

This is the third installment of measuring the temple, and the point of it all is this: Whereas, if you simply read the Book of Revelation as a collection of chapters and symbols, you are lost; you do not see the mind of God in it. But if you see it against the background of all of the rest of Scripture that speaks to these particular themes, then it is rather obvious. God is about to reveal that which He has been working on since the earth was created, because that is what He wanted to put forth: a man in the image and likeness of God, the template, and that which was built upon the foundation of the pattern Son.

Now here, let's dive in a bit further. "Rise and measure the temple of God" (Revelation 11:1b). There are two Greek words for the term "temple." Throughout the Book of Acts, when references to the temple are made, it was a reference to the temple in Jerusalem, because the temple in Jerusalem was still standing; it had not fallen. And so, the common reference to the temple in the Book of Acts is to the Greek word *hieron*,¹ and that was reference to a building. But the reference here, measure the "temple" of God, is to the term *naos*.² Commonly, the *naos* was called the sanctuary. In a Greek temple, the *naos* was where the altar and the image of the god whose temple it was were. That was what was called the sanctuary, where the essence of the deity was housed. So there was the *hieron*, the building; and there was *naos*.

When the angel gives him a measuring rod and instructs him to measure the temple, "Rise and measure the temple and the altar," he is speaking about a people, the dwelling place of God. Much as Paul would say to the Corinthians, "Do you not know that your bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit, the temple of God? For the Holy Spirit dwells in you."³ Do you know why we are a holy people? Do you know why we are one holy nation? Why we are set apart? Because the Holy Spirit lives in us. The living God Himself inhabits that portion of our being that He created as His own habitation. That is why we were given a spirit.

All Scripture quotations are from the NKJV Bible, unless otherwise noted.

¹ See *hieron*, Strong's Greek 2411- <https://biblehub.com/greek/2411.htm>

² See *naos*, Strong's Greek 3485 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/3485.htm>

³ See 1 Corinthians 6:19: "Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?"

And by the way, the spirit that we were given originated from the very person of God Himself.⁴ Our spirits, therefore, are of the same kind and nature as God. Our spirits were not created. Our bodies were, but the human spirit was not created. The human spirit is not like a spirit being comparable to an angel. Angels are spirit beings, but they are a different kind of spirit. It is in the giving of this spirit out of the person of God into the form that God established from the dust of the earth, it is that likeness of spirit that was in God that allows God to call us His sons.⁵ So flesh begets flesh, and Spirit begets spirit.⁶ And one is born again of the spirit when the Holy Spirit animates that endowment that we received out of the person of God, which resides in our human form. When the Holy Spirit animates that, we come alive to God, and the proof of it is, the first thing we say is, “Father! Father!”⁷ It is the spontaneous recognition that we are born again, that we are born from above, that we are born of God, that we are born by the Spirit. The Holy Spirit awakens the consciousness of our spirits to both the reality of God and our hard-wired connection to that reality. And so what is our cry? Father! Father! So the *naos* of God, the sanctuary of God, could never be a building. God does not dwell in human built buildings,⁸ and this is what he is saying here.

He gives him a measuring rod, which is a type of Christ, the standard that relates to Christ. Let me quote Ephesians here. In Ephesians 4:11 and following, it says that we are given “apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers for the equipping of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the building up”—which is the reference to maturing—“of the Body of Christ, until we all reach the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God.” Now these are incidences of maturity. And in case we miss it, the very next line says, “to a mature man.” He distinguishes

⁴ See Genesis 2:7: “And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.”

⁵ See Luke 3:38: “the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.”

⁶ See John 3:6: “That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.”

⁷ See Galatians 4:6: “And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, ‘Abba, Father!’ ”

⁸ See Acts 7:48-49 BSB: “However, the Most High does not dwell in houses made by human hands. As the prophet says: ‘Heaven is My throne and the earth is My footstool. What kind of house will you build for Me, says the Lord, or where will My place of repose be?’ ”

the mature from the immature by saying that the mature man is measured by “the fullness of the stature that belongs to Christ.” That is the rod that was given to him: an understanding of that which is in the image and likeness of God as revealed in the person of Christ. That is maturity. When you attain that, to that measure, then you are no longer infants tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine and the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful schemings.

