

Dedication

"Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it..."

— Psalm 127:1

This record is dedicated to the Builder of every true temple.

To the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

To the Holy One of Israel.

To Yahushua the Messiah, through whom the covenant is established and the living stones are gathered.

This work is dedicated to every man, woman, and child who desires to become a habitation for the presence of the Most High.

May this record direct every reader away from the pride of outward appearance and toward the work that the Father performs within.

May every chapter lead the heart to repentance.

May every page call the mind to renewal.

May every truth strengthen the spirit.

May every instruction prepare the vessel.

The Father has never desired empty religion.

He has always desired a holy people.

May this record help prepare living stones for His everlasting Kingdom.

Introduction

The House the Father Builds

Throughout history, men have searched for the Temple.

Some searched among ruins.

Some searched beneath cities.

Some searched through prophecy.

Some searched for another building to rise upon the earth.

Yet the Scriptures testify that the Father has always been revealing something greater.

The tabernacle in the wilderness was never the destination.

The temple in Jerusalem was never the destination.

Every court...

Every altar...

Every vessel...

Every sacrifice...

Every priest...

Every stone...

Every curtain...

Every lamp...

Every offering...

Every feast...

Every ordinance...

Together they formed a prophetic language.

They testified beforehand of a greater house.

Not one built with cedar.

Not one built with marble.

Not one built with gold.

But one built through covenant.
The prophets declared it.
The Messiah revealed it.
The apostles proclaimed it.
The Book of Mormon confirms it.
The Father would establish His dwelling within His covenant people.
The heart would become the altar.
The mind would become the place of renewal.
The body would become the temple.
The Spirit would become the indwelling Presence.
The law would no longer rest only upon stone.
It would be written upon living hearts.
This changes everything.
The study of the temple is no longer only the study of architecture.
It becomes the study of the human vessel.
The study of the priesthood becomes the study of spiritual stewardship.
The study of sacrifice becomes the study of repentance.
The study of cleansing becomes the study of sanctification.
The study of the holy place becomes the study of the mind.
The study of the Most Holy Place becomes the study of communion with the Father.
The study of the temple becomes the study of the whole person.
Spirit.
Heart.
Mind.
Body.
Nervous system.

Thoughts.

Emotions.

Attention.

Memory.

Habits.

Speech.

Action.

Every part of the vessel is brought into covenant order.

For the Father is not merely preparing a people who visit His house.

He is preparing a people who become His house.

This record is an invitation to walk through that temple, chamber by chamber, until every part of the inner man has been examined, cleansed, ordered, and prepared for the glory of the Most High.

For the greatest temple ever built is not fashioned by the hands of men.

It is fashioned by the hands of the Creator Himself.

THE THIRD TEMPLE

The Living Temple of the Most High

Chapter 1

The Temple the Father Builds

From the beginning, the Father desired a dwelling place among His covenant people.

The tabernacle in the wilderness was a witness.

The temple of Solomon was a witness.

The temple rebuilt after the captivity was a witness.

Yet every sanctuary built by human hands pointed beyond itself to something greater.

The pattern was never meant to end with stone.

The pattern always pointed toward life.

The prophets declared that a greater covenant would come.

Not merely another building.

Not merely another altar.

Not merely another priesthood.

A new creation.

A living temple.

The Father announced this long before it came to pass.

"And I will set my tabernacle among you... And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people." — Leviticus 26:11–12

The promise was never simply that Israel would possess a sanctuary.

The promise was that the Creator Himself would dwell among His people.

The prophets then revealed how this dwelling would take place.

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you... And I will put my spirit within you..." — Ezekiel 36:26–27

Notice the direction of the promise.

The prophecy does not point toward another structure.

It points inward.

The heart.

The spirit.

The inner man.

Jeremiah declares the same pattern.

"I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts..." — Jeremiah 31:33

The covenant moves from tablets of stone...
to the heart of man.

When Messiah came, He confirmed what the prophets had spoken.

"If a man love me... my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." — John 14:23

The Father's house would no longer be identified by geography.

His dwelling would be identified by covenant.

Stephen stood before Israel and declared what many could not receive.

"Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands..." — Acts 7:48

Paul proclaimed the same witness.

"God... dwelleth not in temples made with hands." — Acts 17:24

Then the mystery was revealed.

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" — 1 Corinthians 3:16

Not a metaphor.

A pattern fulfilled.

Peter adds another witness.

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house..." — 1 Peter 2:5

Living stones.

Not carved stone.

Living people.

The second witness speaks in agreement.

King Benjamin taught of the mighty change of heart.

Alma asked,

"Have ye experienced this mighty change in your hearts?" — Alma 5:14

Then Amulek declared,

"The Lord hath said he dwelleth not in unholy temples." — Alma 34:36

The implication is unmistakable.

If He does not dwell in an unholy temple...

then He dwells in a holy one.

The temple is the sanctified covenant vessel.

The pattern across both records is one witness.

The tabernacle pointed forward.

The temple pointed forward.

The sacrifices pointed forward.

The priesthood pointed forward.

Everything pointed toward the day when the Father would build His dwelling place inside His covenant people.

This is why the restoration begins with repentance.

It continues through covenant.

It is sealed by the gift of His Spirit.

The Third Temple is not first erected with stone.

It is erected through transformation.

The next question is no longer,

"Where is the temple?"

The next question becomes,

"What is the architecture of the living temple?"

From this point, the study moves inward—into the spirit, the heart, the mind, the nervous system, the emotions, and the whole covenant vessel that the Father prepares as His dwelling place.

Chapter 2

The Pattern Hidden in the Temple

"For, see... that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount." — Exodus 25:40

The Father is a God of pattern.

Nothing within the tabernacle was random.

Nothing within the temple was without purpose.

Every measurement...

Every vessel...

Every curtain...

Every piece of furniture...

Every sacrifice...

Every priestly garment...

Every ordinance...

Every feast...

Every chamber...

Every step...

Every light...

Every sound...

Every fragrance...

Together they formed one testimony.

The temple was never merely a place where Israel worshipped.

The temple was a living prophecy.

It taught the covenant before the covenant was written upon the heart.

It taught redemption before the Messiah was revealed.

It taught sanctification before the Spirit was poured out.

It taught the architecture of the inner man long before the inner man became the temple.

The Father teaches through patterns.

He created the heavens in order.

He appointed the lights in their courses.

He established seasons.

