



MY HEART— GOD'S HOME

Preaching and Teaching Resources

ADRIAN ROGERS





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My Heart — God's Home

SERMON REFERENCE: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #2418

Where does God live? As we study the Bible, it seems God doesn't seem to stay put...until recently. God's first house was Adam. Adam was to be a royal residence: designed with a body, soul and spirit. When Adam sinned against God, he desecrated his spirit; therefore, our very Holy God was forced to move out.

God's second house was the temple. God built a temple for His people in the Old Testament, to teach colossal lessons of holiness, sacrifice and fellowship. We recognize that this house was desecrated in Matthew 21:13 when Jesus said: "And He said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer, but you've made it a den of thieves." God will not live in a dirty house; Matthew 23:38, says, "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate." And in Matthew 24, Jesus correctly prophesies the destruction of the temple.

God's third house was Jesus Christ, Himself. Jesus was a house designed; the second Adam: body, soul and spirit, yet totally perfect. He became a house desecrated when He willingly took all the sins of this world upon Himself. Matthew 27:46 says, "About the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying... My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken Me?" He was a house, desolated. As a result, Jesus became a house destroyed.

But because of His great love, our hearts have become God's home. God lives in us, and God is never moving out. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 says, "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which you have of God, and ye are not your own? For you're bought with a price, therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." Adrian Rogers preaches, "Being saved is getting God back in your heart, helping you to understand that you are now a temple of the Holy Ghost."

God dwells in our heart by faith, through salvation, security and sanctification. Because of Calvary's sacrifice, no sin can jeopardize God's residence in our hearts.

LIFE APPLICATION

We are temples of God. Every day is a holy day. Every place is a sacred place.

Considering your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost of God, how are you living differently? Are there sins you need to repent of?



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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Where does God live? Where is God's house?
 - i) As we study the Bible, we see that God has been living in a series of "houses."
 - ii) Throughout Scripture, we see that God has moved from house to house, until recently.
 - (1) He would move into a house, that house would get defiled and dirty, and then God would move out because He cannot live in a dirty house.
- b) 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
- c) God now lives in us.
 - i) In the Old Testament, God had a temple for His people.
 - ii) In the New Testament, God has a people for His temple.
 - (1) Our hearts are a royal residence.
- d) The message today will look at various houses that God has lived in and moved out of.

2) GOD'S PRIMARY HOUSE WAS ADAM (Genesis 2:7)

- a) Man is body, soul and spirit.
 - i) God made man's body from the dust of the ground.
 - ii) God gave man a spirit by the breath of life.
 - (1) God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.
 - iii) Man became a living soul.
- b) 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24
- c) Every person has a body, soul and spirit.
 - i) With your body, you have physical life and know the physical world.
 - (1) With your body, you know the world beneath you.
 - ii) The Greek word for "soul" is the word from which we get the word "psyche."
 - (1) Your soul is the emotional part of you.
 - (a) It is the cognitive part that lives within your body.
 - (2) The soul is your mind, your emotion and your will.
 - (a) All of these make up the person that you are in personality, intelligence, sense of humor, etc.
 - (3) With your soul, you know the world within and around you.
 - iii) The soul and spirit are not the same.
 - (1) God makes a differentiation between soul and spirit.
 - (a) 1 Thessalonians 5:23
 - (b) Hebrews 4:12
 - (2) Your spirit is the part of your nature that enables you to know God.
 - (a) John 4:24
 - (3) When we become believers in Christ and are saved, God's spirit bears witness with our



- spirit that we're His children.
- (a) Romans 8:16
- d) Plants have a body but no soul; animals have a soul.
- i) The word "soul" means "conscious life."
 - ii) The book of Genesis speaks of living creatures having a soul.
 - iii) Animals have mind, emotion and will.
 - iv) What makes man more than a clever animal is that he has a spirit.
 - (1) Plants have inanimate life, animals have animate life, but humans have spiritual life.
 - (a) God put into us a spirit.
 - (b) We became living souls because God's Spirit is within us.
 - (i) It is the spirit that is the origin of spiritual knowledge.
- e) God made man to live in; Adam was a house of three rooms.
- i) God is a triune God.
 - (1) Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
 - ii) Everything God made reflects His triunity.
 - (1) Space is height, width and depth.
 - (a) Height is not width, width is not depth, and depth is not height.
 - (i) They are all different, yet they're all the same.
 - (ii) Like the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, they are distinguishable but inseparable.
 - (2) Time is past, present and future.
 - iii) When God made man, He made him body, soul and spirit.
 - (1) 1 Thessalonians 5:23
 - iv) God was to live in Adam's spirit.
 - (1) Adam walked and fellowshiped with God in the Garden of Eden.
- f) God's primary house was Adam.
- i) A house designed – three rooms.
 - (1) God was to live in Adam's spirit.
 - (2) Adam was to be a house of three rooms; and the innermost room, the spirit, was where God dwelt with Adam.
 - (a) Isaiah 57:15
 - ii) A house desecrated – Adam sinned.
 - (1) When Adam sinned against God, he defiled and desecrated the house.
 - (2) Genesis 3:6
 - (a) Adam and Eve disobeyed God.
 - iii) A house desolated – God moved out.
 - (1) Genesis 3:19
 - (2) When Adam sinned, God moved out.
 - (3) Adam, now, is minus God in his spirit.
 - (a) His spirit is dead, but his soul and body are still alive.
 - (4) Rather than being God-centered, Adam is now self-centered.
 - (5) Rather than the spirit having dominance over the soul, the soul (the mind, emotion and will) has dominance.



