Build The Temple Part #2

Tony Mauck · Ephesians 4:11–16

INTRODUCTION

- We asked what is the daily goal of the Christian, which I answered to more consistently imitate Christ and obey him in every respect.
- We talked about three objectives that we need to have in regard to our growth. Realistic expectations, patience, and personal responsibility.

1 Dissatisfaction With the Status Quo

Ephesians 4:11–16

- Growth implies this. Where you are now is not where you need to be.
- To grow up in all respects into him who is the head, even Christ.
- Our behavior is contagious. It is influential. Good or bad. The sincere, diligent effort of the Christian influences other people.
- I can improve my character. I can more consistently pursue purity of thought. I can become more spiritually inclined and less materially oriented.
- Here's something I think we all need to be able to say. I can do more than I've done.

2 We Need God's Assistance

James 5:16; 1 Peter 3:12

- Don't forget in our approach to growing more and more in the likeness of Christ and being His temple, that we need God's assistance.
- The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much, James 5 and verse 16.
- The key to being his temple in our time is we need his involvement in our lives. We need to depend upon him.
- First thing you need to do in 2012 is start by praying about that very thing.

3 Growing From Worship

- Is coming to services just a means to an end?
- Do we approach it as I'm going to learn something? I'm going to change something. I'm going to do something better than I've done.
- How does that affect my life? What is that telling me I need to work on?
- These songs were designed to make us better. To challenge us to serve.

4 Prepared to Be of Service

Ephesians 5:28

- Do other people in the Decker Prairie Church think of you as a servant of your brethren?

- If we are indeed the temple of God, the place of God's dwelling, what has God taught us about having concern for others and serving them?
- How can we claim to be his temple if really our lives are mostly about me?
- So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies.
- Vessels for honor, useful to the master, prepared for every good work.

5 A Determination to Reach the Goal

1 Kings 8; Luke 16:16

- One of the great spiritual maladies of our time is simply a failure to think about heaven.
- But we have an inheritance that is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away. Reserved in heaven for us.
- None of it comes even close to the glory that God has prepared for his people. That's why we build the temple.
- The work we do in relation to our hearts and lives, our temple is greater than the glories of Solomon's temple.
- Everyone is forcing his way into it. This is for the people who want it and desire it and lay hold of it.

THE CHALLENGE

And so choose Christ while there's time and opportunity. Build the temple. It'll never be wasted effort.

MY NOTES