



## ***Day One: A Holy House***

We've spent the last two weeks looking at the fact that the temple is a five-fold house. I'm trusting that you deeply understand the absolute importance of this aspect of God's blueprint for His temple, and how His Life can only flow through a five-fold house. He gave us all of the five-fold gifts, because we need every single one of them. His temple is built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets.

This brings us to the next key in the house God is building. And that is simply, yet profoundly, that it is a holy house.

### **It is a Holy House**

***Ezekiel 43:10 (NLT)*** *Son of man, describe to the people of Israel the temple I have shown you, so they will be ashamed of all their sins. Let them study its plan. And they will be ashamed of what they have done. Describe to them all the specifications of the temple – including its entrances and exits – and everything else about it. Tell them about its decrees and laws. Write down all these specifications and decrees as they watch so they will be sure to remember and follow them. And this is the basic law of the temple: Absolute holiness! The entire top of the mountain where the temple is built is holy. Yes, this is the basic law of the temple.*

Everything we have spent the last month or so looking at pertaining to the house God is building – His temple, not man's – is so that as we recognise what He is doing, we will also equally recognise what He is not doing.

This brings us to an important moment of decision. Ultimately, the temple is about absolute holiness! And when I asked Holy Spirit to give me a definition of holiness, He said something very profound. He said...

### **Holiness is Oneness**

Wow, I was astounded at how simple it really is! All our lives, we've probably perceived holiness as some sort of perfection, which we sense is almost impossible to attain. Yet it's not about trying to attain something which is out of our reach; it's about walking in what is already ours. Holiness is simply oneness with Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is alignment in every area with the



Divine trinity. It's pretty simple, if it's not in their home (heaven), it shouldn't be in our home (our hearts).

But all this time, we've been trying to be holy, trying to be 'like' Christ, and failing miserably. When I was searching for the Hebraic word for holiness, this is what I read:

*"The way to holiness, in other words, was for Israelites, individually and collectively, to emulate God's attributes."* Then it hit me - this is why it's never been attainable!

**We've never been able to be 'like' Him, because we've not known that we're one with Him!**

And if we happened to read it in the Word or hear someone else say it, we never really believed it was true! But how we need to see it is that instead of it being an unattainable attribute we can never possibly succeed at, we simply need to believe His word which says that we're already one with Him (1 Cor 6:17), and just live it.

**Oneness is how we actually walk in holiness. Oneness is the basic law of the temple.**

The amazing thing is, when His people actually do this... when we actually believe in our oneness with Christ and step into the truth of it, we may not 'act' completely 'holy' from day one, but we'll just keep being more and more aligned with His heart and His blueprints because we believe it to already be true. More and more times that we could choose to go our own way, think our own thoughts, do our own plans... we'll instead choose His. And the more oneness we walk in, the more holiness we'll walk in... and the more holiness we walk in, the less mis-aligned with His heart we'll be... and the more the temple will look like His blueprint.

**And the more the church will be the powerful and awesome force that she has been designed to be in this earth. And at the end of the day, God's dream for this earth will come to pass.**



## Soak Time

Describe your understanding of holiness in your own words:

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Does it feel possible or impossible for you to walk in it? Why?

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## ***Day Two: It Needs Every Stone***

This Holy house is being built up moment-by-moment, day-by-day and most importantly, stone-by-stone. And we must certainly understand something very important to the building process, which brings us to our next key:

### **It Needs Every Stone**

Just try to build a stone wall without enough stones! It's impossible! Holy Spirit is building His house stone by stone, but often His people don't realise how important we are to the building process. Because **we are the stones!**

***1 Peter 2:4 – 5 (NKJV)*** *Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

We are living stones, which are being built up by Holy Spirit into the spiritual House He has planned. We already know that gone must be our mindset of His church as being buildings, a place that we go to meet or connect. This is so far from God's blueprint, it's not even remotely funny. Yet His people continue to miss the point and to talk about 'going to church' without realising how impossible such statements are and what they truly indicate about what we believe. If we truly think it's possible to 'go to church', we actually believe that church is the place or the building within which we meet. Yet that's not at all what God said!

