
WE ARE GOD'S TEMPLE (I Corinthians 3:16-23)

1. According to I Corinthians 3:16:

(a) What are those who are in Christ, called?

(b) What dwells inside these believers? _____

2. From I Corinthians 3:17:

(a) What will happen to anyone who defiles (or destroys) the temple of God? _____

(b) Why? _____

The believers are the spiritual temple of God: described as indwelt by God (II Corinthians 6:16); indwelt by Christ (Ephesians 3:17,18); Indwelt by the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 2:21,22). This is why this writer believes that the immoral acts done with our bodies is more destructive to our relationship with God than any other sin.

This indwelling of the Trinity in us, and we in them (John 15), is a sure sign that this temple is holy and not to be taken lightly.

WE MUST FIRST BECOME A FOOL (I Corinthians 3:18-23)

To understand the things of God, the wisdom of this world has no place. This is not to say that wis-

dom does not have it's own specialty. In the Corinthian believers, there was self-deceit, of which Paul was warning against. They seemed to be wise in the teachings of men. They were flaunting their knowledge. But the wisdom of this world is perverse and a despiser of God (I Corinthians 3:20; Psalm 94:11).

Their minds had to be renewed by thinking the things of God and His Word, so that they could know, not what the world thought about a matter, and accept it; but what God said, and know God's way to be truth (Romans 12:2).

1. In I Corinthians 3:21-23 Paul reveals to the believers a wonderful revelation concerning their faith. What is it? _____

Paul reveals to them a plan of God's that is far above any of man's ideas. We are of Christ, and Christ is God's. We as believers are privileged to belong to Christ and share in all He has. We are not left alone in this world's teachings that have no hope for life, death, or things present, or the future. In Christ, we have it all! God knows what we have need of (Matthew 6:25-34; ref. Exodus 3:7,8).

Matthew 6:33 - *But seek you first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*