He numbered the stars.

He formed the human body with order.

He governs creation by law.

Why would His dwelling place be any different?

The earthly sanctuary was a shadow.

The living sanctuary is the substance.

The building pointed to the body.

The courts pointed to approach.

The altar pointed to repentance.

The laver pointed to cleansing.

The lampstand pointed to illumination.

The table pointed to continual nourishment by the word.

The altar of incense pointed to continual communion with the Father.

The veil pointed to separation caused by sin and the access opened through the Messiah.

The Most Holy Place pointed to the presence of the Most High dwelling with His covenant people.

These were not isolated objects.

They were parts of one design.

Likewise, the spirit cannot be separated from the heart.

The heart cannot be separated from the mind.

The mind cannot be separated from the body.
The body cannot be separated from its actions.
The nervous system carries signals throughout the body just as thoughts, convictions, and choices are carried into daily life.
Emotions influence responses.
Attention directs focus.
Memory preserves instruction.
Habits establish pathways.
Speech reveals what fills the heart.
Actions bear witness to what governs within.
The temple is therefore not only a place of worship.
It is a pattern of government.
When every part functions in its proper order, there is peace.
When one part rules outside its appointed place, disorder follows.
If emotion rules instead of wisdom, the house becomes unstable.
If desire rules instead of covenant, the house becomes divided.
If fear rules instead of faith, the house becomes weakened.
But when the Spirit governs...
The heart submits.
The mind is renewed.
The thoughts are disciplined.
The emotions are ordered.
The body becomes an instrument of righteousness.
The whole house stands.
This is why Scripture speaks of becoming a new creature.
The Father is not repairing an old temple.
He is building a new one.

The pattern shown to Moses on the mountain was a witness.

The pattern written in the Scriptures is a witness.

The pattern revealed through the Messiah is a witness.

Now the pattern is to be established within the covenant vessel.

The question is no longer,

"What did the temple look like?"

The question becomes,

"Does my life reflect the pattern the Father revealed?"

For the Third Temple is not measured in cubits.

It is measured by covenant, obedience, transformation, and the indwelling presence of the Most High.

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Chapter 3

The Blueprint of the Living Temple

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" — 1 Corinthians 3:16

Every builder begins with a blueprint.

No architect raises a house without first determining its design.

No craftsman cuts stone without knowing where it belongs.

No kingdom establishes a city without order.

The Father is no different.

Before He builds His temple, He reveals His pattern.

When He formed Adam from the dust of the ground, He was not merely creating a body.

He was preparing a vessel.

A body was fashioned.

The breath of life was given.

Man became a living soul.

From the beginning, humanity was created to be a dwelling place where heaven and earth could meet in covenant fellowship.

Sin did not merely break a commandment.

It disrupted the order of the temple.

The spirit became separated from the life of God.

The heart turned from obedience.

The mind became darkened.

Fear entered where peace had ruled.

Shame replaced innocence.

The body, once governed by the Spirit, became subject to corruption and death.

The temple still stood...

But it no longer functioned according to its design.

Throughout Scripture, the Father begins the work of restoration from the inside outward.

He does not begin with appearance.

He begins with the spirit.

He does not first change behavior.

He first changes allegiance.

He does not merely restrain the hands.

He transforms the heart that directs the hands.

This is why He declared:

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you... And I will put my spirit within you." — Ezekiel 36:26–27

The blueprint begins at the center.

Just as the Most Holy Place was the innermost chamber of the earthly temple, the deepest work of the living temple begins where communion with the Father is restored.

From that center, everything else is reordered.

The heart learns covenant faithfulness.

The mind is renewed by truth.

The conscience is awakened.

The emotions are brought into harmony.

The nervous system no longer lives in continual fear, panic, or impulse, but increasingly learns peace, patience, and self-control as the fruit of the Spirit matures.

The body becomes an instrument for righteousness rather than a servant of sin.

The tongue speaks life.
The hands perform works of mercy.
The feet walk in covenant paths.
The eyes seek what is pure.
The ears become attentive to wisdom.
Every member becomes part of one living sanctuary.
This is why the Scriptures repeatedly speak of the "whole" person.
The Father's work is never divided.
He does not redeem the spirit while ignoring the mind.
He does not renew the mind while abandoning the heart.
He does not cleanse the heart while neglecting the body.
The living temple is one house under one government.
When one chamber falls into disorder, the whole house is affected.
When one chamber is restored, the blessing extends throughout the house.
The earthly temple contained many rooms, but one Presence.
Likewise, the human vessel contains many faculties, but one rightful King.
The purpose of this record is to walk through those chambers one by one.
We will examine the spirit.
We will search the heart.
We will renew the mind.
We will consider the nervous system and its role in human response.
We will examine emotions, memory, attention, habits, speech, and action.
Not as isolated subjects.
But as chambers within one temple.
For the Master Builder is restoring His house.
Not with cedar.
Not with stone.

Not with gold.

But with transformed lives, written upon by His law, filled with His Spirit, and established in His covenant.

The temple the Father is building is alive.

Chapter 4

The Original Design

"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness..." —

Genesis 1:26

Before there was a tabernacle...

Before there was a temple...

Before there was an altar...

Before there was a priesthood...

Before there was a sacrifice...

There was man.

This is not an accident.

The first sanctuary the Father formed was not built from stone.

It was formed from the dust of the earth.

The first structure the Father personally fashioned was the human body.

"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 soul." —

Genesis 2:7

Notice the Builder.

The Father did not command the earth to assemble man as He commanded the seas to gather or the lights to appear.

He formed him.

The language is personal.

Intentional.

Deliberate.

The Creator shaped a vessel before He filled it.

The pattern would remain throughout Scripture.

First, the vessel.

Then, the filling.
First, preparation.
Then, glory.
The tabernacle was built...
Then the glory filled it.
The temple was completed...
Then the glory entered it.
The disciples waited...
Then the Spirit came upon them.
The pattern never changes.
The Father prepares what He intends to inhabit.
Man was created with capacity.
A spirit capable of communion.
A heart capable of covenant.
A mind capable of understanding.
A body capable of service.
A voice capable of blessing.
Hands capable of building.
Feet capable of walking in righteousness.
The human vessel was designed to express heaven upon the earth.
This is what it means to bear His image.
The image is more than appearance.
It is government.
It is character.
It is righteousness.
It is wisdom.
It is love.

It is stewardship.

