### **KOINONIA – SPIRITUAL EQUALITY (PART 1)**

### **THE SPIRITUAL HOUSE OF GOD**

### **Note:** **Theology dictates Practice, Practice does not dictate Theology.**

### **Mark 7:13**

### **13**Thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

### **Mathew 15:1-3**

### **1**Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said,

### **2**“Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat.”

### **3**He answered them, “And why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition? **A. What is the Priesthood of All Believers?**The Priesthood of all believers is the immediate and direct communion with God without any form of a mediator**.** **1 Peter 2:4–5 4**To whom coming, *as unto* a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, *and* precious,

### **5**Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

### **B. Spiritual House1. In the Old Testament the house of the Lord was a Physical Structure.i) God dwelt in physical structures** **Exodus 25:8**

### **8**And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst.

### **ii) The only sure place for God to hear you was in the temple** **1 Kings 8:33-35**

### 33 “When your people Israel are defeated before the enemy because they have sinned against you, and if they turn again to you and acknowledge your name and pray and plead with you in this house,

### 34 then hear in heaven and forgive the sin of your people Israel and bring them again to the land that you gave to their fathers.

### 35 “When heaven is shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against you, if they pray toward this place and acknowledge your name and turn from their sin, when you afflict them,

### **Daniel 6:10**

 **10**When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously.

**iii) Jesus entering the temple is prophesied
Haggai 2:9**

**9**The latter glory of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts. And in this place, I will give peace, declares the Lord of hosts.’”

**2. The concept of the house of God is totally different from the Old Testament**

 **i) In the New Testament, Jesus is the Temple. He is the place where God and humans meet.
John 2:18-22**

**18**So the Jews said to him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?”

19 Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

20 The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?”

21 But he was speaking about the temple of his body.

22 When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

**John 4:21-30**21 Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking suchpeople to worship him.

24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

25 The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.”

26 Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

27 Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?”

28 So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people,

29 “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?”

30 They went out of the town and were coming to him.

**ii) In the New Testament, we are the Temple of God**

**1 Corinthians 3:16-17**

**16**Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

**17**If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

**Romans 8:10**

**10**But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

**Galatians 1:15-16**

**15**But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace,

**16**was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone;

**Ephesians 3:17**

**17**so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

**Colossians 1:27**

 **27**To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

**2 Timothy 1:14**

**14**By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

**Hebrews 3:6**

**6**but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

**John 14:23**

**23**Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

 **End Note:** The temple pointed to Christ and it is fulfilled in Christ and His church, so let us love Christ and His people.