- (6) Rather than being a spiritual man, Adam is now a soulish man.
 - iv) A house destroyed – Adam died.
 - (1) Genesis 3:19
 - (2) Genesis 3:3
 - (3) Adam died immediately in his spirit, progressively in his soul, and ultimately in his body.
 - (a) Adam died immediately in his spirit.
 - (i) To be lost is to be minus God.
 - (ii) One does not have to be a bank robber or a murderer to be minus God.
 - 1. It only takes one-half of one sin.
 - (iii) God won't live in a dirty house.
 - (iv) God is on the outside, and Adam is no longer a royal residence.
 - (v) 1 John 5:12
 - (vi) 1 Timothy 5:6
 - (b) Adam died progressively in his soul.
 - (i) His mind, which was meant to be centered on God, now becomes a garden of weeds.
 - (ii) Fears, neuroses, disappointments and sorrows come into his heart, mind and soul.
 - (c) Adam died ultimately in his body.
 - (i) The seeds of death were in him the moment he sinned.
 - (d) We have all sinned against God and are separated from the life of God.
 - (i) We have died immediately in the spirit, progressively in the soul, and ultimately in the body.
 - 1. Our bodies are winding down to the grave.
- 3) GOD'S PATTERN HOUSE WAS THE TEMPLE
 - a) This is the second house God moved into.
 - b) God built a temple for His people in the Old Testament.
 - i) First, it was a tabernacle, which was just a tent.
 - ii) Later, it became a more stately structure.
 - c) Again, it was a house of three rooms.
 - i) The outer court was a place of sacrifice.
 - ii) The inner court was where people met and fellowshiped together.
 - iii) The innermost court, called the Holy of Holies, was where the Shekinah glory of God dwelt.
 - d) The temple was a pattern.
 - i) Hebrews 8:5
 - ii) It's an object lesson that corresponds to the human body.
 - (1) The outer court (the place of sacrifice) was where the brazen altar was located.
 - (a) We're to present our bodies a living sacrifice.
 - (i) Romans 12:1



- (2) The inner court where the people met and worshipped together is likened to our fellowship at church.
 - (a) This represents the soul.
 - (b) We fellowship with one another on a soulish level.
 - (3) The innermost court represents the human spirit, the Holy of Holies.
 - e) The temple was a house designed.
 - i) God designed the temple with three rooms.
 - ii) Hebrews 8:5
 - f) The temple was a house desecrated.
 - i) Matthew 21:13
 - g) The temple was a house desolated.
 - i) God will not live in a dirty house.
 - ii) Matthew 23:38
 - (1) In this passage, the Lord Jesus does not call it “My Father’s house” but “your house.”
 - iii) After they had taken the holy temple and made it a den of thieves, they continued to worship in it; but God was not there.
 - (1) It was no longer God’s house but your house.
 - h) The temple was a house destroyed.
 - i) Matthew 24:1-2
 - ii) God moved out and moved on.
 - iii) The temple is not standing today.
 - (1) There are other temples that have been preserved, but not this specific one that is mentioned in Scripture.
 - (a) Jesus’ word is fulfilled.
- 4) GOD'S PERFECT HOUSE WAS JESUS (John 2:19-21)
 - a) This is the third house that God moved into.
 - i) God’ perfect house was Jesus Christ Himself.
 - ii) John 2:19-21
 - b) The Lord Jesus knew that His body was the temple of God.
 - i) A house designed:
 - (1) Hebrews 10:5
 - (2) The Lord Jesus was the second Adam.
 - (a) Body, soul and spirit
 - (3) The Lord Jesus was totally perfect.
 - (a) John 8:46
 - (b) The Lord Jesus was born of a virgin and is not a son of Adam.
 - (i) In Adam, all die.
 - (ii) The Lord Jesus came as He did (born of a virgin) to be what He was (sinless) to do what He did (die for our sins).
 - 1. Only a perfect sacrifice could be acceptable before God.
 - ii) A house desecrated:



- (1) Isaiah 53:6
 - (2) 1 Peter 2:24
 - (3) 2 Corinthians 5:21
 - (4) God took our sin and the dirty, perverted sin of this world and put that sin upon the Lord Jesus.
 - (a) Jesus never sinned, but our sins were laid upon Him.
 - iii) A house desolated:
 - (1) Matthew 27:46
 - (a) God cannot live in a dirty house.
 - (2) When Jesus was willing to become our substitute and take our sins upon Himself, then that perfect house was desolated.
 - (3) God the Father turned His back on God the Son.
 - (a) Habakkuk 1:13
 - (4) The Lord Jesus died instead of us, and we should love Him for what He did for us.
 - (a) Psalm 23:4
 - (i) The Lord Jesus walked that dark valley by Himself.
 - iv) A house destroyed:
 - (1) John 2:19
 - (a) Jesus knew that He would be destroyed.
 - (2) God the Father would be the one who would destroy Him.
 - (a) Isaiah 53:10
 - (b) When Jesus took our sins and became our substitute, God had to treat Jesus as He would treat us.
 - (c) Romans 8:32
 - (i) If God did not spare Jesus when He was bearing our sins, then why would He spare us if we reject Jesus, the sin-bearer?
 - (ii) If God could not overlook the sin that was upon Jesus, then God cannot overlook our sin.
- 5) GOD'S PERMANENT HOUSE IS THE BELIEVER
- a) God has moved in and has stopped moving.
 - i) 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
 - b) As believers in Christ, God lives in us and is never moving out.
 - i) 2 Corinthians 6:16
 - (1) The word "dwell" means to settle down.
 - ii) John 14:16
 - iii) Ephesians 3:17
 - c) When God comes to live in us, He comes to stay once and for all.
 - d) There are several lessons we can learn.
 - i) The lesson concerning salvation:
 - (1) Salvation is not getting man out of Earth and into Heaven; it is getting God out of Heaven into man.



- (2) Heaven is a by-product of salvation.
 - (3) Being saved is getting God back into our hearts, helping us to understand that we are now a temple of the Holy Ghost.
 - ii) The lesson concerning security:
 - (1) God has stopped moving.
 - (2) God dwells in our hearts by faith and will never forsake us.
 - (a) Hebrews 13:5
 - (i) In the Greek language, the author keeps piling up the negatives of “never, never, no never, never forsake you.”
 - (3) Because of the Lord Jesus' sacrifice on Calvary, no sin will ever be imputed to us.
 - (a) God will not live in a dirty house.
 - (b) Romans 4:8
 - (i) If there were even one-half of one sin on our records, then God would have to move out.
 - (ii) But because of Jesus, sin is never imputed to us.
 - (c) God may discipline us, but we are secure.
 - (i) Hebrews 12:6
 - (4) Some people only believe in security once we get to Heaven.
 - (a) Why would we be safe up there if we're not safe down here?
 - (b) Angels fell from Heaven.
 - (c) Security is not in a place; it's in a person, and His name is Jesus Christ.
 - iii) The lesson concerning sanctification:
 - (1) Adam died immediately in his spirit, progressively in his soul, and ultimately in his body.
 - (a) When we get saved, God puts all of that in reverse.
 - (2) When we are saved, we are justified immediately in the spirit.
 - (a) Hebrews 12:23
 - (b) Immediately, every sin and stain are buried in the grave of God's forgetfulness.
 - (3) We are sanctified progressively in the soul.
 - (a) God is working on us day by day to make us more like the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (b) We are not totally sanctified yet.
 - (c) Philippians 1:6
 - (4) We will be glorified ultimately in the body.
 - (a) The Bible teaches that God will one day change our bodies to be like unto His glorious body.
 - (i) Psalm 17:15
 - (b) 1 John 3:2
 - (i) We will be like the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 6) CONCLUSION
- a) As believers in Christ, our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit of God.
 - i) We should be careful not to defile the temple with our words or actions.



- b) Every day is a holy day and every place is a sacred place when God lives within us.
- c) Are you saved?
 - i) You can be today.
- d) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16



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SERMON REFERENCE: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

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First Corinthians chapter 6 verse 19. Find it in your Bibles and let me ask you this question: do you know where God lives? Well, if you wanted to write Him a letter, do you have the address? Do you have the zip code? Where is God's house? Now we come to church, we say, "We're going to God's house." Well, is this beautiful building, is this God's house? Where does God live? What is His address?

Well, you know, the truth of the matter is that as you study the Bible, God has been living in a series of houses. God has been moving in and moving out and moving in and moving out. He doesn't seem to stay put, until recently, in one particular place. He moves from house to house. And what happens is that God moves into a house, the house gets defiled and dirty, and God moves out because God will not live in a dirty house. Now you may live in a dirty house, but God won't live in a dirty house.