It is the ability to reflect the rule of the Creator within creation.

When Adam walked with the Father, every part of his being functioned in harmony.

His spirit was alive to God.

His heart was undivided.

His mind was clear.

His emotions were ordered.

His body served without shame.

His work was joyful.

His relationships were whole.

Nothing within the temple competed for the throne.

There was one King.

One government.

One order.

Then came rebellion.

Sin was not merely the breaking of a command.

It was the overthrow of divine government within the living temple.

Fear replaced trust.

Shame replaced openness.

Desire replaced obedience.

Self replaced covenant.

The temple was still standing.

But its government had changed.

From that moment forward, the story of Scripture became the story of restoration.

Not merely restoring land.

Not merely restoring a nation.
Not merely restoring a city.
Restoring the living temple.
Every covenant...
Every prophet...
Every ordinance...
Every sacrifice...
Every act of redemption...
Moves toward one purpose:
That the Father may once again dwell within a people who reflect His
image and walk under His government.
This is why redemption is deeper than forgiveness.
Forgiveness removes guilt.
Restoration rebuilds the house.
The Master Builder has never stopped His work.
He is restoring His image...
His order...
His government...
His dwelling place...
One living temple at a time.
And to understand how He rebuilds that temple, we must first understand
the chambers He created within it. The next chapter begins with the
innermost chamber—the spirit of man.

Chapter 5

The First Chamber — The Spirit

"The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly." — Proverbs 20:27

Every temple has a place where communion begins.

In the living temple, that place is the spirit.

The spirit is not the heart.

It is not the mind.

It is not emotion.

It is not the nervous system.

Each has its own function within the temple.

Confusing one for another produces confusion in understanding the Father's design.

The spirit is the deepest chamber of the human vessel.

It is the place where man becomes aware of the Creator.

It is the chamber through which conviction is received.

It is the place where worship rises.

It is the chamber where communion with the Father is restored through covenant.

When the Father breathed into Adam the breath of life, man became a living soul.

The breath came from the Creator.

Life was not self-generated.

The living temple was designed to remain connected to its Builder.

Just as a lamp cannot produce light without oil, the spirit cannot fulfill its purpose apart from the Spirit of the Most High.

This is why Messiah declared:

"That which is born of the Spirit is spirit." — John 3:6

The restoration of the living temple begins with spiritual life.

Before the heart can be purified...

Before the mind can be renewed...

Before emotions can be governed...

Before habits can change...

The spirit must be made alive unto God.

The prophets saw this day.

"A new spirit will I put within you." — Ezekiel 36:26

The Book of Mormon bears the same witness.

King Benjamin's people cried:

"The Spirit of the Lord Omnipotent... has wrought a mighty change in us...

we have no more disposition to do evil, but to do good continually." —

Mosiah 5:2

The change did not begin with behavior.

It began within.

Behavior became the fruit of an inward transformation.

The spirit is therefore the governing connection between the Creator and the living temple.

When that communion is neglected, every other chamber begins to drift.

The heart follows competing desires.

The mind fills with confusion.

The emotions become unstable.

The body reacts without wisdom.

The whole house begins to lose its order.

But when the spirit remains in communion with the Father, the government of heaven begins to flow through the entire temple.

Truth reaches the heart.
Wisdom renews the mind.
Peace steadies the emotions.
Patience restrains impulse.
Self-control governs action.
The body becomes an instrument of righteousness.
The temple functions as it was designed.
This order is reflected even in the human body.
The brain sends signals.
The nervous system carries those signals throughout the body.
Every member responds according to the message it receives.
Likewise, the spirit receives from the Father, and that life is intended to influence every chamber of the living temple.
The Father's design has always moved from the inside outward.
He transforms the unseen before He transforms the seen.
He establishes communion before commission.
He restores life before assigning labor.
For a temple without His presence is only a structure.
But a temple filled with His Spirit becomes a living witness of His Kingdom upon the earth.
The next chamber is the heart—the seat of covenant, desire, loyalty, and the hidden counsel that Scripture continually calls us to search.

Chapter 6

The Second Chamber — The Heart

"Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out." — Proverbs 20:5

If the spirit is the chamber of communion...

The heart is the chamber of government.

Throughout the Scriptures, the Father continually addresses the heart.

Not because it pumps blood.

But because it governs the hidden life of the person.

The heart is where loyalties are formed.

Where desires take root.

Where intentions are conceived.

Where decisions begin before they are ever seen.

Long before a hand performs a deed...

The heart has already chosen a direction.

For this reason, the Father does not judge as man judges.

"For the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart." — 1 Samuel 16:7

The world often measures appearance.

The Father measures government.

The heart is the throne room of the living temple.

Every throne has a ruler.

The question is never whether the heart has a king.

The question is who sits upon its throne.

Will fear rule?

Will pride rule?

Will pleasure rule?

Will bitterness rule?

Will greed rule?

Or will the King of Glory reign there?

This is why Proverbs compares the heart to deep water.

The surface may appear calm.

But beneath the surface are hidden currents.

Hidden motives.

Hidden wounds.

Hidden fears.

Hidden ambitions.

Hidden idols.

Hidden loyalties.

Many actions that seem sudden are not sudden at all.

They are the overflow of counsel that has been gathering in the heart over time.

Messiah revealed this same pattern.

"For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." — Matthew 12:34

Speech does not begin at the lips.

It begins in the heart.

Likewise, actions do not begin with the hands.

They begin with the counsel that has already been accepted within.

The Book of Mormon bears the same witness.

King Benjamin's people declared:

"...the Spirit of the Lord Omnipotent... has wrought a mighty change in us... that we have no more disposition to do evil, but to do good continually." —

Mosiah 5:2

Notice what changed.

Not merely behavior.

Disposition.

The inclination of the heart.

The government of the inner person.

The Father's work always reaches deeper than conduct.

He transforms the source from which conduct flows.

This is why Jeremiah prophesied:

"I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts." —

Jeremiah 31:33

Stone tablets instructed from the outside.

The covenant heart responds from the inside.

The law becomes more than words to remember.

It becomes the character by which the temple lives.

The heart also influences the whole body.

What is believed shapes perception.

What is loved directs attention.

What is feared affects the body's responses.

What is trusted brings either peace or unrest.

The hidden counsel of the heart reaches the mind.

It influences emotions.

It shapes habits.

It affects the body's responses through the nervous system.

The inner government becomes outward behavior.

