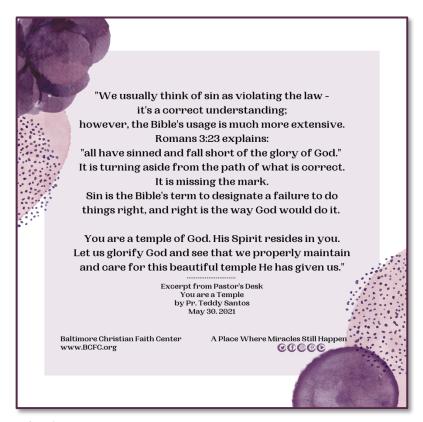
YOU ARE A TEMPLE

Pastor's Desk - May 30, 2021



1Co 3:16-17 "(16) Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? (17) If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are."

One level of this notion of responsibility to our body is, of course, taking physical care of our bodies. For the reason that we belong to God and are therefore holy and essential parts of the body of Christ, this duty weighs on us with higher intensity than on those who are not. When reading John 14:23, our lord Jesus explain how close the relationship to our God truly is: "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him." During the Old Covenant, God is mysterious and far and residing in the Temple. Now, under the New Covenant, we become that Temple, and God becomes personal and knowable.

When reading 1 Corinthians 6:15-20, Paul plainly validates these notions: "Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "The two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the **temple of the Holy Spirit** which is in you, which you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in you body and in your spirit, which are God's."

Paul explains our responsibility. The apostle's concern is that defiling the body endangers the continuity of this beautiful relationship. We usually think of sin as violating the law - it's a correct understanding; however, the Bible's usage is much more extensive. Romans 3:23 explains: "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." It is turning aside from the path of what is correct. It is missing the mark. Sin is the Bible's term to designate a failure to do things right, and right is the way God would do it.

You are a temple of God. His Spirit resides in you. Let us glorify God and see that we properly maintain and care for this beautiful temple He has given us.

At His service, Pr. Teddy Santos