### **God is not building structures. He is building people.**

As we've looked at previously, His Ekklesia are people who function as change agents everywhere they go – in the marketplace, in the country, in the city and in homes. The Ekklesia changed the culture and the institutions of every place that they went.

As the Ekklesia, we go into the areas in which we've been called, and disciple people into how the Kingdom of God (not a denomination) functions, to see transformation come to our communities and world. The Ekklesia – the true church – functions everywhere. In the marketplace... 'behind enemy lines', so to speak. It is a living organism. It cannot be controlled or maintained. Many times, it cannot even be identified, as far as an institution goes.



**While man may be frightened by this description because he cannot control it, man also cannot contain it.**

It's not ours to build, it's His. And He is building it one living stone after the next. We've delayed the building firstly because we've not understood that He was building US, not actual brick and mortar buildings.

Secondly, even if we've known that it's us He is building, many of His people step back because of fear of not having something to give... of being rejected... not good enough to be chosen as a stone in what He is building.

***Psalm 118:22 (TPT) The very stone the masons rejected as flawed, has turned out to be the most important capstone of the arch, holding up the very house of God.***

If you're afraid of being rejected because of your 'imperfections' and 'flaws', just know this. Jesus is the cornerstone, and though He was perfect, man considered him flawed and rejected Him. He has paid the price of rejection so that we don't need to be rejected. He also knows what it is to be rejected. And He will never reject us.

We also need to remember that in the eyes of the Lord, *we are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus* (2 Cor 5:21). He can't see us as anything other than 'in Him' if we're in Him. He couldn't see a flaw if He tried – He has removed our sins (misalignment with Him) *as far as the east is from the west and remembers them no more* (Isa 43:25). All that is left for Him to see is our oneness with Him. We are flawless in His eyes. He knows us *not after the flesh but after the spirit* (2 Cor 5:16), He knows what He has called us to do, and He builds us into His temple as though we're walking in all of that.

So it's not possible for Him to reject us, or for us to not 'make the cut' and get excluded from the build. The only possibility is for us to reject ourselves, or even to reject Him as builder... to assess our capabilities and qualifications ourselves, and take our lives into our own hands... or to build something ourselves which is of the flesh, instead of trusting Him to build us into His work.

Humility is always agreeing with what HE says, not what we think. If we won't walk in this type of submission, we leave a gap in the wall... a gap that the person beside us needs filled. We diminish the strength of the temple. After



all, a house will not stand if it has bricks missing here and there... the whole thing would tumble down.

I believe what happens when someone refuses to be built into the temple is that God cannot have a hole there or it compromises the whole house, so He has to give what was mandated to one person, to another who will do it (in addition to their own original calling).

**When we abdicate our role, we put pressure on those who have truly said 'Yes!' And we live our lives, never knowing what we could and would have been and done.**

Let's be the living stones He has created us to be, be submitted to His purposes and be willing to be placed where He desires to put us. Collectively, He lives through us to strengthen and grow His house. What a privilege to be purposed as part of it!



Ask the Lord to show you His plans for you as a living stone? Where does He want to place you? Beside whom does He want to build you?

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## ***Day Three: It Builds Each Other Up***

So we've seen that a holy house is built of living stones who will come into oneness with Christ and His purpose for each of them. Every single one of us are needed in His house. It's not for some and not for others – each believer is an important living stone, who is vital to His blueprint. When we say yes to being built up into His temple, we also need to understand this key. The House God is building – the House of Love - builds each other up.

### **It Builds Each Other Up**

***Ephesians 4:15 - 16 (AMP) ...Enfolded in love, let us grow up in every way and in all things unto Him Who is the Head, [even] Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One). For because of Him the whole body (the church, in all its various parts), closely joined and firmly knit together by the joints and ligaments with which it is supplied, when each part [with power adapted to its needs [is working properly [in all its functions], grows to full maturity, building itself up in love.***

Twice, Holy Spirit has made a very important point:

**Maturity IS love. When we love, we are mature.**

That means, there is nothing higher in the Kingdom of God than love. And mature love is evidenced by one thing: Building itself up in love.

We are a single body – we have need of each other, in fact we cannot function without one another. However, more than that... when we hurt each other, we hurt ourselves. When we are content to be separated from one another and refuse to honour the treasure in one another, we are choosing to tear down what God has been building. We can't hurt each other without hurting ourselves.

