

Live like you are the Lord's temple!

Lesson IV: Live like. . . .

Intro:

- → **Solomon's temple:** (source: ISBE)
 - **pict.:** artist's rendering of Solomon's temple
 - **David made preparation** for his son, Solomon, to build the temple
 - David was not permitted because of the blood on his hands, all the people he killed
 - **built on** Mt. Moriah (Zion)
 - **construction:**
 - **built of** stone (probably the hard white limestone of the district), with chambers in three stories, half the height of the building
 - **outside:** around the sides and back, and, in front, was a stately porch, before which stood two lofty bronze pillars
 - the platform on which the whole building stood was probably raised above the level of the court in front, and the building may have been approached by steps.
 - **inside:** the temple was lined with cedar, overlaid with gold, graven with figures of cherubim, palms, and open flowers, and a partition of cedar or stone divided the interior into two apartments--one the holy place and the other the most holy place
 - the floor was of stone, covered with fir (or cypress), also overlaid with gold
 - inside dimensions: approximately 90 ft. long, 30 ft. wide, and 45 ft. high.
 - **around the temple:** on its two sides and at the back, were built chambers
 - they were built in three stories, each story 5 cubits high
 - the door into these chambers was apparently in the middle of the right side of the house, and winding stairs led up to the second and third stories
 - the Bible does not state how many chambers there were, Josephus gives the number as 30
 - **porch in front of the building:** had two pillars, 30 ft. wide (the width of the temple) 15 ft. deep, 180 ft. high
- ● **holy of holies:** **pict.**, behind the veil that was torn in two when Jesus died
 - **inside:** the ark of the covenant, with its two golden cherubim above the mercy-seat
 - **inside the temple but not the tabernacle:** ark was between two other figures of cherubim, made of olive wood, overlaid with gold, 15 ft. high, their wings, each 7 ½ ft. long, outstretched so that they reached from wall to wall of the holy of holies, with the inner wings meeting in the center
- **holy place:** the altar of incense covered with cedar and overlaid with gold, ten golden candlesticks (5 on one the right and 5 on the left), ten tables of showbread (5 on one the right and 5 on the left), 100 basins of gold

- ● **the inner court, or upper court:** the alter, the molten sea, the lavers (lā-vers) with bases
 - **dimensions:** not given in the Bible, but presumed to be twice the size of the tabernacle court — 300 ft. long and 150 ft. wide
 - **walls:** enclosed the inner court, we are not given the height
 - **the alter:**
 - **dimensions:** 30 ft. long, 30 ft. wide, and 15 ft. high
 - **construction:** brass, a “brazen” alter
 - **utensils:** pots, shovels, basins and fleshhooks
 - **the molten sea:**
 - **size:** "molten sea," the name being given to it for its great size.
 - It was an immense basin of bronze, 7 ½ ft. high, 15 ft. in diameter at the brim, and 45 ft. in circumference, resting on 12 bronze oxen, and placed between the altar and the Temple-porch, toward the South.
 - **purpose:** took the place of the tabernacle’s laver
 - supplied the water for the washing of the priests' hands and feet
 - **the lavers with bases:**
 - The tabernacle laver had its place taken by the molten sea, but the Temple was also provided with 10 lavers or basins, set on "bases" of elaborate design and moving upon wheels--the whole made of bronze (1 Kings 7:27-37).
 - **purpose:** seems to have been for the washing of sacrifices, for which purpose they were placed, 5 on the north side, and 5 on the south side, of the Temple-court.
 - **size:** The bases were 6 ft. long, 6 ft. wide, and 4 ½ ft. high.
 - **construction:** their sides were ornamented with figures of lions, oxen and cherubim, with wreathed work beneath
 - had four feet to which wheels were attached
 - the basin rested on a rounded pedestal, a cubit high, with an opening 27 inches in diameter

➤ → **Solomon dedicates the temple:**

- **1 Ki. 8:1-11** ark of the covenant brought in, placed behind the veil in the holy of holies
 - **pict:** show transporting ark up the stairs
- **1 Ki. 8:12-15** Solomon blessed the Lord
- **1 Ki. 8:22-23** Solomon prayed, on his knees with hands outstretched to heaven
- **1 Ki. 8:54-55** Solomon blessed the people
- **1 Ki. 8:62-64** Solomon and Israel offered sacrifices

➤ → **This lesson:**

- **Title:** Live like you are the Lord’s temple!
- **Purpose:**
 - remind you that you are the Lord’s temple
 - encourage you live a pure and holy life, as a living sacrifice to God

➤ #1 **God's household is His temple, the church** — not a physical build as in the OT

→ **Eph. 2:19-22** God's household (temple), citizens, foundation of Jesus and apostles, holy temple, dwelling of God in the Spirit — church

● **God's household is His temple — church!**

- **1 Tim. 3:15** but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the **household of God**, which is the **church** of the living God. . . .
- **Acts 17:24-25** (Paul's sermon, Mar's Hill) "The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, **does not dwell in temples made with hands**; 25 **nor is He served by human hands** (served heart), as though He needed anything. . . .
- **temple defined:** a sacred place, a shrine — **application: the church**

