



Truth Nuggets Part 12

Millennial-Kingdom Myths (Part 8) The Third Temple

Will the Temple be rebuilt in Jerusalem? Well, what does the Word have to say about that?

The first Temple in Jerusalem was built by King Solomon. It replaced the Tabernacle, a portable tent, that Moses had built according to the specifications that God (Yahovah), had given to him, (about 1,500 BC). Solomon followed the same pattern, (about 1,000 BC). They were each to be a place not only to meet with God, but where He would dwell. This first Temple was later destroyed by the Babylonians, (about 500 BC), then rebuilt as a Second Temple 70 years later. The Second Temple was radically upgraded by Herod right before Messiah's birth. It was complete with magnificent expansion & embellishment, yet "Herod's Temple" was still referred to as the "Second Temple." About 40 years after the resurrection of Yahshua, our Messiah, the Second Temple was completely demolished (in 70 AD by the Romans), as Yahshua said it would be. That happened about 2,000 years ago and was never rebuilt.

We notice that from Tabernacle to Second Temple the trend was always to bigger & better. Also, that both times of destruction were due to God abandoning the Temple because of the transgressions of the people, especially by the kings & priests. The Temple was left desolate (spiritually & physically), because of the abominations committed. We are told through prophecies that after the Temple was to be destroyed, it would also be built again a third time, and once more very differently. In fact, it would be built by Messiah, in only 3-days! (John 2:18-22). Yes, it would be built this time without human hands, much bigger & better than the Second Temple. It would be occupied by the presence of God the Creator, and of His Son, the Messiah forever, and it would never again be demolished, (Daniel 2:44,45 & Revelation 21).

Both the destruction & the building of the mind-boggling new Temple can be found in John 2:18-22, Mark 14:58, Mark 15:29, Matthew 26:61, Matthew 27:40, etc. We soon discover that God's select, chosen people are the "living stones" that make up this new Temple, (1Corinthians 3:16, 6:19, & 2Corinthians 6:16). Messiah is the

Cornerstone on which this Temple is built, (Ephesians 2:19-22). The construction began when the Cornerstone was set in place, the day of His resurrection. The Third Temple is now nearing completion, when God's Spirit will fill it. That will be seen as "the First Resurrection," in Luke 20:35...the resurrection of the First-Fruits from the dead (Revelation 14:4), "the Overcomers" (Revelation 12:10), and who are also called, "the Sons of God" (Revelation 21:7 & Matthew 16:24), those who followed the Lamb regardless of the cost to their lives, (Revelation 12:10,11).

So will there also be a physical Temple? Not likely, for it would be irrelevant at best and blasphemous at worse, a distraction from what God is doing. For God does not dwell in Temples made with human hands, (Acts 7:48 & 17:24). Furthermore, the Living Stones of the Temple (Messiah's Body), make up a city called, "the New Jerusalem," in which there is no longer found a Temple, because the people are the Temple, (Revelation 21:22 & 3:12).

What about Ezekiel's prophesied Temple as proof for a physical Temple? Ezekiel's Temple is very unusual since it is of a very different pattern. Some say it is a physical one, and others spiritual, but either way, that would be an article in itself for another day. I recommend examining it by Word & Spirit as symbolic of a spiritual temple in light of all of the scriptures we have just examined by both Word & Spirit. That would be good homework for all of us!

Eric lives with his wife (& editor), Mary Elizabeth, in Easton, Maine. They can be contacted at ericjellis@protonmail.com. He is an independent Bible researcher, semi-retired engineer, and author, with previous careers in teaching & carpentry. At www.bibleconcepts.com, their writings are available as free pdfs & may be distributed without sale or profit, including this article, & the previous ones. Find them under "Other Writings," then "Studies by Eric."