***Romans 12:4 – 6 (MSG) In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to too much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvellously functioning parts in Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we were***





made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't.

Building each other up in love is essentially honouring one another. We recognise that each living stone is inherently valuable, and filled with a treasure chest of glory (Col 1:26 – 27), which all of us have need of. When we build one another up, helping each other to open the treasure chests within us and walk in our destiny, we co-operate with Holy Spirit in building the temple up.

Honour can see the gold in someone else, even when our theology is different. Honour sees each person as a precious son or daughter of our Father. Honour wants the best for one another... doesn't compete with... doesn't put down.

And honour also recognises the value of those who have gone before us. Let's think about it... He has been building His House of Love since the beginning of the world. We are built into the structure alongside the living stones who have gone before us, and we must honour their obedience and sacrifice. Do you think we would be reading our own copy of the Bible if men like John Huss and William Tyndale hadn't taken their stand for truth... a stand which cost them their lives? (And if you don't know who these men are, find out. Men and women like these should be known to us and honoured by us).

Do you think we would be living in the freedom we are enjoying in our nation if the men and women during the world wars didn't defend us? Consider the pioneers who opened up our nation, or our family who have gone before us honouring the Lord, and bringing the level of generational blessing we walk in today (and if our family members haven't done that, we can be the ones to turn it all around for the family who comes after us, and be the Generation Breakers).

We owe it to those who have gone before us, including our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to honour their sacrifice enough to build each other up, rather than tear each other down.

*"We are in a race. It's a race between what is and what could be. We are uniquely positioned with the richest inheritance of all time. It has been accumulating through several thousand years of humanity encountering God and God encountering humanity. The righteous dead are watching. They fill the*





*heavenly stands, and have been given the name, "Cloud of Witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1). They realize that in a relay race, each runner receives a prize according to how the last runner finishes. They invested in us for this final leg of the race, and are now waiting to see what we will do with what we've been given...we have been given the right to surpass the accomplishments of previous generations using creativity, through wisdom, to solve the issues facing us. Their ceiling is our floor. This is our time to run." Bill Johnson*

**1 Corinthians 11 (TPT)** *...For we live in a time when the purpose of all the ages past is now completing its goal within us.*

This is the most exciting of times! Surely we can lay aside our idea of how it's supposed to look, and who God has placed us beside, and our differences of theology, and simply love in a mature love which honours what is inside of one another and builds itself up? Each of us, side by side in His House of Love. No one stone better than another or in competition with another. Not willing to have a stone missing... anyone out of action... but to speak to the treasure inside of each and every one of us and love. We can't be built up together without touching... being enmeshed... being cemented together. One's strength builds up another's and in the end, we all are built up together into God's glorious blueprint.

And what's more, the world will finally see it – The House of Love... the dream of God and the most incredible thing the world has ever known.

**And THEN the world will believe.**

*"When we add the supernatural power of the resurrected Christ to a people unified to His purpose and one another, nothing they purpose to do will be impossible for them." Bill Johnson*

Indeed, nothing is impossible for us as a church. If we'll do it His way, we'll see everything He promised. And we will have played in our part in the dream of our precious Father, Saviour and Holy Spirit manifesting in this earth. Is there any greater privilege on the face of the planet?!?!

*Soak Time*



Ask the Lord to show you how He wants you to build up and be cemented with His body... His temple. How can you outwork this in your life?

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How have you been tearing His temple down? It's time to come out of agreement with these things...

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## ***Day Four: It Grows Together***

And here we have it, the final key. In many ways, we've just seen it... the House God is building builds each other up. But we also need to understand that it grows together. In other words, it's not just about being nice to one another, it's about journeying together. This is the mindset we must have. It's not about 'my' journey, it's about 'OUR' journey. We are cemented together in love, so how can we any longer walk alone?

### **It Grows Together**

***Ephesians 4:4 – 6 (MSG)*** You were all called to travel on the same road and in the same direction, so stay together both outwardly and inwardly. You have one Master, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all, and is present in all. Everything you are and think and do is permeated with Oneness.

