

To suggest that the temple of God resides anywhere other than in the bodies of regenerate believers is a product of doctrine that is held by a minority of the church and primarily over the last century. Jesus warned the Pharisees of such:

Mark 7:13 **Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition**, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

Luke 21:24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

The times of the Gentiles were fulfilled in 1967 which is confirmed mathematically through Daniel's "times" problems. This and much more explored at:

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