

October 11, 2023

**The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.**

**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 were bought at a price. Therefore, honor God with your bodies. (NIV)*

The LORD no longer dwells in a temple made by the hands of men, but instead He now lives in the temple (the hearts) of those who have received Him. The temple is a sacred place. It was so sacred that only the High Priest could enter, even then only once a year. He had to enter only after making sure he was right with God through confession. He entered to make a gift of sacrifice by sprinkling the blood of the lamb on the mercy seat of the ark of the covenant. He would then pray for the forgiveness of the people for that year.

But now, since we are His temple, we have the Great High Priest living in us and Who is ever interceding for us. **Heb. 4:14-16** *Therefore, since we have a great high priest Who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one Who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet He did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. (NIV)* And since we now have the Holy Spirit living within us, we also have the power given us to say 'no' when we are tempted. We are to keep His dwelling place holy. He purchased us by His death on the cross. We are not our own any longer. And since we belong to Him, we should not be idle or selfish or wasteful of what belongs to Him. Let us run the race with perseverance, keeping our eyes on Jesus. This is the path to living and abiding in the presence of the LORD.

**Dear LORD, help us keep our eyes on You today. We are not our own. We have been bought with the price of the Son of God. Help us to look to You completely. In Jesus Name, Amen**