

The Temple Keeper

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INTRODUCTION:

“The God that made the world and all things therein, he, being Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;” Acts 17:24

You were created for the purpose of God's glory and this glory of God falls on a man for a purpose (i.e a reason).

The presence of God finds an expression through a man or through men in a particular vicinity. This expression is called the glory of God and it can be experienced in His presence. His Glory is sustained by His presence.

God's temple is not made with hands, that is why through Jesus we have been designed to be called the habitation of the trinity meaning; God inhabits in us and therefore He has free access into His temple. God dwelling place is in us, so then we have become

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showcasers (i.e Carriers) of God's glory. See(Isaiah 43:7)

† Since you have been made God's habitation for the purpose of producing His glory, you have then been established as a temple (i.e A House) . Your body is God's temple and all the principles of keeping God's temple, is established in you by the knowledge of God, but you must recognize and walk in it.

Dictionary Meaning of a Temple...

"Something regarded as holding religious presence"

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"Know ye not that ye are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man destroyeth the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, and such are ye." † 1 Corinthians † 3:16-17 †

The absence of a temple keeper, will make the temple to lack purification and then it becomes unkept (i.e unclean, desolate and unholy). As a believer, you have the duty of a temple keeper, because your body has been designed (sanctified) to the quality of God's habitation (that is why God doesn't dwell in temples made with hands). This temple is an embodiment of the flesh man, the spirit man and the soul man, all together forming a living body (Human being).

God's temple which can be called His house shouldn't lack purification, so that it won't become unkept or unholy (God is holy). Therefore the sense of holiness is a top priority for every temple keeper. This holiness can be established by a spiritual understanding, this means that the spirit man, must be in charge and in control of the whole body "Temple" (This is what we call walking in the spirit). The spirit man will be in bondage when the body

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(temple) is subjected to the principles (laws) of the flesh man (The carnal man). So now, we can say that there's a battle between the carnal and the spirit man over who is in charge of the temple (your body).

"And what agreement hath a temple of God with idols? for we are a temple of the living God; even as God said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

† † 2 Corinthians† † 6:16† † ASV †

To become a temple keeper of the living God, you must first realize and recognize that God's dwelling place is in you and not a building. This conviction drives you to become more sensitive to the things of God which are of the spirit. A temple keeper is a spiritually minded person.

"But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned".

I Corinthians 2:14

"know ye not that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have from God? and ye are not your own;" 1 Corinthians† † 6:19† † ASV †

This is why the Holy Spirit said through Paul "That we should offer our bodies as living sacrifice unto God, which makes our spiritual services effective". (See Romans 12:1). The Holy Spirit is interested in your spiritual services to God and not your carnal services. A carnal service doesn't have the intention of pleasing God.

The body (temple) which is the combination of three, has an engine room called the heart. The carnal man, Spirit man and the soul are all linked by the reason of the

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heart and they all have their ability. The heart is the way you offer your body to God, reason being that you are God's own. The temple is God's, so your body is God's.

The heart is influenced by two different laws; the law of the spirit and the law of the flesh. Man tends to fall into the law of the flesh because his soul seeks to be empty without the knowledge of God, and therefore can't comprehend the spiritual understanding of God's light, which is pure. The soul must learn to find the expression of the essential, by being filled with the knowledge of God.

The Heart determines the level of sanctification and the level of sanctification brings a measure of understanding to the heart. This establishes a heart of understanding.

The soul is saved when the knowledge of God, creates an understanding heart of the principles governing God's temple (God's Creation). When the heart lacks understanding, the temple (body) will be in disarray.

We are sanctified through God's word (Spirit and Life). The spirit man must become the gardener of the heart (garden) and not the carnal man "The spirit man must be in charge of the engine room". When the knowledge of God is missing, the spirit man is weakened (spiritually asleep), and this can be traced to the fact that the Spirit doesn't agree with the flesh, and so it is either subject to the flesh or the flesh is subject to it. This will determine the understanding of the heart. A man's spirit is known as the inward man or the hidden man of the heart.