For this reason, Scripture repeatedly calls us to guard the heart.

Not because the heart is weak...

But because it is influential.

A corrupt throne corrupts the house.

A righteous throne brings order to every chamber.

The Master Builder therefore does not begin by decorating the temple.

He begins by reclaiming its throne.

Only when the heart belongs to Him can every other chamber come into covenant order.

For where the throne is established...

The whole temple follows.

Chapter 7

The Third Chamber — The Mind

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind..." — Romans 12:2

If the heart is the throne...

The mind is the council chamber.

Kings do not govern by desire alone.

They govern through counsel.

Plans.

Judgment.

Understanding.

Wisdom.

The mind is where these are brought together.

It is the place where information is received, examined, remembered, compared, and acted upon.

The Father created the mind for truth.

Not confusion.

For wisdom.

Not deception.

For remembrance.

Not forgetfulness.

The first attack in Eden was not against Adam's body.

It was not against his emotions.

It was directed toward his understanding.

"Yea, hath God said...?"

The battle began with a question.

A distortion.

A competing interpretation.

Once the mind accepted the lie, the heart embraced it, and the body acted upon it.

The order of corruption flowed from within to without.

The order of restoration follows the same path in reverse.

The Father speaks truth.

The mind receives it.

The heart embraces it.

The body walks in it.

This is why Paul commands believers to be transformed by the renewing of the mind.

Renewal is more than learning facts.

It is the replacement of false patterns with the Father's patterns.

The Scriptures repeatedly call His people to remember.

Remember His covenant.

Remember His commandments.

Remember His works.

Remember His deliverance.

Memory is not merely storage.

It is a chamber of covenant faithfulness.

Forgetfulness has often preceded Israel's wandering.

Remembrance has often marked Israel's return.

The Book of Mormon bears this witness repeatedly, calling the people to remember the Lord, His mercy, and His covenants.

The mind also possesses imagination.

The Father gave imagination so that His people could envision righteousness, prepare wisely, build faithfully, and hope confidently.

When submitted to truth, imagination becomes a servant of wisdom.
When separated from truth, it fashions idols, fears, and vain ambitions.
Discernment likewise belongs within this chamber.
Not every thought deserves agreement.
Not every voice deserves authority.
Not every desire deserves obedience.
The renewed mind learns to test, compare, and judge according to the word of God.
The mind is also closely joined to the body's design.
What occupies the mind influences attention.
Attention shapes repeated thought.
Repeated thought forms patterns.
Patterns become habits.
Habits shape responses.
Over time, those responses become deeply established within the nervous system, making certain reactions feel automatic.
The Father's work is therefore not only spiritual.
It is transformational.
As truth is received and practiced, old patterns are put away and new pathways of faithful obedience are strengthened.
This is why meditation upon the word is commanded.
The Father is not merely giving information.
He is reshaping the administration of the living temple.
A throne without wise counsel cannot govern well.
Likewise, a heart devoted to the Father requires a mind continually renewed by His word.

When the heart and the mind are united under the government of the Most High, the temple begins to function in harmony.

Yet there remains another chamber that carries the decisions of the mind throughout the entire vessel.

Just as roads connect every part of a kingdom...

The next chamber connects every part of the living temple.

It is the witness of the nervous system—the network through which the body receives, carries, and responds to what governs within.

Chapter 8

The Fourth Chamber — The Nervous System

"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made..." — Psalm 139:14

The Father is not only the Creator of the spirit.

He is the Designer of the vessel.

Nothing within the human body exists without purpose.

Every bone...

Every muscle...

Every organ...

Every vessel...

Every cell...

Every pathway...

Every connection...

Declares the wisdom of its Maker.

Among these wonders is the nervous system.

Hidden beneath the surface, it cannot usually be seen.

Yet almost every movement, every sensation, every response, and every action depends upon it.

It carries messages.

It receives signals.

It coordinates the body.

It allows one part of the vessel to communicate with another.

Without communication...

Order breaks down.

The living temple was designed to operate through communication.

The Father speaks.

The spirit receives.

The heart embraces.

The mind understands.

The nervous system carries instruction throughout the body.

The body acts.

The pattern is one government flowing through one house.

The Scriptures continually speak of walking, standing, hearing, seeing, watching, waiting, stretching forth the hand, bowing the knee, lifting holy hands, and presenting the body as a living sacrifice.

None of these actions are separated from the body's communication network.

The Creator designed the vessel so that thought could become movement.

Conviction could become obedience.

Mercy could become action.

Compassion could become service.

Truth could become a way of life.

Yet Scripture also reveals another reality.

Repeated choices establish repeated paths.

Israel repeatedly walked after strange gods.

Repeated rebellion became a way of life.

Repeated obedience likewise established faithful generations.

The same principle is observed within the body.

The more a pathway is used, the more readily it is traveled.

A practiced response becomes increasingly familiar.

This is why habits become strong.

This is why repentance is more than feeling sorrow.

Repentance is turning.

It is learning a different path.

The Father does not merely command His people to stop walking in evil.

He teaches them to walk in righteousness.

He establishes new ways.

New patterns.

New rhythms.

New responses.

This is one reason the fruit of the Spirit is so significant.

Love interrupts hatred.

Peace steadies fear.

Patience restrains haste.

Kindness softens harshness.

Self-control governs impulse.

These are not merely virtues to admire.

They become practiced ways of living.

As they are exercised, the whole temple begins to respond differently.

The body learns what the spirit has embraced.

The mind learns what the Word continually teaches.

The heart delights in what once seemed difficult.

The house becomes increasingly ordered under one government.

The Father designed the vessel with remarkable adaptability.

He did not create His children to remain prisoners of destructive patterns.

He calls them to be transformed.

Every act of faithful obedience strengthens covenant order.

Every act of repentance turns the house back toward its rightful King.

This is why Scripture compares the believer's life to a walk.

One step.

Then another.

Then another.

A single step rarely forms a path.

Thousands of faithful steps do.

The nervous system silently bears witness to a kingdom principle that has been true from the beginning:

Whatever is practiced becomes established.

Whatever is continually nourished becomes strengthened.

Whatever is continually neglected becomes weakened.

Therefore the Master Builder does not merely renovate one room of the temple.

He restores the communication of the entire house.

So that every member...

Every thought...

Every word...

Every movement...

May respond together under the government of the Spirit of the Most High.

For a temple is not alive because it has walls.

