

**July 21, 2022**

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

**1 Cor. 3:16-17** *Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple. (NIV)*

So, another blessing that we have from the LORD is that we are now His dwelling place. Originally, the LORD had asked to live in a tabernacle and then a temple. And so, King David commissioned his son to build the Temple so that God would have a place to live among the people rather than a tent (The Tabernacle). David spared no expense as he began to accumulate the materials for the Temple that Solomon would build. In today's cost, the materials alone would be worth approximately 174 billion dollars (over 20 tons of gold)!

Paul's statement to the Corinthians and to us is amazing. Why would God move from a multi-billion-dollar mansion into a sinner's heart? There is only one reason: His great love. And that is why we must listen to His word in **Pv. 4:23**, *Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. (NIV)* Our hearts are now His personal dwelling place because the Holy Spirit has now inhabited His people. He resides in you and in me. **2 Cor. 6:16** *For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be My people."* And not only are we His *personal* dwelling place, but we are also His *permanent* dwelling place. **John 14:16** *And I will ask the father, and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever. (NIV)* His address is now our hearts. **1 Cor. 6:19-20** *Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, Who is in you, Whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you've been bought with a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies. (NIV)* We must not defile that place where He dwells by allowing unholy things to be brought in.

**Dear LORD, help us to keep our hearts holy for it is Your dwelling place. Help us to follow You in all of our ways. Keep us in the middle of Your will today. In Jesus Name, Amen**