" but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in the incorruptible apparel of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. † † 1 Peter† † 3:4†

The spirit man is very important because God leads you through that spirit man "God controls your heart through your spirit man".

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Spiritual understanding is brought by the reason of not being carnally minded (flesh lust).

Accordingl to Job 28:28 **"To depart from evil is understanding"**. Lack of Spiritual understanding " which determines the heart of understanding" can put power into the hands of the carnal man over your body. The carnal man is established (known) by his passion for vanities. The crave for vanity causes a spiritual sleeping sickness. The flesh man tends to things of vanity, but the spirit man tends to the things of eternity.

"Awake to soberness righteously, and sin not; for some have nothing knowledge of God: I speak this to move you to shame." † 1 Corinthians† † 15:34† † ASV†

The passion for vanity is lust and lust is a sin. Spiritual blindness (sleep) are for the unbelievers. For the spirit man to be awakened unto functioning, the HolySpirit must come into the heart (An intervention); bearing witness together with the spirit man, to give the enlightenment of a spiritual understanding through God's word.

"having the eyes of your heart enlightened, that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints," † † Ephesians† 1:18†

The HolySpirit is the promise of the son of God from the Father in heaven, to guide men in the principles of being His temple keeper. Jesus said in the book of John† 14:27 ***"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be fearful."*** The peace Jesus was talking about, is of the comforter (HolySpirit) who will give an understanding not of this world. The reason for this kind of peace is to keep a man's heart in the confidence of his conviction of the knowledge of God. This is because

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fear is of the carnal man, who cannot understand the knowledge of God and the worries of the heart introduces the options of the world rather than God's.

“And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.” † Philippians † 4:7 † † †

=The presence of the peace of God fixes the pieces of life.=

An unstable soul, can hinder the peace of God in a man's life because, it can't comprehend the knowledge of God. A stable soul has the knowledge of God and therefore can establish a heart of understanding. "This is a principle of faith"

“Also, that the soul be without knowledge is not good...” †

Proverbs † 19:2 † † †

It is very important to know that a soul without knowledge is like a defenseless animal in a jungle. That's why when the devil steals a soul, he makes sure he consumes that soul beyond redemption; His aim is to make the knowledge of God ineffective in that soul and increases the knowledge of sin. Right from the fall of man, man has always walked in the consciousness of sin. Now! Jesus came to change that, by the reason of sacrifice through the faith of God.

The spirit of God requires a free access to the gate of your heart, and this is possible when you intentionally receive the Holy Spirit. Your receiving is tied to your willingness.

The reason for the hinderance or an unstable soul, is the conscience of a man which tends to be unclean because of the presence of sin. So most times the guilt conscience is what holds many believers back from the duties of a temple keeper. This is the more reason why we must

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embrace the knowledge of God through the leading of His spirit and not the knowledge of sin.

“Beloved, I beseech you as sojourners and pilgrims, to abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;”

† † 1 Peter† † 2:11† † ASM †

Guilt conscience can yield to an evil conscience if it is not dealt with early.

“let us draw near with a true heart in fulness of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience: and having our body washed with pure water,”† Hebrews† †

10:22† † † †

“how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish unto God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”

† † Hebrews† † 9:14† † †

Coming to an understand that Jesus has done it all, but all you need to do is believe it all by walking in all His ways.

“exercise myself to have a conscience void of offence toward God and men always.”

† † Acts† † 24:16† †

† † *“holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.”*

† † 1 Timothy † 3:9† † † †

We see that to hold the mysteries of faith which is an understanding, you must have a clean conscience.

The act of purifying your conscience is based on your ability to walk in truth. That's why We have the spirit of truth (The HolySpirit) guiding us through our spirit man, and revealing the Knowledge of God to us. When you walk in truth, guilt conscience will control you, but rather you will have confidence in God. This confidence is the stability of the soul.† *“Seeing **ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the spirit unto unfeigned love***

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of the brethren, love one another from the heart fervently:"

† 1 Peter† 1:22† † † †

We must learn to walk in the spirit of truth. Truth is based on the fervent heart of love, that is; an understanding of the zeal or passion of God's love. The knowledge of truth is very important in the journey of life.