It is alive because every chamber functions together under the presence of the One who dwells within.

Chapter 9

The Fifth Chamber — The Waters of the Heart

"He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls." — Proverbs 25:28

Every river has a source.

Every wave has a cause.

Every storm begins somewhere.

So it is with the emotions.

The Father created humanity with the capacity to rejoice.

To grieve.

To love.

To fear.

To hope.

To mourn.

To delight.

These are not enemies of the living temple.

They are part of the vessel He formed.

Yet the Scriptures never present emotions as the throne of the temple.

They are witnesses.

Not kings.

They reveal what is happening within.

They testify to what the heart believes.

They often expose what the mind has accepted.

They can signal joy, sorrow, danger, compassion, conviction, or gratitude.

But they were never created to govern the house.

When emotions occupy the throne, the temple becomes unstable.

Fear commands.

Anger judges.

Anxiety predicts.

Pleasure rules.

Despair silences hope.

The house begins responding to every passing wave.

Scripture describes such instability in many ways.

A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.

A city without walls is vulnerable to every attack.

Israel repeatedly moved according to fear rather than faith.

The result was confusion, murmuring, and wandering.

Yet when the Father governed His people, peace followed.

Not because circumstances were always easy.

But because His presence established order within the house.

The Messiah Himself demonstrates this pattern.

He wept.

He rejoiced.

He was moved with compassion.

He experienced sorrow.

He felt anguish in Gethsemane.

Yet in every circumstance, His emotions remained under the government of the Father's will.

His feelings testified.

They never ruled.

The Book of Mormon bears the same witness.

The mighty change of heart described by King Benjamin's people did not remove human emotion.

It redirected the inner government.

Their desires changed.

Their disposition changed.

Their joy became rooted in covenant rather than circumstance.

Their peace flowed from obedience rather than outward ease.

The Father therefore does not seek to remove emotion.

He seeks to sanctify it.

Love becomes covenant love.

Fear becomes reverence for God instead of bondage.

Anger becomes righteous indignation rather than uncontrolled wrath.

Sorrow produces repentance instead of despair.

Joy becomes rooted in truth instead of temporary pleasure.

Compassion moves the hands toward mercy.

The nervous system may sound the alarm.

The emotions may testify that something has occurred.

But the renewed mind examines the matter.

The heart seeks the Father's counsel.

The spirit remains in communion with God.

Then the whole temple responds in wisdom.

This is the order of the Kingdom.

Signal.

Discernment.

Submission.

Response.

Not impulse.

But government.

This is why the fruit of the Spirit stands in contrast to the works of the flesh.

The fruit reveals a life governed from within by the Spirit of the Most High.

It is evidence that the King remains upon the throne.

The waters still move.

Storms still arise.

Trials still come.

But a temple established upon the Rock is not governed by the storm.

It is governed by the One who dwells within it.

For the purpose of the living temple is not to become emotionless.

It is to become steadfast.

Not because the waters never rise...

But because the throne never moves.

Chapter 10

The Sixth Chamber — Attention and Awareness

"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." —

Proverbs 4:23

Every kingdom has gates.

Whatever enters those gates influences the city.

The living temple also has gates.

The eyes.

The ears.

The tongue.

The thoughts.

The attention.

Attention is one of the greatest stewardships the Father has given man.

Where attention remains...

Energy follows.

Where attention remains...

Meditation follows.

Where attention remains...

Habits begin to form.

The enemy has always understood this principle.

In the garden, the first temptation began by redirecting attention.

The question was placed before Eve.

Her attention lingered.

Her focus shifted.

Her judgment became clouded.

Then her hand followed where her attention had already gone.

The outward act was the final step.

The inward shift happened first.

Throughout Scripture, the Father repeatedly calls His people to watch.

Watch and pray.

Take heed.

Remember.

Be sober.

Be vigilant.

These commands are not merely about staying awake.

They are about guarding awareness.

A watchman who sleeps cannot warn the city.

Likewise, a disciple who lives without attention cannot discern what is entering the temple.

The eyes continually receive images.

The ears continually receive words.

The mind continually receives ideas.

The heart continually weighs them.

Some things nourish life.

Some things weaken it.

Some things deserve immediate rejection.

This is why discernment is essential.

Not everything that enters the gates belongs within the house.

The Book of Mormon echoes this principle by repeatedly calling the people to remember the Lord, His covenants, and His mercy.

Remembrance directs attention back to truth.

Forgetfulness allows attention to drift.

The Father's design is not merely to remove distraction.

It is to establish holy focus.

Messiah demonstrated this throughout His ministry.
Crowds pressed upon Him.
Voices surrounded Him.
Needs were everywhere.
Yet He continually withdrew to pray.
He remained attentive to the Father's will above the noise around Him.
His attention governed His actions.
Not the demands of the crowd.
The living temple must learn the same order.
Attention is a gatekeeper.
Awareness is a watchman.
Discernment is a judge.
Together they protect the house.
When attention is undisciplined, the mind becomes scattered.
When the mind is scattered, the heart is easily pulled in many directions.
When the heart is divided, the temple loses its order.
But when attention is trained by the Word...
The mind becomes steady.
The heart becomes focused.
The emotions become less easily carried away.
The body follows a clear path.
The house grows quiet enough to hear the voice of the Shepherd.
The Father does not merely ask His people to work.
He first teaches them to watch.
For a temple that cannot guard its gates will continually struggle to
preserve what has been entrusted to it.

The next chamber will examine how repeated attention becomes repeated action, and how repeated action forms the rhythms and habits that shape a life of covenant faithfulness.

Chapter 11

The Seventh Chamber — Habits and the Rhythms of the Kingdom

"And Enoch walked with God..." — Genesis 5:24

The Kingdom is not built in a moment.

It is built in a walk.

The Scriptures rarely describe the covenant life as a single event.

They describe it as a continual way.

Walk before me.

Walk in my statutes.

Walk in wisdom.

Walk in the light.

Walk after the Spirit.

The language of Scripture is the language of rhythm.

A rhythm is what is repeated.

It is the pattern that becomes the pathway.

One act does not establish a life.

One prayer does not establish communion.

One act of kindness does not establish mercy.

One day of obedience does not establish faithfulness.

A temple is strengthened by what is continually practiced.

The Father established this principle in creation.

Morning and evening.

Seedtime and harvest.

Summer and winter.

Sabbaths.

New Moons.

