

THE TEMPLE OF GOD

Our lesson is taken from the Phase III Reward section of the study of the church of Philadelphia.

“He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My name.” (Rev.3:12)

This lesson will study eight aspects of history of the Temple of God.
“All 16 references to the temple in Revelation use the word that designates the inner shrine rather than the larger precincts.”
(NIV, Rev.7:15/ naos not hieron)

- 1. The temple of Israel originated from the Mosaic and Davidic tabernacles (skene) with the holy of holies (naos) – shadow Christology.**

The Mosaic tabernacle was built on the first day of the first month of the second year of the Exodus at Mt.Sinai (Ex.35-40) (1440BC) (Ex.32:35; 33:7-11; 34:29-35; 40:34-38) (Heb.9:1-15, 23-28).

David built a new tabernacle for a new Jerusalem or the city of David at Zion (1 Chron.11:4-9; 15:1-3; 16:1).

David gathered materials for the building of a temple (1 Chron.17:1-6, 12-15; 28; 2 Chron.2:1).

- 2. Solomon built the first temple (hieron) with the holy of holies (naos) at Mt. Moriah (1 Kings 6:1, 37-38; 8:1-4; 2 Chron.3:1-2; 5:1-5; 6:7-11; Acts 7:46-47) (960BC) – shadow Christology.**

In 586BC, it was plundered and destroyed by Babylon under the 5th cycle of divine discipline. *The Ark of the Covenant was lost at this time.* (Ex.25; 2 Kings 25:8-17; Heb.9:3-7) (read/ Rev.11:19)

- 3. Zerubbabel rebuilt the temple (hieron) with holy of holies (naos), but without the Ark of the Covenant under Cyrus at Mt.Moriah (516BC). (2 Chron.36:22-23; Ezra 1:1-4; 6:15) – shadow Christology.**

The Syrian Antiochus Epiphanes destroyed it, which gave rise to the Maccabean era.

- 4. The third temple was rebuilt (hieron with naos without ark of covenant) by Herod the Great in 20BC on the same site. This is the temple Jesus visited (Luke 1:5-23; 2:46-52; Matt.26:55; 27:51; Heb.9:24-28; 10:19-20) – shadow Christology fulfilled.**

It was destroyed by Rome (5th cycle) (Luke 21:22-24).

- 5. The Church age temple is spiritual, (naos) without hieron (Matt.12:6; 27:40-44, 51; Acts 6:14; John 2:19) (1 Cor.6:19-20; Eph.2:21-22; Eph.5:2; Rom.3:21-26; Heb.9:5).**

6. **The fourth Jewish temple will be built for the Tribulation (hieron with naos without ark) (Dan.8:13-14; 9:24-27; 11:31-32; 12:1,11; Matt.24:15; Rev.11:1-3; 13:12-18 2 Thess.2:3-4).**
7. **The fifth temple will be built for the Millennium. It is known as Ezekiel's prophetic millennium temple (hieron without naos but with Jesus Christ) (Ezk.40-48; 47:1-12; 48:37 – "The Lord is there/ yehwah shammah/ adverb.")**
8. **In the New Jerusalem, Lord God and Jesus Christ are its temple (naos) (Rev.21:22-23) and spiritual mature Christians are its pillars (Acts 4:12; 10:43; Phil.2:9-11; Heb.1:4-6; Rev.14:1; 22:4)**

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(Rev.3:12) (Ezk.48:35 – "The Lord's there.") (Heb.12:22-24)