I heard about some college boys that wanted to keep the team mascot, that happened to be a goat, in the college dorm. And people said, "You can't do that. What about the smell?" "Oh," they said, "the goat can get used to that smell. We did." Now college boys will live in a dirty house, but God will not.

Where does God live? Well, look, First Corinthians chapter 6 verse 19 and 20, "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, which you have of God, and you're not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."

Where does God live? God lives in me. God lives in you. God lives in us. In the Old Testament, God had a temple for His people. In the New Testament, God has a people for His temple. God lives in us. Our hearts are a royal residence.

Now I want you to notice some various houses that God has lived in and moved out of. For example, God's primary house was a man named Adam. God's primary house was Adam. The Bible says in Genesis chapter 2 and verse 7, "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul."

Now you want to know what man is? Man is body, soul, and spirit. God made man's body from the dust of the ground. God gave man a spirit by the breath of life. God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. That's the Spirit of God. And man became a living soul. Now the Scripture that corresponds to that is First Thessalonians chapter 5 and verses 23 and 24, a key Scripture if you're going to understand the Bible, so jot it down. First Thessalonians chapter 5 verse 23, "And I, and the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God that your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He who calleth you, who also will do it." So sitting in your chair this morning is spirit, soul, and body. Let's put them in reverse order so it'll be more easily understood.

First of all, your body. You have a body: your hide, your hair, your skin, your bone, your sinew, that extra flesh, avoirdupois, that's your body. With your body you have physical life and you know the



physical world, roughly speaking, the world beneath you.

And then the Bible says that you have a soul. Now what is your soul? The Greek word for soul is the word *psuche*, it's a word we anglicize and get *psyche* from, *psychology* from, *psychiatric*. Your soul is the emotional part of you, the cognitive part of you that lives in your body. It's your mind, your emotion, your will: all of those things that make you the wonderful person that you are in your personality; your intelligence, your sense of humor, your proclivities, your idiosyncrasies, all of those things that make you the person you are, mind, emotion, and will. That is your soul. Now with your body you have physical life and you know the world beneath you. With your soul you have psychological life. You know the world within and around you.

But what about your spirit? I used to think soul and spirit were about the same, six of one, half a dozen of another. But that isn't what our Scripture says. Our Scripture says in First Thessalonians 5 verse 23, "And I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body." God makes a differentiation between spirit and soul, doesn't He? What does Hebrews 4:12 say? "For the Word of God is quick and powerful, sharper than a two-edged sword, dividing asunder between soul and spirit." So God divides between soul and spirit. What is your spirit? Your spirit is that part of your nature that enables you to know God. John 4 verse 24, for, "God is a spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him," how? "in spirit," hello? Worship Him how? "In spirit and in truth." And when we get saved, God's spirit bears witness with our spirit that we're children of God.

Now plants have a body, but they don't have a soul. Animals, it may surprise you, but they have a soul. Soul, the word soul, means conscious life. In the book of Genesis the Bible speaks of living creatures having *nephesh*, or soul. Your dog has mind, emotion, and will. But what makes man more than a clever animal is he has a spirit. Dogs never pray. Some may, but not most. I had one I thought might have. Dogs don't pray. Dogs don't think of eternity. You see, plants have inanimate life; animals have animate life, but humans have spiritual life. God put into you a spirit. God breathed into your nostrils the breath of life. You became a living soul because God's Spirit is in you. It's the spirit that is the organ of spiritual knowledge. And so God made man to live in. Adam was a house of three rooms.

Do you know God likes three's? Because God is a triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And God just likes three's. Everything God made reflects His tri-unity. Space is what? Height, width, and depth. Now height is not width; width is not depth, and depth is not height. They're all different, but they're all the same. They are distinguishable, but inseparable, like Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Not only space, but time. Time is past, present, and future. The past is not the present; the present's not the future; the future's not the past. They're all distinguishable, all inseparable. You can't have one without the other. And everything God has created is time and space in the natural realm. It reflects the tri-unity of God. And when God made a man, God made him body, soul, and spirit. First Thessalonians 5:23, "And I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Now, when God made Adam, when Adam came off the assembly line, Adam was to be a royal residence. God was to live in Adam's spirit. When the Bible says that God walked with Adam, do you think God in physical form took Adam by the hand and walked with him? No, God was not on the



outside; God was on the inside. God was in Adam's spirit and Adam walked and fellowshiped with God in the Garden of Eden. Adam was God's primary house.

But I want to give you four words that start with the letter D, because the whole message is going to be built around these four words, and I want you to see the first word is design. The second word is desecration. The third word is desolation. And the fourth word is destruction. Now you're going to see a pattern. And it's going to go through all of these houses.

First of all, God made Adam, and Adam was to be a house of three rooms. That innermost room, the spirit, was where God dwelt with Adam. The Bible says in Isaiah 57 verse 15 that God will walk with him, live with him that is of a humble and a contrite spirit.

