

The Temple of God

The Temple	Date	Description	Reference
The Tabernacle (Mobile Temple)	c 1444BC	Detailed plan received by Moses from the Lord Constructed by divinely appointed artisans Desecrated by Nadab and Abihu	EXO 25–30 EXO 35:30–40:38 LEV 10:1–7
Solomon’s Temple	966–586BC	Planned by David Constructed by Solomon Destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar	2SA 7:1–29; 1KI 8:1–66; JER 32:28–44
Zerubbabel’s Temple	516–169BC	Envisioned by Zerubbabel Constructed by Zerubbabel and the elders of the Jews Desecrated by Antiochus Epiphanes	EZR 6:1–22; EZR 3:1–8; 4:1–14; MAT 24:15
Herod’s Temple	19BC–70AD	Zerubbabel’s temple restored by Herod the Great Destroyed by the Romans	MAR 13:2, 14–23; LUK 1:11–20; 2:22– 38; 2:42–51; 4:21–24; ACT 21:27–33
The Present Temple	Present Age	Found in the heart of the believer The body of the believer is the Lord’s only temple until the Messiah returns	1CO 6:19, 20; 2CO 6:16–18
The Temple of Revelation 11	Tribulation Period	To be constructed during the Tribulation by the Antichrist To be desecrated and destroyed	DAN 9:2; MAT 24:15; 2TH 2:4; REV 17:18
Ezekiel’s (Millennial) Temple	Millennium	Envisioned by the prophet Ezekiel To be built by the Messiah during His millennial reign	EZE 40:1–42:20; ZEC 6:12, 13
The Eternal Temple of His Presence	The Eternal Kingdom	The greatest temple of all (“The Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple”) A spiritual temple	REV 21:22; REV 22:1–21

***The Temple (Gk. *hieron*) is a place of worship, a sacred or holy space built primarily for the worship of God.**

- 1. JOH 2:19** Jesus answered them, “**Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.**”
21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body.
- 1CO 6:18** Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. 19 **Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.**
- 1CO 3:16** **Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit lives in you?**
- 2CO 6:14** Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? 15 What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? 16 What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? 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.” 17 “Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you.” 18 “I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.” 7:1 Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.
- EPH 2:19** Consequently, **you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. 21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. 22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.**
- 1TH 4:3** **It is God’s will that you should be sanctified:** that you should avoid sexual immorality; 4 that **each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable,**
- 1PE 2:4** **As you come to him, the living Stone**—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— 5 **you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood,** offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

8. **2CO 5:1** Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. 2 Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, 3 because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. 4 For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.
9. **MAR 11:15** On reaching Jerusalem, **Jesus entered the temple area and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, 16 and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts.** 17 And as he taught them, he said, **“Is it not written: ”“My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations”? But you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’”**
10. **GEN 35:2** So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, **“Get rid of the foreign gods you have with you, and purify yourselves and change your clothes.** 3 Then come, let us go up to Bethel, where I will build an altar to God, who answered me in the day of my distress and who has been with me wherever I have gone.” 4 **So they gave Jacob all the foreign gods they had and the rings in their ears, and Jacob buried them under the oak at Shechem.** 5 **Then they set out, and the terror of God fell upon the towns all around them so that no one pursued them.** 6 Jacob and all the people with him came to Luz (that is, Bethel) in the land of Canaan. 7 There he built an altar, and he called the place El Bethel, because it was there that God revealed himself to him when he was fleeing from his brother.
11. **EXO 30:17** Then the LORD said to Moses, 18 **“Make a bronze basin, with its bronze stand, for washing. Place it between the Tent of Meeting and the altar, and put water in it.** 19 Aaron and his sons are to wash their hands and feet with water from it. 20 **Whenever they enter the Tent of Meeting, they shall wash with water so that they will not die. Also, when they approach the altar to minister by presenting an offering made to the LORD by fire, 21 they shall wash their hands and feet so that they will not die. This is to be a lasting ordinance** for Aaron and his descendants for the generations to come.”
12. **NUM 19:19** The man who is clean is to sprinkle the unclean person on the third and seventh days, and on the seventh day he is to purify him. The person being cleansed must wash his clothes and bathe with water, and that evening he will be clean. 20 But **if a person who is unclean does not purify himself, he must be cut off from the community, because he has defiled the sanctuary of the LORD.** The water of cleansing has not been sprinkled on him, and he is unclean. 21 This is a lasting ordinance for them. “The man who sprinkles the water of cleansing must also wash his clothes, and anyone who touches the water of cleansing will be unclean till evening. 22 Anything that an unclean person touches becomes unclean, and anyone who touches it becomes unclean till evening.”
13. **LEV 22:1** The LORD said to Moses, 2 **“Tell Aaron and his sons to treat with respect the sacred offerings the Israelites consecrate to me, so they will not profane my holy name. I am the LORD.** 3 “Say to them: **‘For the generations to come, if any of your descendants is ceremonially unclean and yet comes near the sacred offerings that the Israelites consecrate to the LORD, that person must be cut off from my presence.** I am the LORD.
14. **EXO 40:9** **“Take the anointing oil and anoint the tabernacle and everything in it; consecrate it and all its furnishings, and it will be holy.** 10 Then **anoint the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils; consecrate the altar, and it will be most holy.** 11 **Anoint the basin and its stand and consecrate them.** 12 **“Bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and wash them with water.** 13 Then **dress Aaron in the sacred garments, anoint him and consecrate him so he may serve me as priest.** 14 Bring his sons and dress them in tunics. 15 Anoint them just as you anointed their father, so they may serve me as priests. Their anointing will be to a priesthood that will continue for all generations to come.” 16 Moses did everything just as the LORD commanded him.
15. **2TI 2:19** Nevertheless, God’s solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: **“The Lord knows those who are his,”** and, **“Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness.”** 20 In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for noble purposes and some for ignoble. 21 **If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.**