



Key Scripture:

2 Corinthians 3:17 NLT

For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

A Defiled Temple...

Matthew 21:12-14 NKJV

12 Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. 13 And He said to them, **"It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.'"**

14 Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them.

Why did Jesus cleanse the Temple?

- ✓ **Unrepentant hearts.**

Jeremiah 7:9-11 NLT

9 Do you really think you can steal, murder, commit adultery, lie, and burn incense to Baal and all those other new gods of yours, 10 and then come here and stand before Me in My

Temple and chant, **"We are safe!"—only to go right back to all those evils again?**

11 Don't you yourselves admit that this Temple, which bears My Name, has become **a den of thieves?** Surely I see all the evil going on there. I, the Lord, have spoken!

- ✓ **Exclusion of others.** Isaiah 56:7 NKJV

For My house shall be called **a house of prayer for all nations.**

- ✓ **Jesus announces destruction of temple the change of location.**

John 2:19 NKJV

Jesus answered and said to them, **"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."**

What are the Lord's expectations for the New Temple?

- ✓ **Separate from sin.** 2 Corinthians 6:15-16 NLT

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. I will be their God, and they will be My people."**

- ✓ **Include others** 1 Corinthians 3:16 NLT

Don't you realize that **all of you together are the temple of God** and that the Spirit of God lives in you?

- ✓ **Honor God** 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NLT

19 Don't you realize that your **body is the temple of the Holy Spirit,** who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, 20 for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.

Holy Spirit

Temple Dweller

Hebrews 9:1-4 NCV

- 1 The first agreement had rules for worship and a man-made place for worship.
- 2 The Holy Tent was set up for this. The first area in the Tent was called the Holy Place. In it were the **lamp** and the **table** with the **bread** that was made holy for God.
- 3 Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place. The first agreement had rules for worship and a man-made place for worship.
- 4 In it was a golden **altar for burning incense and the Ark** covered with gold that held the old agreement.

The New Temple...

1. **Give light to all from your lamp.**

Psalms 18:28 NCV

Lord, You give light to my lamp. My God brightens the darkness around me.

Matthew 5:14-16 NKJV

14 **"You are the light of the world.** A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it **gives light to all** who are in the house. 16 **Let your light so shine** before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

2. **Prepare a place for others at the table.**

Psalms 78:19 NIV

They spoke against God, saying, "Can God spread a **table** in the desert?"

Luke 14:12-15 NLT

12 Then He turned to his host. **"When you put on a luncheon or a banquet,"** he said, **"don't invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward. 13 Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. 14 Then at the resurrection of the righteous, God will reward you for inviting those who could not repay you."**

15 Hearing this, a **man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed,** "What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!"

3. **Serve the bread.**

Luke 6:3-4 ESV

3 "Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: 4 how he entered the house of God and took and ate the **bread of the Presence,** which is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also **gave it to those with him?"**

John 6:48 CEV

I am the **bread** that gives life!