"Sanctify them in the truth: thy word is truth." † John† 17:17†

The Revelational Knowledge of God's word is the knowledge of truth. So when we purify our conscience through obeying the spirit of truth, we silence the spirit of condemnation in us (guilt conscience). Understand that the peace of God is experienced through the knowledge of truth unto an understanding of God's love. This results in the effectiveness of our faith in God.

"Hereby shall we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our heart before him: because if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, we have boldness toward God; and whatsoever we ask we receive of him, because we keep his commandments and do the things that are pleasing in his sight." † 1 John † 3:19-22

† † † †

As temple keepers, we don't stand against the truth but for the truth. The truth is our map on how to please God. It is the truth that gives the right mindset of what to do as a temple keeper. "The word is Truth' The duty of a temple keeper is associated or recognized with the office of a priest.

The Revelation of the Priesthood

Every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts

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and sacrifices, and so it was necessary for this one also to have something to offer.

Hebrews 8:3

According to God's word we have been made a royal priesthood, this means there are certain duties of the priesthood that must be upheld and those duties makes us temple keepers.

A priest offers sacrifices to God on an altar, this means that a priest is assigned to an altar and most altars have there location in a temple. When you neglect the office of a priest you indirectly ignore the entire duties of a temple keeper to the altar of God. This is because the main purpose of a temple is the altar, which is the place where sacrifices are offered.

This altar is your heart just as your body is the temple of God. God only accepts sacrifice done on the altar of the heart. Spiritual sacrifices are first established by the altar of the heart.

An effective temple keeper is one who takes the priesthood seriously. An altar needs sacrifice, just as the temple needs cleansing, which is by the priest. Here we talk about the consecration of the priesthood in the like of a temple keeper.

The process of not being conformed to this world is a representation of you offering your body as a living sacrifice. And by being transformed by renewing your mind; this means your heart which is the altar must engage in spiritual sacrifices... It is the Spiritual sacrifice that backs the renewing of your mind. Before Jesus came, God gave the law of sin offering, so that the people's minds (hearts) will be renewed. Until the sacrifice is offered the mind of the people will remain in the bondage of sin.

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"and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water."

Hebrews 10:21† † 22

A heart free from the bondage of sin, is the reason for Christ Jesus. For the temple to be secured, there must be an activity and this activity is carried out by the order of the heart, so if the heart isn't true, then the sacrifice offered will be carnal. A true Heart is established by a concentration which causes a renewal. Therefore for a priest to be functional, he must understand how to give spiritual sacrifices by first giving his whole body as a living sacrifice. This is what makes the intent of the heart pure towards making a spiritual sacrifice find expression in the physical realm. God always receives the sacrifice from a priest because a priest is designed to the keeper of the knowledge of God.

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children".

Hosea 4:6

"For the lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, because he is the messenger of the Lord Almighty and people seek instruction from his mouth.

Malachi 2:7

Conclusion:

You have been giving the office of a priest, therefore function as one who is spiritually minded. When you can't recognize the priesthood in your life, you will end up walking in falsehood. God has no business with falsehood,

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because He has freely given the priesthood through His son Jesus. Recognizing the priesthood gives you an advantage in life, this is because a priest remains, committed, diligent, steadfast and faithful in the house of God and therefore in constant communication with God.

“One thing have I asked of Jehovah, that will I seek after: That I may dwell in the house of Jehovah all the days of my life, To behold the beauty of Jehovah, And to inquire in his temple.”

† † Psalms† † 27:4† † ASV† †

Seeking God is very necessary in recognizing and understanding the office of a priest. The consciousness of this priesthood is the power that is upon you to carry out the duties of a temple keeper continuously.

End.

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God bless, and remember that GOD KEEPS YOUR FAITH!

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