Feasts.

Years of release.

Jubilees.

Creation itself moves in appointed rhythms.

The covenant people were never meant to live randomly.

They were taught to remember through rhythm.

Every Sabbath reminded them.

Every feast instructed them.

Every offering pointed them back to the covenant.

The rhythm was forming the people.

The Book of Mormon bears the same witness.

Again and again the people prospered when they continued in remembrance.

Again and again they declined when they forgot.

The difference was often not a single decision.

It was the accumulation of repeated decisions.

Small departures became great apostasies.

Small acts of faithfulness became enduring righteousness.

The nervous system reflects this wisdom.

What is practiced repeatedly becomes increasingly familiar.

The hands learn.

The mind learns.

The body learns.

The response becomes more readily available because it has been walked before.

The Father's commandments are not given merely to test His people.

They train His people.

Every act of forgiveness strengthens mercy.

Every act of repentance strengthens humility.
Every act of truthful speech strengthens integrity.
Every act of prayer deepens communion.
Every act of service strengthens love.
Every Sabbath teaches rest in His order.
Every New Moon teaches remembrance of His appointed times.
Every feast rehearses His covenant.
The living temple is therefore shaped by holy rhythms.
Not empty routines.
But repeated acts of covenant faithfulness.
This is why Messiah said:
"If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed." — John 8:31
He did not say, "If you hear."
He said, "If you continue."
Continuation is the evidence of formation.
A single stone does not build a temple.
Stone upon stone...
Course upon course...
Day after day...
The house rises.
Likewise, the Father builds His people through daily faithfulness.
The Kingdom is not sustained by occasional inspiration.
It is sustained by covenant rhythm.
Prayer.
Study.
Repentance.
Worship.

Service.

Rest.

Remembrance.

Obedience.

These become the architecture of a life established upon the Rock.

When these rhythms are embraced, the temple no longer struggles to remember its purpose.

Its very way of life bears witness to the One who dwells within.

For the Third Temple is not merely inhabited by the presence of the Most High.

It is shaped, strengthened, and sustained by walking with Him day after day, season after season, generation after generation.

The next chamber reveals the visible evidence that these rhythms have taken root—the fruit, the armor, the mantles, and the mission of a living temple established under the government of the Kingdom.

Chapter 12

The Living Temple Revealed

"Ye shall know them by their fruits." — Matthew 7:20

A temple is not known because it exists.

A temple is known because of what fills it.

If the presence of the Most High dwells within the living temple, there will be evidence.

The Father has never asked His people to prove their faith by words alone.

He has always pointed to fruit.

Fruit is the visible testimony of an invisible government.

Roots remain hidden.

The trunk is often overlooked.

Yet when the season arrives, the fruit reveals the nature of the tree.

The same is true of the living temple.

The spirit communes with the Father.

The heart submits to His covenant.

The mind is renewed by His truth.

The nervous system learns new patterns of faithful response.

The emotions come under righteous government.

Attention is guarded.

Holy rhythms are established.

Then the evidence appears.

Love.

Joy.

Peace.

Long-suffering.

Gentleness.

Goodness.

Faith.

Meekness.

Temperance.

These are not decorations placed upon the temple.

They are the harvest of the Father's work within it.

Fruit cannot be manufactured.

It must be cultivated.

It grows through abiding.

Messiah declared:

"I am the vine, ye are the branches... for without me ye can do nothing." —

John 15:5

Branches do not strain to produce fruit.

They remain connected to the vine.

The life flowing through them produces the harvest.

The Book of Mormon bears the same witness.

King Benjamin's people did not merely promise to do better.

The Spirit wrought a mighty change in them.

The inward transformation became an outward witness.

Fruit is therefore the first public testimony that the living temple has come into order.

Yet fruit is not the end of the Father's purpose.

Fruit prepares the servant for responsibility.

The Father entrusts work to those whose character has been formed.

Throughout Scripture, He calls shepherds.

Scribes.

Prophets.

Teachers.

Judges.

Priests.

Kings.

Watchmen.

Servants.

Healers.

Builders.

Messengers.

Each assignment serves the same Kingdom.

The function differs.

The King does not.

The work differs.

The Spirit does not.

The responsibility differs.

The covenant does not.

This is why the Father's government never begins with office.

It begins with formation.

Character before commission.

Fruit before function.

Government before authority.

A mantle without fruit becomes a burden to the people.

Authority without humility becomes oppression.

Knowledge without love becomes pride.

Power without self-control becomes destruction.

For this reason, the Father first builds the temple.

Then He entrusts the work.

The armor of God likewise belongs to the living temple.
Truth protects.
Righteousness guards.
Peace steadies.
Faith extinguishes fear.
Salvation preserves hope.
The Word of God advances the Kingdom.
The armor is not merely worn.
It is lived.
It becomes the daily expression of a people prepared for faithful service.
Then comes the mission.
The living temple does not remain hidden.
It teaches.
It heals.
It feeds.
It preserves truth.
It protects the vulnerable.
It proclaims repentance.
It serves the poor.
It strengthens families.
It restores the broken.
It bears witness of the Messiah.
The purpose of the Third Temple is not merely that God would dwell in man.
It is that God, dwelling in man, would bless the world through obedient covenant people.
The temple becomes more than a place.

It becomes a people.

More than a structure.

A Kingdom in motion.

More than walls.

A living witness.

For when the Father finishes building His house, the world does not merely see a temple.

The world encounters His presence through the lives of those in whom He dwells.

And this has been His purpose from the beginning.

Chapter 13

Living Stones, One House

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house..." — 1 Peter 2:5

The Father never intended to build only one stone.

A single stone is not a temple.

A single beam is not a house.

A single branch is not a vineyard.

A single member is not a body.

The Kingdom has always been built by joining what the Father has prepared.

Every living stone has been shaped by the Master Builder.

Some stones bear greater weight.

Some strengthen the foundation.

Some support the entrance.

Some stand unseen beneath the surface.

Yet every stone has its appointed place.

No stone determines its own position.

The Builder determines the placement.

So it is within the Kingdom.

The Father gives different gifts.

Different stewardships.

Different responsibilities.

Different measures.

Yet they are united under one covenant.

The prophets were stones.

The apostles were stones.

The judges were stones.

