**The Temple Of God**

**The House of the Lord (Psalm 23:6)**

**The Israelite Temple of God:**

* Built by Solomon, where the presence of God was (**1 Kings 5:3 6:11-22**)
* Dedicated by Solomon (**1 Kings 8:22-27, 2 Chronicles 7:1-3**)
* Would be destroyed and end worship there (**Mark 14:58, 15:38, John 4:21-24**)

**The New Testament Temple of God is of a Spiritual Nature:**

* Circumcision is now of the heart (**Romans 2:28-29**)
* Christians are now the Temple of God and expected not to defile themselves, but rather keep themselves holy (**1 Corinthians 3:16-17, 6:19-20**)
* God dwells in the Christian Temple of God (**2 Corinthians 6:16, 1 Timothy 3:15**)
* This Temple of God is built on the foundation of the prophets and apostles, with Christ as Chief Cornerstone (**Ephesians 2:19-22**)
* The temple of God now is the Body of Christ (Christians, priests), who are to offer up spiritual sacrifices (**1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-10**)

**The Everlasting Temple of God:**

* This temple is where God is (**2 Samuel 22:7**)
* Jesus (the Lamb) is greater than any physical temple (**Matthew 12:6**)
* The Throne of God and The Lamb are to be in New Jerusalem; the Heavenly Temple of God (**Revelation 3:12, 7:15-17, 21:1-8, 21:22-22:5**)

For the Christians here this morning:

***Can you look in the mirror and say you are living your life as a Temple of God?*** (**2 Corinthians 13:5, James 1:23-27**).

***Are we keeping ourselves pure, offering spiritual sacrifices each day for the Lord, and shining the Light of Jesus as one of His sanctified priests?***

For those who are not Christians:

***Why not become a Temple of God (a Christian) today?*** There is no other way but His way (**John 14:6, 15**)!

Humbly submit to the Lord’s commands (**1 John 3:22-24, 5:1-5**)?

Repent of your sins and be baptized to wash them all away (**Acts 2:38**).

Then you can leave this physical building today as a spiritual temple of God!

**A Christian is an individual that one day will be taken to the everlasting Temple of God and Christ. We Christians need to live our lives each moment as a Temple of God, in a way that brings glory to God. If we defile our Temple in any way without forgiveness, we will never live in the Heavenly Temple of God.**

If we can help you now, please come forward as we stand and sing!