I watched this mob, this unruly mob, long before it was put on display recently in Washington. I have watched this unruly mob for decades, wanting to hear only what they want to hear. Both the leaders and the people indulge themselves in their flesh, refusing to grow up, insisting that the teachers teach them about whatever they lust for. That is why fables have replaced the gospel of the Kingdom. That is why every foolish notion told by busybodies who flit back and forth... Do you know, the big thing was to be able to go up to the White House or to be able to go up to the Congress and meet with some senator or congressman, so you could come back home and tell the people back home how important you are because you went up to meet with Senator so-and-so in a prayer breakfast or a prayer meeting on Capitol Hill. And infants are fascinated by that. You got a seat at the political table, as a certain Ralph Reed once said.

This has been the garbage that people have fed upon for all this time, and it has precluded them from becoming mature. That is why they are still infants who are tossed to and fro, the condition called, being delusional. That is why there is such widespread delusion in and amongst those who claim to be the Body of Christ. They simply refuse to grow up. They did not endure sound doctrine. They had itching ears, and they heaped to themselves teachers for whatever they lusted for. They paid the conference registration fees and gave tremendous offerings to enrich these men who were speaking lies and hypocrisy because their consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. They are deceitful schemers who understood the market that existed among an immature people.

Listen, I am sure that if I provided a means for commentary on these broadcasts, I would probably receive death threats, because that is how wacky Christians have become. That is how resistant to the truth evangelicals in general have become. Thank God there is still a remnant amongst them, and I am making these declarations so obvious, so bold, so uncompromising, so that whoever has an ear to hear might hear. Frankly, I do not care about the foolish and the unbelieving. I do not

care about people who want what they want. It is of no concern to me. Let them follow and let them heap to themselves whatever they lust for. I fully expect that will be what the majority will continue to do. It is what they have been doing. They have no real conviction and less fear of the Lord.

That is why, when weighed and measured as this, they are coming up wanting. The word told me that that would happen in the last days: “Go and measure the dwelling place of God. Do not measure the outer court. It has been given to the Gentiles” (cf. Revelation 11:1-2). “Gentile” often is a term used for unbelieving. Jesus put it this way, concerning whether or not you are a believer: “Why do you call Me Lord, and do not the things I say to you?” (cf. Luke 6:46). Concerning Jerusalem, Jesus once said, “O Jerusalem, you kill the prophets and you stone those who were sent to you. How often I would have gathered you, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings? But you would not. Behold, your house—not My House; the house you built, the house of your illusion, or should I say the house constructed to house your delusion—now is proven to be desolate, because I was never Lord over your emotions. You heap to yourselves teachers for whatever you lust for.” I mean, what a spectacle is a fellow like Kenneth Copeland. How do you frame that within any fashion of biblical rectitude? It does not fit. These are the deceitful schemers.

Do you know how late in the day it is? God is measuring the temple. God is measuring the temple by the standard of Christ. How do we know that? Because these things are finally being revealed. You cannot pretend. Because you hear this word, you cannot pretend you are like that. The word is merely an announcement of what God is doing, whether or not He is doing it in you or through you. This is the soberness of the hour. It has never been believed that it would be a remnant of people. It is only a remnant because of the strictness of the measurement. There are not many Christs. It says false christs will arise,⁹ so in that sense, many will claim the title of being accurate representations; but really, the Spirit of God certifies the authenticity of Christ in you. This is the hour. We are here, ladies and gentlemen; we are here.

⁹ See Matthew 24:24: “For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.”

It is much easier to kill a messenger. It is much easier to get on Twitter and allow venom to pour out, evidencing only that the soul is opposed to God. Whenever I hear criticisms of my being too harsh or not being accommodating of every fruit, flake, and nut, I do not take it personally. In the end we shall see. Until and unless we bow our knee in reverence to and in fear of what the Lord is saying, there is no long-term future for those who will not.

Now God is measuring the temple. What else is He measuring? He is measuring the altar. The altar is the evidence of a sacrificed life. “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice” (cf. Romans 12:1). The problem with the present church and the reason that it has become so debauched is that it does not know the meaning of sacrifice. It lives for itself. A living sacrifice is that which lives for the benefit of another. So in that sense, they have been decapitated; they have been beheaded for the witness of Christ. They held up being authentic representations of His person, which would be such things as humility, of love, of vulnerability, of trust, understanding faith to be *tithémi*,¹⁰ to lie down as if you are dead, in the hope that He will arise within you in your position of vulnerability. Those understandings, which are basic biblical truths, fly in the face of this loud, garrulous, riotous, self-indulgent, wicked people, in the sense that nothing about them would persuade the unbeliever to be like them, only to oppose them. When you are under the altar, meaning your life has been sacrificed, then your prayers come up before God. And when you say, “How long, O Lord?”, the Lord will answer you, and then the Lord will give the judgment of the nations into your hands. As it stands, He is about to use the nations to judge the aberrant church.

