We See the Lord

(1)

We see the Lord, we see the Lord,
He is high and lifted up and his train fills the temple,
He is high and lifted up and his train fills the temple;
The angels cry: Holy! The angels cry: Holy!
The angels cry: Holy is the Lord.

(2)

We see the Lord, we see the Lord,
His face shines forth as a light in the temple;
His face shines forth as a light in the temple;
The seraphs cry: Worthy! The seraphs cry: Worthy!
The seraphs cry: Worthy is the Lord!

(3)

We hear the Lord, we hear the Lord,
His word issues forth and resounds thru' the temple;
His word issues forth and resounds thru' the temple;
The elders cry: Amen! The elders cry: Amen!
The elders cry: Amen, it is so!

(4)

We bless the Lord, we bless the Lord, As incense goes up, so our prayers fill the temple; As incense goes up, so our prayers fill the temple; The people cry: Glory! The people cry: Glory! The people cry: Glory to the Lord!

We celebrate the Lord's Supper weekly—and in a circle, at the end of worship. A word of direction is given, and with this everyone stands and moves to the walls. The cup is passed in two forms: in a chalice and then in small individual cups. You are free to choose.

And as this is the Supper of the Lord Christ, please listen to the instructions we give as to what qualifies a visitor to participate. **But whether you intend to take communion or not, please join us in the circle.**

Jesus answered them,

"Destroy
This
temple,
and

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again

in

three

days."



—John 2:19

Old Orchard Church

August 19, 2012 - ♦ -10:15 to 11:50 a.m.

Celebrating Jesus, Fulfiller of God's Covenant with Moses: Christ, the True Temple of God

Praise the Lord, whose presence dwelt with his covenant people Israel in the Tabernacle and the Temple:

God in a Building;

Praise the Lord, whose presence dwelt with the ancients in the Incarnate Christ: God in Flesh;

Praise the Lord, whose presence dwells with the world now in the church of Christ: God in a People.



Today's Scripture

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 25:1-11, 16-18, 20-22 New Testament Lesson: John 2:13-22

> Christianity in Ephesus, Christianity in St. Louis Series

"Coming to God One By One, Living Together in the New Age"
Part 3

Ephesians 2:13-22
Ron Lutjens, pastor, preaching



The picture here is a reconstruction of the Old Testament temple built by King Solomon over a period of seven years around 960 B.C. This sketch hardly does justice to the real thing. The building where the living God was met was an awesome piece of artistry: massive olive wood doors with carved angels, flowers, and palm trees overlaid with gold; the whole interior of the inner sanctuary covered with gold; two angels carved out of olive wood, each fifteen feet high; and on and on. God intended it to be a place of beauty—and it was!

Here's a suggestion: Spend a little time meditating on 1 Kings 6, 7, 8 this week and ask yourself this question: If the true temple of God is Jesus Christ, what was God trying to teach us in making the Old Covenant temple so beautiful? Here's a hint at the answer, in Psalm 27:4:

One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

God's temple is Christ. That is where we must go to meet God: to Christ. And who can plumb the depths of the beauty of the character of the man, Jesus, as we encounter him in the four gospels?

In coming to Christ we see that in the days of his flesh he was the True Temple, the one "place" where God dwelt on the earth—because Christ was God, God the Son. But we see something more. We see also that Christ draws up into his beauty all who are his followers—all who are baptized into him and who trust him and love him. He, in turn, makes them a temple, fit for his presence as the glory-laden God of all things who laid down his life to rescue us. Whenever we baptize people, young or old, we claim nothing less for them than a place in the Temple, the church, the dwelling place of the Triune God. Try meditating this week on today's sermon text, Ephesians 2:13-22, and then determine to think highly of yourself and your brothers and sisters in the Lord as the very temple of God.

In virtually every society you can tell something of the wealth of people by the beauty and richness of the homes they live in. In the same way, God, wanting us to know that Christ is the fount and source of all that is beautiful and all that is rich, had Solomon build him a magnificent house to tell us something of his Son. And this beautiful and lordly One, is the same one who loves you and me, little people that we are, *and lives in us*.