

Building Temple of God

-- from notes by Lorenzo Luevano
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Introduction

A. **1 Chronicles 28:10-19** God gave David, by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the exact pattern of how He wanted the Temple built.

1. God had done the same thing with Moses, **Exodus 25:40** and urged him to make the Tabernacle "after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount."

2. **Hebrews 8:5** reminds us this order and shows that we have a more excellent ministry in Christ and His new covenant.

B. **Ephesians 2:18-22** The temple of God now is His church, built together from the teachings of the apostles and prophets with Jesus Christ as the chief corner stone. The corner stone was the standard of angles and pattern for the whole building.

1. We must build the temple of God according to His pattern as revealed by the apostles and prophets.

2. The building of the first temple serves as the metaphor for the Lord's present temple.

I. Temple of God is built by workers of a willing mind who seek God, 1 Chronicles 28:8-9

A. Working in the confidence that their work is not in vain.

1. **1 Corinthians 15:58** - "Stedfast unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."

2. **Hebrews 6:10-12** "God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love..."

3. **Revelation 22:12** "And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be."

B. Qualifying themselves to do the very best possible in building the temple of God

1. **Ephesians 4:11-12** "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."

2. **Ephesians 6:13** "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

a. loins girt about with **truth**, b. breastplate of **righteousness**, c. your feet shod with the **preparation of the gospel of peace**; d. shield of **faith**, e. helmet of **salvation**, f. sword of the Spirit, which is the **word of God**

b. cannot build well or fight well (as when Nehemiah had to fight to build the walls of Jerusalem) without these building instruments: believing the truth and practicing the truth, and preaching the truth, being faithful to the truth, and with the protection of salvation to wield the word of God as a great weapon against all foes of the truth.

c. ours is a work of persuading men, tearing down all imaginations that defy the presence of God and His authority: **1 Corinthians 10:3-4; 5:11, 14**

II. Temple of God must be built according to the pattern or plan of God, 1 Chronicles 28:10-19

A. Because God designed it exactly the way He wanted it to be

1. **1 Corinthians 3:9-10**. Foundation is laid by the teachings of the apostles, building on the foundation involves further teaching, as in the great commission, **Matthew 28:18-20**.

2. **Psalms 127:1** Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it... What is the point of building a temple for God if He does not dwell there? What is the point of worshipping God in a way that He will not accept? What is the purpose of doing works in God's name that He did not authorize for the church to do?

B. Christ is the chief corner stone. **Isaiah 28:16; Acts 4:11** Metaphor for the teachings of Christ, the laws and standards that He as our Lord and King demands of us. He measures us. His character is perfect and pure. We must know Him and fulfill His wishes for us, in order to be build according to His measure.

C. Apostles are the foundation: **Ephesians 2:20** -- that is their teachings. By learning and conforming to those teachings we become suitable as stones in God's temple, suitable for a habitation of God... compatible with our God, in fellowship with God.

III. Temple of God must be made of the finest materials.

A. **2 Chronicles 3:5-7** fir overlaid with fine gold, garnished with precious stones for beauty

B. **1 Corinthians 3:12, 13** gold, silver, sprcious stones, wood, hay, stubble ... revealed by fire, shall try every man's work of what sort it is...

1. **1 Peter 1:7** That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with might be found unto praise and hour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

2. **1 Peter 4:12, 13** the fiery trial which is to try you ... inasmuch as ye are paratakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

3. **2 Peter 1:3-4** Divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue. Where by are given unto us exceeding great precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Conclusion: The temple of God must be built by volunteer workers who are motivated by God to build according to His design and pattern. He build with the best materials.