And so here was a house designed. God designed His house of three rooms, a primary house. That was Adam.

But not only was that house designed; that house was, secondly, desecrated. Adam sinned. He sinned against God. And when he sinned against God, he defiled, he dirtied, he desecrated the house. Genesis chapter 3 verse 6, "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also to her husband with her; and he did eat." Plain English: they sinned. They transgressed the law of God, and sin is a transgression of the law. They disobeyed God. And so, here was a beautiful house that God had made, and now they have desecrated, they have dirtied the house. Well, then, when they did that, what's the next step?

The house is desolated. God moves out. God said in Genesis 3 verse 19, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return." Now what happened is this: that when Adam sinned, God moved out. And now Adam is minus God in his spirit, and his spirit is dead, but his soul and his body are still alive. Adam now has a house that is desolate. It is minus God. Now rather than being God-centered, he's self-centered, and rather than the spirit having dominance over the soul, the soul has dominance; the mind, the emotion, and the will.

Pay attention now. Don't let your mind run off. I know what you're thinking, mister. Give me your mind again. Now here's a house designed, here's a house desecrated, and then it is a house desolated. God moves out. Adam is now minus God in his spirit. And rather than being a spiritual man, he's a soulish man.

And then what happens is the house designed, the house desecrated, the house desolated is a house destroyed. God says in verse 19 that you're going to return to dust. You're going to be destroyed. Now again I want you to think with me. I'm getting technical now, but it'll all come together. Don't, don't cut out on me. All right. Now listen.

How did Adam die? God had warned Adam and Eve in Genesis 2 verse 17, "In the day that you eat, you'll die." Well, did they die that day? If you read the Bible, Adam went on to live for 900 years, had children. And yet God said, "Adam, in the day that you eat, you'll die." Well, did he die or didn't he die? Well, let me tell you how he died. He died immediately in his spirit. He died progressively in his soul. He died ultimately in his body. Now it's very important. I'll bring that back to you in a little bit, so



don't forget it. And if you do forget it, you're in bad trouble. All right. Now listen to me.

He died immediately in his spirit. What does it mean to be lost? Do you have to be a bank robber, a rapist, an axe murderer? No. To be lost is to be minus God. How much sin does it take to be minus God? One-half of one sin. God won't live in a dirty house. God just moved out of Adam. He's just minus God. Now he is ungodly, without God. God is on the outside and no longer is Adam a royal residence. And so, God moves out. The minute Adam sinned he died immediately in his spirit. That's the reason the Bible says in First John 5 verse 12, "He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

Now right now there's some people listening to me. Your heart is thumping, your mind is working, but you're dead. The Bible says in First Timothy chapter 5 and verse 6, "She that liveth in pleasure is dead while she lives." There are a lot of walking dead people. Adam died immediately in his spirit.

Adam died progressively in his soul. What's his soul? The mind, emotion, and the will. His mind, meant to be centered on God, becomes a garden of weeds. Fears and neuroses and disappointments and sorrows come into his heart, into his mind, into his soul. He dies progressively in his soul.

And he died ultimately in his body. Now the seeds of death were in him the minute he sinned. Many of us at Christmas time buy what we call a living tree. It's not. You go down there where they have all those trees stacked up. That's not a living tree; that's a dead tree. And when did it die? The minute that man cut it down. It's dead. Now it may look alive, but wait till about New Years. Wait till about New Years; it's dead already. Now people come to church, and like that tree, you're all decorated. You look so good, so fresh. But you're separated from the life of God, and just given enough time, what happened when you sinned against God, which we have all done, you're separated from God. So you died immediately in the spirit, progressively in the soul, and ultimately in the body. Your body is winding down to the grave.

All right. Now, watch. A house designed, a house desecrated, a house desolated. God moved out. And a house destroyed. That's God's primary house. That was Adam.

Now, second house God moved into, and this what I want to call God's pattern house, which was the temple. God built a temple for His people in the Old Testament. First of all, it was a tabernacle, which was just a tent. Later it became a more stately structure. But it's the same idea, the same principle, the tabernacle or the temple. Again, it was a house of three rooms. If you know anything about the tabernacle and the temple, three basic rooms. There was the outer court; that's a place of sacrifice. There was the inner court; that's where people met together and fellowshiped together. And then there was the innermost court called the Holy of Holies; that's where the Shekinah glory of God was.

Now what was that temple? Friend, that temple was nothing more, nothing less than a gigantic pattern. As a matter of fact, in chapter 8 and verse 5, the book of Hebrews calls it a pattern, just a pattern. It's an object lesson. It corresponds to the human body. The outer court was the place of sacrifice where the brazen altar was. We're to present our bodies, what? A living sacrifice. The inner court was a place where the people met and worshipped and had fellowship together like we're having in this church. And that represents the soul. We fellowship with one another on a soulish plane.