You can't escape the fact that with God's blueprint, victories are never accomplished alone... growth is never experienced independently... Nothing we can do – or not do – impacts only ourselves, but it impacts the entire body, not even just those we are fitted beside. We are part of a whole, and we grow together.

***Romans 15:5 – 6 (TPT)*** Now may the God of endurance and comfort grace you with unity among yourselves, which flows from your relationship with Jesus, the Anointed One. Then, with a unanimous rush of passion, you will with one voice glorify God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. You will bring God glory when you accept and welcome one another as partners, just as the Anointed One has fully accepted you and received you as his partner.

In the same way that Holy Spirit partners with us, we are to partner with one another. Partners... in other words, we do this together. We fulfil purpose together, we uncover mysteries together (Prov 25:2). We walk with one another. And no longer can we see it any other way.

Even those called to pioneer... we don't do it alone. Even if we feel that we have to go while no one else around us is called to the same thing, He brings us the encouragement, prayer, wisdom, prophetic words and support of other pioneers who understand the loneliness of the journey. We receive from one



another and He brings us through every challenge, hardship and what feels like insurmountable obstacle.

There have been times that the journey has felt so impossible and been so hard for me that I have been on the precipice of turning tail and running. At these junctures, I could never have taken another step, had God not given me a prophetic word or encouragement through someone that I was walking with. If I had refused to journey WITH others, I would never have received these vital pieces of life to my heart, and I can assure you I'd be missing in action... I could never have made it thus far. We grow together.

***Ephesians 1:27 (TPT)*** ...keep living your lives in the reality of the Gospel of Christ, which reveals Him to others. Then when I come to see you, or hear good reports of you, I'll know that you stand united in one spirit and one passion – celebrating together as conquerors in the faith of the Gospel.

We can't do it alone. We shouldn't want to do it alone. Our lives are to be permeated with oneness. And if there is one scripture which shows us what this looks like, it is this:

***Philippians 3:16 (TPT)*** And let us all advance together to reach this victory-prize, following one path with one passion.

Truly, may we all advance, and may we do it together. And in turn, celebrate together at the glory revealed in this world, when the dream of God's heart – His House of Love – is manifest.



'Let us all advance together'. What does this mean to you?

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How does the Lord want you to practically walk this out?

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## ***Day Five: You Choose***

So now that we understand, there's nothing left to do but to choose.

### **Will You Be Built into His House of Love?**

The House of Love is truly nothing like what we've seen before. It's an entirely different blueprint to the one that the church has been building on for generations. Yet it's His blueprint and it contains His dream, and He is asking us all... will you be a part of it?

**Luke 5:36 – 39 (TPT)** *Yet you say, 'The old ways are better,' and you refuse to even taste the new that I bring?*

God is restoring us to His true wine. Yet we can read something like this devotional, be excited and see the possibilities... and still not know how to walk in it or be filled with fear about the changes it will require. We can stay comfortable drinking the old wine... but it's in following where the Holy Spirit leads that we leave stagnation behind and enter the wide-open, spacious life that He created us for.

Many will have recognised that they've been building their own kingdom, and letting go of something which we've given so much of our time, energy and focus to – with the best intentions of our heart – is very difficult to do. We may have many questions about how it can possibly work practically, what it will cost us and more. Yet all the Lord asks of us now, is to choose. He will do the leading... He will do the unfolding.

We had no idea what He was even trying to show us when we began our journey as a local remnant, but as we were submitted to Him, He led us to do things, then He showed us what He'd done through each act of obedience... what it was... what He called it, and how it functioned. We had to feel our way, following peace and being open to His Spirit, not limiting Him in any way. There's still a lot more journeying to go, but it begins by letting go of the kingdom we've already built for ourselves and our questions about how it



His House of Love could possibly work. Let's not reason ourselves out of the promises and gifts of God. Whatever He tells us to do is possible and will have great fruit attached.

***Philippians 2:2*** *So I'm asking you, my friends, that you be joined together in total unity – with one heart, one passion, and united in one love. Walk together with one harmonious purpose and you will fill my heart with unbounded joy.*

As we are collectively open to His blueprint and obedient to what He individually shows us, we'll see it forming and we'll understand how it can be. Let's bring joy to our Heavenly Father today, by choosing His blueprint and His dream.



The question is simple: Will you be built into His House of Love today?

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