NEW TESTAMENT "TEMPLE OF GOD"

INTRODUCTION - these verses identify the "temple of God"

(1 Corinthians 3:16-17) "you are the temple of God and the Spirit of God dwells in you ... the temple of God is holy, which temple you are."

(1 Corinthians 6:19-20) "your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God ... "

(2 Corinthians 6:16-18) "And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God ..."

There are no more earthly stone buildings to be God's temple:

(Acts 7:47-49) "the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands" (Acts 17:24) "God ... does not dwell in temples made with hands." (1 Peter 2:5) "as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house ... "

Now, Christians are "the temple of God, and God has given precise instructions on how this temple is to be used.

1. (1 Corinthians 3:17) "If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him"

"Defile" - to render unholy or unclean; to besmear or blemish; to desecrate. Don't bring into your life the things forbidden by God.

2. (1 Corinthians 3:17) " ... for the temple of God is holy, which temple you are"

"Holy" - sanctified; set apart; designated for service designed by God. Don't take your body and use it in service to disobedience: (Romans 6:16)

3. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) "and you are not your own ... bought at a price"

"Not your own" - the creation adheres to the Creator's purpose.

Hymn #552 Have Thy Own Way, Lord

"Bought" - (1 Peter 1:18) "redeemed ... precious blood"

4. (v20) "... therefore glorify God in your body"

"Glorify God" - to magnify; extol; praise; ascribe honor; (Matthew 6:16).

5. (2 Corinthians 6:16-17) "For you are the temple of the living God ... therefore, come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord" note: (1 Peter 4:4)

CLOSE: (Romans 12:1-2)