But then that innermost place represents the human spirit, that Holy of Holies. Well, this was God's pattern house. God used the temple to teach a colossal lesson, and I don't want us to miss the lesson.

First of all, a house designed. God designed the temple of three rooms, and God said, "See that you do it according to the pattern that I gave you, because it's a lesson." A house designed.

A house desecrated. Notice if you will in Matthew 21 verse 13 what Jesus said about the temple, "And He said unto them, 'It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer, but you've made it a den of thieves.'" Now a house designed, a house desecrated.

And then, what happens? A house desolated. God won't live in a dirty house. Look in Matthew 23 verse 38, "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate." Do you see that? Now He doesn't call it, "My Father's house," anymore. Before, he said, "My Father's house shall be a house of prayer." No longer is it, "My Father's house." Now it's, "Your house." Now the strange thing is that after they'd taken the holy temple and made it a den of thieves, they continue to worship in it. But God was a thousand light years away. It's no longer God's house. It is your house. A house designed, a house desecrated, a den of thieves, a house desolated. "Your house is left unto you desolate."

And then what next? A house destroyed. Look in Matthew 24 verses 1 and 2, "And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple; and His disciples came unto Him for to show Him the buildings of the temple. Jesus said unto them, 'See ye not all these things? Verily, I say unto you, 'There shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.'"

Designed, desecrated, desolated, destroyed. God moved out and God moves on. And you can go to where that beautiful temple was once and you will find not one stone upon another. There are other temples that have been preserved, but not this one, not this one. Jesus' word is fulfilled.

Now, are you catching a pattern? There's a primary house. There's a pattern house. Now God is moving on.

Here's the third house that I want you to see that God moved into, and it's what I want to call God's perfect house. Do you know what God's perfect house was? It was Jesus Christ Himself. Now notice what Jesus said about Himself here in John chapter 2 verses 19 through 21, "Jesus answered, and said unto them, 'Destroy this temple.'" Can you see Him pointing to Himself? "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." Then said the Jews, 'Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days?'" But now notice this, "But He spake of the temple of His body." Jesus knew that His body was the temple of God. And it was a perfect temple.

First of all, a house designed. Jesus said, Hebrews 10 verse 5, "A body thou hast prepared Me." A house designed. He was the second Adam, body, soul, and spirit. He was totally perfect. A house designed. He could point to anyone and say, "Which of you convinceth Me of sin?" This is why He was born of a virgin: to be perfect. He's not a son of Adam. In Adam all die. He came as He did, born of a virgin, to be what He was, sinless. He was what He was, sinless, to do what He did, to die for our sins. Only a perfect sacrifice could be acceptable before God. Follow with me now. A house designed.

But now a house desecrated. You say, "That house? That house, Jesus? Was His temple desecrated?" Absolutely. Read in Isaiah chapter 53 verse 6, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we've turned everyone to his own way, and the Lord hath laid on Him," on who? On Jesus, "the



iniquity of us all." First Peter 2 verse 24, "Who His own self bear our sins in His own body on the tree that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed." Second Corinthians 5 verse 21, "Him who knew no sin," that's Jesus, "God hath made to be sin for us." "All we like sheep have gone astray." But God took my sin, your sin, our sin, all the rotten, filthy, dirty, perverted sin of this world and put that sin upon the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus never sinned, but my sin, your sin, our sin, their sin; all sin was laid upon Jesus Christ. A house designed, a house desecrated.

What's the next D? A house desolated. Notice in Matthew 27 verse 46. Jesus is nailed to that hellish machine called a cross in agony and blood, and He cries out, "About the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani,'" that is to say, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" I'll tell you why: God can't live in a dirty house. And when Jesus was willing to become our substitute, when Jesus was willing to take our sins upon Himself, then that perfect house was desecrated. And God the Father turned His back upon God the Son, for in Hebrews chapter 1 verse 13, the Bible says of God the Father, "Thou art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity." And here's Jesus, bearing the sin of the world on that cross, and God Himself turns His back on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Do you remember when I said earlier today Jesus died instead of you? You ought to love the Lord Jesus for what He did for you. When David died, David said, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I'll fear no evil, for Thou art with me." Psalm 23 verse 4. Friend, I want to tell you that Jesus walked that dark valley all by Himself. He could not even say, "Lord, My God, My Father, be with Me." "Why hast Thou forsaken Me?" A house designed. A house desecrated. A house desolated.

And then what? A house destroyed. Jesus knew that that temple would be destroyed, Himself. John chapter 2 verse 19, "Jesus answered, and said unto them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.'" Jesus knew that He would be destroyed. And who would be the one who would destroy Him? God the Father. You say, "Now, wait a minute. I thought we crucified Jesus." Well, in the sense that He died for our sins, we did. But the Bible says, "It hath pleased the Lord to bruise Him," in Isaiah 53 verse 10. When Jesus took my sin, when Jesus became my substitute, God had to treat Jesus as He would treat me. A house designed, a house desecrated, a house desolated, and a house destroyed.