The priests were stones.
The kings were stones.
The scribes were stones.
The shepherds were stones.
The servants were stones.
The healers were stones.
The watchmen were stones.
Different functions.
One House.
The body teaches the same lesson.
The eye cannot become the hand.
The hand cannot become the foot.
The ear cannot become the eye.
Every member has been designed with purpose.
When each member serves according to the wisdom of the Creator, the
whole body grows in strength.
When one member refuses its purpose...
The whole body feels the loss.
Likewise, when one member serves faithfully...
The whole house is strengthened.
The Book of Mormon bears the same witness.
Again and again, the righteous gathered as one covenant people.
Not merely sharing land.
Sharing faith.
Sharing remembrance.
Sharing stewardship.
Sharing responsibility.

The living temple therefore grows by addition.
One stone after another.
One generation after another.
One witness after another.
The Father's work has never depended upon one person alone.
Moses prepared Joshua.
Elijah prepared Elisha.
Nephi preserved the record for Jacob.
Jacob preserved it for Enos.
Enos preserved it for Jarom.
Generation after generation, the living house continued to rise.
This is why records matter.
The house is not built only with people.
It is built through remembrance.
Every covenant remembered strengthens the next generation.
Every testimony preserved becomes another stone laid in place.
Every faithful witness helps establish those who come after.
The Builder wastes nothing.
No faithful labor is forgotten.
No righteous act is unseen.
No quiet service is without value.
The stones hidden in the foundation are just as necessary as those visible
in the walls.
The world often celebrates visibility.
The Kingdom honors faithfulness.
Some proclaim before nations.
Others quietly preserve truth for generations yet unborn.

Both belong to the same house.

The Third Temple is therefore more than the transformation of one life.

It is the gathering of many transformed lives into one covenant household.

One Spirit.

One faith.

One covenant.

One Builder.

One Kingdom.

The temple the Father is raising upon the earth is not measured by its height.

It is measured by the faithfulness of the living stones He has prepared.

And when the final stone is placed according to His wisdom, the house will stand complete—not because men finished it, but because the Master Builder fulfilled His purpose from the foundation of the world.

Chapter 14

The Government Within the Temple

"For unto us a child is born... and the government shall be upon his shoulder..." — Isaiah 9:6

Every kingdom has a government.

Every government has laws.

Every law reveals the character of its king.

The Kingdom of God is no different.

The Third Temple is not merely a dwelling place.

It is the seat of His government upon the earth.

When the Father dwelt in the tabernacle...

Israel was to be governed by His word.

When His glory filled the temple...

The nation was to walk according to His commandments.

When His Spirit dwells within the living temple...

His government is to rule from within.

This is why the New Covenant speaks repeatedly of the law being written upon the heart.

The Father is not removing His government.

He is relocating where it is administered.

No longer only upon tablets of stone.

Now within living people.

The throne of the Kingdom is established first in the heart.

From the heart...

The mind receives wisdom.

The spirit remains in communion.

The emotions learn peace.

The body walks in obedience.
The whole temple begins reflecting the government of heaven.
This is why Messiah declared:
"The kingdom of God is within you." — Luke 17:21
The Kingdom is not merely awaited.
It is lived.
Where the King's government is obeyed...
His Kingdom is present.
Not in its final fullness...
But in its present witness.
This government is unlike the kingdoms of men.
Earthly kingdoms often rule through fear.
The Kingdom of God governs through righteousness.
Earthly kingdoms often preserve power.
The Kingdom of God preserves truth.
Earthly kingdoms elevate themselves.
The Kingdom exalts the Father.
Earthly kingdoms conquer by force.
The Kingdom conquers by truth, mercy, justice, and faithfulness.
The Book of Mormon repeatedly shows this pattern.
When the people humbled themselves before God...
There was peace.
When pride ruled the heart...
Division followed.
The condition of the nation reflected the condition of the people.
The same remains true of the living temple.
Chaos within produces chaos without.

Order within produces faithful service without.
The Father's government therefore reaches every chamber.
The spirit communes with Him.
The heart yields to Him.
The mind is instructed by Him.
The nervous system learns new patterns through faithful practice.
The emotions come under His peace.
Attention watches for His voice.
Habits are formed by His commandments.
Fruit reveals His character.
The armor equips His servants.
The mantles carry out His work.
Nothing within the temple exists outside His rule.
This is why Scripture calls Messiah both High Priest and King.
He is not only the One who grants access to the Father.
He is also the One who governs the house.
A temple without a king becomes disorderly.
A kingdom without a temple lacks a dwelling.
In the New Covenant, the King dwells within His temple, and His temple willingly submits to its King.
This is the harmony toward which all Scripture points.
The Father's purpose has never been simply to save individuals.
It has been to establish a holy people who reflect His government upon the earth.
For when the King truly reigns within the living temple, His righteousness begins to flow outward into families, communities, nations, and generations.

The Kingdom is no longer merely proclaimed.
It becomes visible.

Chapter 15

The Master Builder

"Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it..." —

Psalm 127:1

Every great structure has a builder.

Every builder follows a design.

Every design has a purpose.

The Third Temple is no different.

The Father is not merely the Owner of the temple.

He is its Architect.

Its Builder.

Its Craftsman.

Its Inspector.

Its Finisher.

From Genesis to Revelation, the Scriptures reveal Him at work.

He formed Adam from the dust.

He instructed Noah to build the ark.

He gave Moses the pattern of the tabernacle.

He gave Solomon wisdom to build the temple.

He restored the house through Zerubbabel.

Yet each of these pointed beyond themselves.

They testified of a greater work.

The Father would one day build a temple that no human hands could construct.

A temple of living stones.

The Builder begins with a foundation.

No builder begins with the roof.

Likewise, the Father begins with repentance.
Repentance breaks the old foundation.
Pride is removed.
Self-rule is confronted.
The ground is prepared.
Then comes covenant.
The foundation is laid.
The vessel is dedicated.
The Builder claims what now belongs to Him.
Then comes cleansing.
Not merely outward washing.
But inward purification.
Old corruption is removed.
The house is prepared for His presence.
Then comes instruction.
The Builder teaches His people His ways.
He writes His law upon the heart.
He renews the mind.
He disciplines the hands.
He establishes holy rhythms.
Then comes testing.
Every house must endure wind.
Every foundation must bear weight.
Every stone must prove sound.
Trials do not always indicate abandonment.
Often they reveal what has truly been built.
A house resting upon the Rock remains standing.