➤ → **There are vessels of honor and dishonor in the Lord's house (temple, church).**

- **2 Tim. 2:20-21** large house, vessels of honor and dishonor, cleanse, honorable and useful, sanctified, useful
- **Which are you – honorable or dishonorable — sanctified or defiled — useful or not useful?**
- **It's not too late for all of us to change, and become more useful for our Master.**
- **illus.: Amazing Grace / John Newton (1725-1807)**
 - **Newton's life:**
 - When he was young, he headed for **regions where he could "sin freely,"** and ended up on the **western coast of Africa**, working for a **slave trader who mistreated him**.
 - His life was like a **modern Prodigal Son** — clothes had become rags, no shelter and begging for unhealthy roots to stop his hunger.
 - **In 1747**, after more than a year, he managed to **escape from the island**.
 - Ironically, Newton then **served as captain of a slave ship for six years**. He gradually came to **abhor slavery and later crusaded against it**.
 - He began **preaching in whatever vacant building** he could get. Known as **the "old converted sea captain,"** he attracted **large audiences**.
 - Newton felt **dissatisfied with the traditional hymns**. He began **writing his own**, many autobiographical in nature, including **"Amazing Grace!"**
 - **review song - 206, Amazing Grace**
 - **end of life:** In his **old age**, it was **suggested that Newton retire** because of bad health and failing memory. **He replied, "My memory is nearly gone, but I remember two things: That I am a great sinner and that Christ is a great Savior!"**

→ **What's this mean to you? — Practical Advice, Suggestions, Application:**

- **You have two decisions:**
 - Will you be a member of the Lord's household (temple)
 - Will you be a vessel of honor or dishonor — useful or not useful?
- **It's not too late** to change!

➤ #2 **Your body is the Lord's temple!** — church made up of individual Christians, therefore our bodies are God's temple

→ **1 Cor. 6:13-20**

● **important points for this lesson:**

- **vs. 13** body not for immorality but for the Lord
- **vs. 15** bodies are members of Christ — not make members of a prostitute (immorality)
- **vs. 17** one spirit with Christ
- **vs. 18** flee immorality
- **vs. 19** body is temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, have from God
- **vs. 19** you are not your own, been bought with a price
 - **1 Pet. 1:18-19** not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold, but with precious blood of Christ
- **vs. 20** therefore glorify God in your body

➤ → **When we obey Christ, we become united with Him — one in spirit with Christ, God's temple**

● **Summary of 1 Cor. 6**

- **1 Cor. 6:15a** Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?
- **1 Cor. 6:17** But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

● **Rom. 6:3-5a** united with Christ in death — **one with Him in spirit (1 Cor. 6:17)**

➤ ● **1 Cor. 12:12-13** one body, baptized by one Spirit into one body, made to drink of one Spirit

→ **What's this mean to you? — Application:**

- since we are one spirit with Christ, members of His body, we are the Lord's temple; therefore, we must glorify God in our bodies

- #3 What should we do to glorify God, as His temple?
 - ➔ What should we do as a church?
 - **teach the truth, practice the truth, stand for the truth**
 - **1 Tim. 3:15b** household of God, church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth
 - ● **faithfully assemble for worship and study: help ourselves, help our brethren**
 - **Heb. 10:23-25** hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, encouraging one another
 - ● **keep the church pure: exercise church discipline**
 - **2 Th. 3:6** keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life, not according to the tradition which you received from us
 - **2 Th. 3:14-15** not obey our instruction in this letter, special note, do not associate with him, admonish him as a brother
- ➔ What should you do individually?
 - **Be a living sacrifice!**
 - **Rom. 12:1-2** present bodies as living sacrifices, spiritual service and worship
 - **how:** be transformed by the renewing of your mind
 - **Col. 3:10b** renewed to a true knowledge
 - **result:** prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect
 - **1 Pet. 2:5** as a spiritual house, offer up spiritual sacrifices
 - ● **Discipline your body!**
 - **1 Cor. 9:27a** I discipline my body and make it my slave
 - **1 Tim. 4:7b-8** discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness, godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come
 - ● **Die every day!**
 - **1 Cor. 15:31** I die daily
 - ● **Keep yourself pure and holy!**
 - **1 Pet. 1:15-16** like the Holy One, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior
 - **2 Pet. 3:10-13** what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness
 - ● **Result: rejoice, exalt God in your body!**
 - **Phil. 1:20** rejoice, exalt God in your body

Conclusion:

➤ → Summary:

- **Live like you are the Lord's temple!**
 - Be a living sacrifice!
 - Discipline your body!
 - Die every day!
 - Keep yourself pure and holy!
 - Rejoice, exalt God in your body!

→ Inv.

- if you are not a Christian, exalting God in your body. . . .
- if you are a Christian, but no longer exalting God in your body. . . .
- God still offers His grace to you - **Amazing Grace**

Audio sermon notes:

- ➤ denotes where to proceed to the next PowerPoint slide.
- All Scriptures are NASB, unless otherwise noted.
- Sermon recorded 3/12/2006, Church of Christ, South Livingston Ave. In Lutz, FL, Allan McNabb, BibleStudyGuide.org.