The Bible says in Romans 8:32 that, "God spared not His only Son." Now come up here and let me ask you a question: if God did not spare Jesus when He was bearing our sins, what makes you think God is going to spare you if you reject the sin bearer? If there were ever a time when God would have been lenient on sin, it would have been when that sin was upon His Son, Jesus. If God could not overlook the sin that was on Jesus, I'll tell you, my friend, God cannot overlook your sin.

Now, God's primary house was Adam. God's pattern house was the temple. God's perfect house was the Lord Jesus. Design, desecrate, desolated, and destroyed, all of them.

That brings me to the final point. And the final point is God's permanent house. Did you know that God has stopped moving? Did you know that God has moved in and He is not moving out again? First Corinthians chapter 6 verse 19 to 20, "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple



of the Holy Ghost which you have of God, and ye are not your own? For you're bought with a price," oh, what a price, "therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." You want to know where God lives? Right here. God lives in me, and God is never moving out. God is never moving out.

Now you say, "Pastor, are you certain that He's not moving out?" I'm absolutely certain that He is not moving out. Second Corinthians 6 verse 16, "For what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of God; as God hath said, 'I will dwell in them, and walk in them,'" and the word dwell means to settle down, "and walk in them," just like He walked with Adam, "and I will be their God, and they shall be My people." And then look if you will in John 14 verse 16, "I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you," how long? "forever." Look in Ephesians 3 verse 17, "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith." When God moves in, He is not moving out.

Now, sometimes we come to church and we say, "Well, we're coming to God's house." No, you're bringing God's house to church. You see, God lives in you. Now sometimes we think, "Well, been to church. Now it's 12:00. We're moving out of God's house." Friend, your heart is not a hotel with checkout time 12:00 noon. God comes into you to live in you, to stay in you, once and for all.

Now having said that, I want to draw several lessons and we'll be finished. First of all; the lesson concerning salvation. What is salvation? Salvation is not getting man out of Earth into Heaven. That's what most people talk about. Don't you want to be saved so you can go to Heaven? Well, I want to go to Heaven, but that's not what salvation is. That's just a by-product of salvation. Now if you don't hear anything else, you listen to what I'm saying. Salvation is not getting man out of Earth into Heaven; it is getting God out of Heaven into man. That's what it is. Being saved is getting God back in your heart, helping you to understand that you are now a temple of the Holy Ghost. And it's so wonderful when God does that.

I received this letter, "To the wonderful people at Love Worth Finding Ministries. Hello. My name is Vanessa. I am a single mother of three children. I am writing to let you know how much your program has been touching my life. I want to thank you for your daily broadcast. Currently I have been blessed to have a new job as a receptionist. I sit in the back area office section. I listen to your program here in Milwaukee regularly every day. Thank you for blessing my life and showing me things I need to know in my new walk with Christ. Since I've given my life to Christ, to make a long story short, my life has been changed from being a prostitute and drug addict to a devoted mother with a fulltime job. I've learned to trust God in every area of my life. It has been one year and my life has been completely turned around. Thank you! I just want you to know that your radio program is being heard and is touching lives. I know now that God loves even the worst people, and He sends His Word to heal our diseases. I thank Him for changing my life. I will forever be grateful because God is so good. Keep preaching God's Word. Don't stop. God bless you. Keep on keeping on." Now this is not a woman who's concerned about going to Heaven. She is a person who said, "I have life in the Lord Jesus Christ." Not a prostitute anymore, not a drug addict anymore.

What is salvation? It is not getting man out of Earth into Heaven. Thank God for Heaven. I'm



going to Heaven. I hope you are. See you there. But it's getting God out of Heaven to man.

Now not only the lesson concerning salvation, but the lesson concerning security. You see, friend, God has stopped moving. God is not moving around anymore. God dwells in our heart by faith, and God is never, never, never, never, never going to forsake us. He says in Hebrews 13 verse 5, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." And actually, the Greek language is, "I will never, never, never, no never, ever, never leave you," He keeps piling up the negatives, "nor forsake you." He's moved in to settle down.

Well, you say, "I thought you said God wouldn't live in a dirty house, and I'm not perfect." No, friend, I'll tell you what happens now. Because of Calvary's sacrifice, no sin will ever be imputed to you. Romans 4 verse 8 says, "Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin." If God were to put one-half of one sin on your record, He'd have to move out. But sin is never imputed to you. Well, what happens then when I sin? God will carry you to the woodshed and beat the tar out of you, that's what'll happen. Hebrews 12:6, "Whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives." But you are secure.

