

## “WORD OF LIFE”

July 14, 2024

### 44. CHRIST IN HIS PERSON (24) –

#### In the Fulfillment of the Types and Figures of the Old Testament

### 30. The Temple

**Hymns: God has a dream/ What miracle! What mystery / # 233 / # 17**

 **“In my heart I have treasured up Your word...” (Psa. 119:11)**


[Type/Figure – the Temple]

1King 6:1 - Then ... Solomon began to build the house of Jehovah.

1King 8:13 - I have surely built You a lofty house, a place for You to dwell in forever.

[Fulfillment – Christ greater than the Temple]

Matt. 12:6 - But I say to you that something greater than the temple is here.

 **“...For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of Jehovah, ...” (Isa. 11:9)**

❖ Christ is the temple (1 Kings 6:2).

- In the Old Testament the temple was the house of God (1 Kings 6:1).
  - Outside the temple everything was common,
    - but once something was brought into the temple, it was sanctified by the temple.
  - Every day was sanctified by the temple.
    - Every thing, every day, every matter, and everyone in the temple was holy.
    - The temple, however, was a type, not the reality.
- In Matthew 12:6 the Lord Jesus said that He is greater than the temple –
  - This is a type-fulfilling change
    - from the temple to a person who is greater than the temple.
    - from the type to the reality.
- Throughout the New Testament the real temple of God is not a place; it is a person.
  - When Christ became flesh, His physical body was God's tabernacle (John 1:14).
  - According to John 2:19, His body was also the temple.
- Both the tabernacle and the temple are God's dwelling place.
  - Satan destroyed the body of Jesus on the cross through the Jews.
  - But the Lord raised up this temple “in three days,” that is, in resurrection.
  - After Christ's resurrection, His body, the temple (John 2:21), was reared up on a much larger scale.
    - The body the enemy destroyed by crucifixion was merely the body of Jesus;
    - the body raised up by the Lord in resurrection
      - was not only His own body
      - but also includes everyone who is joined to Him by faith (1 Pet. 1:3; Eph. 2:6).
  - This means that the resurrected temple in John 2:19-21 is Christ raised up with His members.
  - This temple is Christ enlarged in resurrection as the house of God, the church.

 **“And having gift that differ..., let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;” (Rom. 12:6)**

 As God's house, the temple, which was the enlargement of the tabernacle was founded upon a foundation of stone and it was built of stone, cedar, and fir overlaid with gold.

- ✓ Stone signifies transformed humanity;
- ✓ cedar, humanity in resurrection;
- ✓ fir, humanity through death; and
- ✓ gold, divinity.

With the temple we see the mingling of divinity with humanity through death and in resurrection and transformation. The temple built of these materials was God's rest; it satisfied His desire. This temple is a wonderful type of Christ.

✚ In Revelation 21:22 the **ultimate consummation** of the **temple** is the **New Jerusalem**:

*"Its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb."*

The **temple** is the place where **God dwells** and also the place where His **people worship Him**. In eternity **Christ with God** will be such a **temple**, a temple that is **both God's habitation** and **our dwelling place**. For eternity we shall  **dwell** in Christ to enjoy the Triune God, and by enjoying Him we shall **worship** Him and **serve** Him.

{(Reference: The Conclusion of the New Testament Ch. 44 letter O – point 30)  
[Preparing this "word of life" (SUPPLYING THE WORD IN MEETINGS OF MUTUALITY) was motivated by:  
The Elder's Training Book 8, Ch. 4, and The Administration of the Church and the Ministry of the Word, Ch. 11]}

### God has a dream

God has a dream, this is what He's wanting.  
God has a dream, and we are part of it.  
God has a dream...that **we may be one with Him**.  
God has a dream...realized in you and me!  
God, you and me...a **dwelling place** to be.  
**God in man**, and **man in God: one entity**.  
Now, it's my dream...my vision and life to be!  
God has a dream...realized in you and me!

### What miracle! What mystery

- 1 What miracle! What mystery!  
That **God** and man should **blended be**!  
**God became** man to **make** man **God**,  
Untraceable **economy**!  
From His good pleasure, heart's desire,  
His highest goal attained will be.  
From His good pleasure, heart's desire,  
His highest goal attained will be.
- 2 **Flesh He became**, the first **God-man**,  
His pleasure that **I God may be**:  
In life and nature **I'm God's kind**,  
Though Godhead's His exclusively.  
His attributes my virtues are;  
His glorious image shines through me.  
His attributes my virtues are;  
His glorious image shines through me.
- 3 No longer I alone that live,  
But **God** together **lives with me**.  
Built with the saints in the **Triune God**,  
His universal **house** we'll be,  
And His **organic Body** we  
For His expression corp'rately.  
And His organic Body we  
For His expression corp'rately.
- 4 **Jerusalem**, the ultimate,  
Of visions the totality;  
The **Triune God**, tripartite man—  
A **loving pair eternally**—  
As man yet God they **coinhere**,  
A **mutual dwelling place** to be;  
**God's** glory in humanity  
**Shines** forth in splendor radiantly!

### Hymn 233

- 1 O what a miracle, my **Lord**,  
That **I'm in Thee** and **Thou in me**,  
That Thou and I are **really one**;  
O what a wondrous mystery!
- 2 For me Thy **body** Thou didst **give**,  
That I may ever **share** in Thee;  
For me Thy precious **blood**  
was **shed**,  
That from my sins **I might be free**.
- 3 By **resurrection** Thou didst change  
Thy form and as the **Spirit** come;  
Thou wouldst that  
**I be filled** with Thee  
That all **Thy riches mine become**.
- 4 Now as the **symbols** we behold,  
Thy loving self we see anew;  
We thank Thee  
for Thy heart's desire  
As all Thy **travail** we review.
- 5 We **eat** the **bread**  
and **drink** the **wine**,  
And to Thy sweetness we are led;  
In spirit each **receiving Thee**,  
Our spirits with Thyself are fed.
- 6 We long to **eat**  
and **drink** e'en more,  
To take Thyself in spirit thus,  
Till Thou shalt all **our being fill**  
And **true remembrance**  
have from us.

### Hymn 17

- 1 My **Father God**,  
when on Thy vast creation,  
The **wonders** of the heav'n  
and earth, I gaze,  
Things great and small,  
beyond enumeration,  
Which manifest  
Thy pow'r in untold ways;  
  
**Chorus:**  
Then all my being sings  
in **praise** to Thee,  
How marvellous! How **great** Thou art!  
And this I'll sing through all eternity,  
How **marvellous**! How great Thou art!
- 2 As I enjoy the **grace** of **Thy salvation**  
And contemplate  
how Thou Thy **Son** hast **sent**,  
Who **died** that we might be  
Thy **new creation**,  
Thy life expressing to the full extent;
- 3 When in the **church**,  
in blest **participation**,  
I see how millions  
Thine own life possess,  
How they are **built**  
to form **Thy habitation**,  
Containing Thee,  
Thy fulness to express;
- 4 As I expect the coming **age of fulness**  
And hope to share  
the **new Jerusalem**,  
With all the heavens  
and the earth in **newness**  
And all Thou art  
**expressed** in all of them;