

“YOU ALL” ARE THE TEMPLE **1 Corinthians 3:16-17**

Nearly all local assemblies are named “church,” but could also be called family, body, field and _____
A temple was central not only to the worship of Israel, but also to the false worship of Greeks & _____
To the question, “Where is your temple?” Paul gave 3 answers: 1) My _____ is the temple; I must be holy
2) The local _____ is the temple 3) The universal _____—all believers in the world are the temple

I. THE LOCAL CHURCH IS THE TEMPLE OF GOD: THE DOCTRINE

- A. The Local Church Is the Temple of God because God’s Spirit _____ in Believers Corporately
- 1) The working definition of a temple in ancient times: a place where the _____ actually dwelt
 - 2) What does it mean to say that the Holy Spirit dwells in us as a local church corporately?
 - a) According to Psalm 139:7-12, the Holy Spirit is equally present _____ in the universe
 - b) It means that the Holy Spirit manifests Himself in the _____ of this local church, that He pays particular attention to our prayers, favors us and puts His name on us, based on 2 Chron. 6:18-21
- B. The Local Church Is the Temple of God because We Are Set _____ to God
- 1) The last phrase in v.17 literally: “For the temple of God is holy, which you all are”—you are _____
 - 2) There was no better example of set-apart-ness than the temple in Jerusalem: the Court of _____ , the inner courtyard, the temple proper, the Holy of Holies were each set _____ in certain ways
 - 3) That same set-apart-ness characterizes the local church: it is special, _____ , not common

II. THE LOCAL CHURCH IS THE TEMPLE OF GOD: THE APPLICATIONS

- A. The Application in the Text: God _____ the Local Church
- 1) The first phrase of v.17 is a play on words: the same _____ is used in both parts of the sentence: “If God’s temple anyone vandalizes, _____ him will God” = word order in the original language
 - 2) Paul was addressing _____ who can tear down a church by false teaching or leadership style
 - 3) Paul was addressing _____ who can tear down a church by carnal insistence on their wishes
 - a) We cannot treat the church like other human organizations— _____ parties or sports teams
 - b) We cannot treat local churches like commodities, which we can easily replace like _____
 - c) We must treat the church with _____ ; we cannot treat it as we commonly treat other things
- B. Other Biblical Applications: 2 Chronicles 7:1-4
- 1) The local church is where God manifests His glory and _____
 - a) If you want to be involved in the organization where God is at _____ , then join the local church
 - b) When you come to church on Sunday morning, expect to see God’s glory and _____
 - 2) The local church is where the reverent corporate _____ of God happens