Some people don't believe in eternal security. They believe you can get saved and then lost and saved and lost and saved and lost. You become a spiritual neurotic if you believe that. If you didn't know the next day whether you're going to have a place at the table, a bed, a room or whatever, as a little child, after a while you'd become a nervous neurotic. Some people say, "Oh, I believe in security. I believe in security when I get to Heaven." You think, "Boy, I'm going to jump into Heaven, slam the door behind me, and say, 'Woo-hoo! I'm safe now!'" Well, wait a minute. What makes you think you'll be safe up there if you're not safe down here? The angels fell from Heaven. Friend, security is not in a place; it's in a person, and His name is Jesus Christ. I thank God and the lesson concerning security. He has moved in never to move out again.

And there's also a lesson concerning sanctification. Now listen to me. I told you how Adam died, and I told you not to forget it, but you've forgot it, so I'm going to remind you. Adam died immediately in his spirit. He died progressively in his soul. He died ultimately in his body. Got it? Say, "Got it." All right. Now listen. When you get saved, God puts all that in reverse, puts all that in reverse. When you get saved, you are justified immediately in your spirit. The Bible speaks of the spirits of just men made perfect. Hebrews 12:23, you are justified immediately. The moment you say yes to Jesus Christ, that moment, hallelujah, you are justified in your spirit. And every sin, every blot, every blur, every blemish, every stain is buried in the grave of God's forgetfulness.

Now not only are you justified immediately in your spirit, you are sanctified progressively in your soul. Adam died progressively in his soul, but you are sanctified progressively in your soul. God is working on you day by day to make you more like the Lord Jesus Christ. You see, we're not totally sanctified yet, are we? Philippians 1:6 says, "He who hath begun a good work in you will perform it." Justified immediately in the spirit; sanctified progressively in the soul.

And glorified ultimately in the body. Ultimately, I'm going to be glorified. One of these days, the Bible teaches, He's going to change my vile body that it might be like unto His glorious body. That's the reason the psalmist said in Psalm 17 verse 15, "I will be satisfied when I awaken in Thy likeness." What I'm going to be like I don't know, but I know one thing. I'm going to be like Jesus,



and that's good enough for me, and it ought to be good enough for you. A three-year-old can ask questions about Heaven that nobody can answer but One; there's some things we know and there are some things we don't know. Some things we can be dogmatic about and some things we can't be dogmatic about, and some things we can be bulldog-matic about. First John chapter 3 verse 2, "It doeth not yet appear what we shall be like, but we know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him." I am going to be like the Lord Jesus Christ.

Adam died immediately in his spirit, progressively in his soul, ultimately in his body. I am justified immediately in my spirit, sanctified progressively in my soul, glorified ultimately in my body. What a day it's going to be when the reddening shadows of this life mingle with the purpling dawn of eternity and Jesus comes, and we'll rise to meet Him in the air. Oh, how we'll praise Him.

You know, we have a great salvation, don't we? He has moved in, settled down. He's never moving out. First Corinthians 6:19 through 20, "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which you have of God, and you are not your own? Therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit."

How many of you would light up a cigarette in church? Please don't answer if you would. You say, "I wouldn't do." But you can hardly wait to get outside to light one. Hey, friend, if you're going to defile anything, it would be better to defile this building than to defile this body. See what I'm saying? Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost of God. How many of you would use language out there that you wouldn't use in here? Oh no. We are temples of God. Every day is a holy day. Every place is a sacred place. God lives in me. Isn't that neat? Isn't that wonderful? I hope you get in on it.

Would you bow your heads in prayer? Heads are bowed and eyes are closed. If you're not saved and you want to be saved, let's get it settled today. I promise you on the authority of the Word of God that Jesus, who saved this precious girl that we talked about, will save you. You say, "Well, Adrian, I'm not a prostitute and a drug addict." You know what Jesus said to the Pharisees who were self-righteous? He said, "Prostitutes and tax collectors," that means those who abuse the people, "are going to Heaven before you, because they saw that they were sinners."

Now friend, there's no one so bad they can't be saved and no one so good they need not be saved. If you want to be saved, I want you to pray this prayer, "Dear God, I am a sinner. I am lost. I need to be saved. I want to be saved. Jesus, You died to save me. Lord, You promised to save me if I would trust You. I do trust You, Jesus. I believe You shed Your blood on the cross for me. I believe that God raised You from the dead, and I receive You now." Pray it. "I receive you now, this moment, as my Lord and Savior. Forgive my sin. Save me, Lord Jesus." Pray it from your heart. "Save me, Lord Jesus." Did you ask Him? Then pray this way, "Thank You for doing it. I receive it by faith and that settles it. I don't look for a feeling or ask for a sign. I stand on Your Word. And now, Lord Jesus, I will make it public. I will not be ashamed of You. I will make it public. In Your name I pray, Amen."



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