So, measure the altar because you are looking for sacrifice; you are looking for living sacrifices by whom the good, the pleasing, and even the perfect will of God might be seen and measured, in this sense: that when Christ who is your life appears, you will appear with Him in the glory of His appearing (cf. Colossians 3:4). And it will seem to the world that you are the incarnation of Christ, both individually and especially corporately: individually within the sphere of your assigned time and place; and corporately as part of a particular, one might even say a peculiar people, who are known by the characteristics of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.

¹⁰ See *tithémi*, Strong’s Greek 5087 - <https://biblehub.com/greek/5087.htm>

Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, “Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months” (Revelation 11:1-2 NKJV).

So, measure the altar.

- Measure the temple—in other words, it is about the *naos*, the people in whom God dwells.
- Measure the altar—that is about the quality and extent of the way you have foregone insisting on your own will, and as Jesus, you have embraced the, “Nevertheless, not my will but Thine be done.”

And then measure what else?

- Measure those who worship there. Interesting, isn't it, that it would be said that worship and altar go together? Because what is the worship of God, ultimately? The worship of God is with our lives—the sum and substance of our lives being based upon and lived for the benefit of and to put on display the glory of the Lord, His glorious inheritance in the saints. I beseech you therefore, brethren.

He is certifying. This is the revelation that speaks of God certifying the finished work: a man in the image and likeness of God. God is certifying such a man because He is about to reveal him, knowing that in the revealing of this man, the opposition will immediately come. Why? Because it always comes when the light of redemption appears in a deliverer. In Egypt or in Bethlehem, whenever one who has come with healing in his wings to restore man to God in Christ, whenever that comes, the opposition will come.

And the first opposition actually comes from the false church. That is why you do not measure the court which is outside. This would be more in the *hieron*—having a form of godliness, because you are in the court of the temple, but denying the power thereof.¹¹ So you do not measure that

¹¹ See 2 Timothy 3:5

because it is a given, it is already a given that it has resisted the rod of correction. The rod that represents the standard of Christ is known not to apply to the outer court. It is where the unbelievers are, but they are masquerading as believers. But they are not the *naos* of God. It is not where the Lord whom you seek suddenly comes and appears. The Lord whom you seek, according to the last chapter of the Book of Malachi, appears in the *naos* of God.¹² When Christ who is your life appears, you appear with Him in the glory of His appearing. That is what Ezekiel was picturing. This is the house, the perfect house, that is shown to the outside house,¹³ the court of the Gentiles. You do not measure it because it is a given that it is non sequitur. It is noncompliant. It is an aberration, and it will actually oppose that which is the *naos* of God.

The outer court has been given to the Gentiles, “and they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months”—quite like Jesus appearing in Israel for three-and-a-half years. And, what was the verdict? He came unto His own and His own received Him not.¹⁴ So, when what God is doing is revealed, when the house is shown to the house, when the standard of God’s righteousness embodied in a holy people is shown in the court of the unbelievers, the harlot will be disclosed for who she actually is. And this showing will be, in type and shadow, like Jesus showed what the law and the prophets stood for; Jesus showed what Israel existed to embrace—to foreshadow, to receive, and to embrace—and yet when He came, He was refused. He was rejected and killed because that is the only way you can keep doing what you want to do; you have to do away with the standard. And that is what happens next, when the two witnesses come and present the truth of Christ as the picture of the house that has been judged and certified. The *naos*, the dwelling place of God, has been judged and certified as a people of sacrificed lives, and the worship is acceptable to God. He hears them. He knows them. He responds to them. He empowers and gives to them the right to judge, and that is what the two witnesses will do shortly.

We will continue in just a moment. Blessings to you. I am Sam Soleyn. Bye-bye.

¹² See Malachi 3:1: “ ‘Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,’ Says the LORD of hosts.”

¹³ See Ezekiel 43:10 KJV: “Thou son of man, shew the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern.”

¹⁴ See John 1:11