A house built upon sand cannot endure.
The Builder never wastes a trial.
Every correction shapes the stone.
Every act of discipline removes what does not belong.
Every season of waiting strengthens trust.
Every act of obedience sets another stone in place.
This is why the Father works patiently.
He is not constructing a temporary shelter.
He is building an everlasting Kingdom.
The Book of Mormon bears this witness.
Again and again, the Lord called His people to repent.
Again and again, He entered into covenant with them.
Again and again, He refined them through adversity.
Again and again, He restored those who returned to Him.
The Builder remained faithful, even when the stones resisted His hands.
The Master Builder never forces the stone into place.
He calls.
He teaches.
He reproves.
He invites.
He shapes those who willingly submit to His workmanship.
This is the mystery of sanctification.
The stone does not shape itself.
The Builder does.
The vessel does not write its own blueprint.
The Architect already has one.
The temple does not determine its own purpose.

The King appoints its service.

This is why Paul declared:

"For we are labourers together with God... ye are God's building." — 1

Corinthians 3:9

Not our building.

His building.

Not our design.

His design.

Not our glory.

His glory.

When the Master Builder completes His work...

The spirit will be steadfast.

The heart will be faithful.

The mind will be renewed.

The emotions will be governed.

The body will become an instrument of righteousness.

The living stone will stand firmly within the house.

The Kingdom will be visible through the life that has been built according to His pattern.

For the greatest testimony of the Third Temple is not that men admire its beauty.

It is that the world recognizes the wisdom, holiness, and presence of the One who built it.

Chapter 16

The Glory That Fills the House

«"Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle."

— Exodus 40:34»

Every house is built for a purpose.

The tabernacle was not built merely to be admired.

The temple was not built merely to display craftsmanship.

The Father's house was built to be filled with His presence.

Without His glory...

The structure was only wood.

Only stone.

Only gold.

Only fabric.

His presence gave the house its purpose.

The same is true of the living temple.

The Father does not transform the spirit...

Renew the heart...

Restore the mind...

Order the emotions...

Train the nervous system...

Establish holy rhythms...

Simply so that man may become a better version of himself.

He prepares the house for His presence.

This has always been His purpose.

From Eden, the Father walked with man.

The garden was a place of communion.

Sin interrupted that fellowship.

The tabernacle testified that the Father desired to dwell among His people.

The temple testified of the same promise.

The Messiah came and tabernacled among men.

Then came the greater promise.

«"If a man love me... my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him."

— John 14:23»

The dwelling place moved from a building...

To a people.

This is the fulfillment toward which the Scriptures continually point.

The glory of the New Covenant is not that man has built a greater temple.

The glory is that the Father has prepared a people in whom He delights to dwell.

His presence changes everything.

Truth is no longer merely studied.

It becomes lived.

Peace is no longer merely desired.

It begins to govern.

Love is no longer merely commanded.

It becomes the character of the house.

Wisdom is no longer merely admired.

It directs every chamber.

The Father's presence brings His order.

His order brings His peace.

His peace strengthens the whole house.

When the presence of the Most High fills the living temple...

The spirit remains in communion.

The heart delights in righteousness.

The mind seeks truth.

The emotions become servants rather than rulers.

The body becomes an instrument of holy service.

The life begins to bear witness without striving for recognition.

Just as Moses' face reflected the glory of the Father after entering His presence, the covenant life begins to reflect the character of the One who dwells within.

The world may not understand the source.

But it will witness the fruit.

Mercy where there was once bitterness.

Peace where there was once fear.

Patience where there was once haste.

Faithfulness where there was once instability.

The house reveals its Builder.

The Book of Mormon bears the same witness.

Those who yielded themselves unto God experienced a mighty change within.

The change was not merely intellectual.

It became visible through the life they lived.

The Father's presence always produces a witness.

The glory of the Third Temple is therefore not measured by architecture.

It is measured by transformation.

Not by walls.

But by holiness.

Not by ceremonies alone.

But by communion.

Not by appearance.

But by the abiding presence of the Most High.

One day the Scriptures declare:

«"Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them..."
— Revelation 21:3»

What was promised in the wilderness...

What was foreshadowed in the temple...

What was begun through the New Covenant...

Will reach its complete fulfillment.

The Builder.

The House.

The Living Stones.

The Kingdom.

All united in the everlasting presence of the Most High.

This is the hope toward which every chamber of the living temple has been preparing from the beginning.

Chapter 17

The Testing of the Temple

«"Every man's work shall be made manifest... because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is."

— 1 Corinthians 3:13»

Every house must face the wind.

Every foundation must bear weight.

Every temple must endure testing.

The Father does not test the house because He does not know it.

He tests the house so that what has been built may be revealed.

Fire does not create gold.

It reveals it.

The storm does not create the foundation.

It exposes it.

The trial does not produce the Builder's design.

It uncovers whether the design has truly been established.

This pattern is seen throughout both records.

Adam was tested in the garden.

Abraham was tested upon the mountain.

Joseph was tested in slavery and in prison.

Moses was tested in the wilderness.

Israel was tested in the desert.

Nephi was tested before he obtained the plates.

Alma was tested after his conversion.

The brother of Jared was tested before seeing the finger of the Lord.

The Messiah was led into the wilderness and was tested before beginning His ministry.

The pattern never changes.

Preparation.

Construction.

Testing.

Commission.

The living temple is no exception.

The spirit is tested.

Will it remain in communion with the Father?

The heart is tested.

Who truly sits upon its throne?

The mind is tested.

Will it remember truth or embrace deception?

The emotions are tested.

Will they govern, or will they submit to the Kingdom?

The habits are tested.

Will they endure when no one is watching?

The body is tested.

Will it present itself as a living sacrifice?

Testing reveals the hidden structure.

Many buildings appear strong on clear days.

Only the storm reveals what cannot be seen.

Likewise, many professions of faith appear strong in comfort.

But pressure reveals what has been built within.

The Book of Mormon repeatedly bears this witness.

The righteous were tried.

The prophets were opposed.

The faithful endured affliction.

Yet through those trials, the covenant people were refined rather than destroyed.

The Father's purpose is not to consume the temple.

It is to purify it.

The refiner does not throw away the gold because it enters the fire.

He watches over it until the impurities are removed.

So it is with the Master Builder.

He does not abandon His house in the day of trial.

He remains with it.

He strengthens it.

He corrects it.

He completes what He began.

This is why James wrote to count it joy when various trials come.

Not because suffering is pleasant.

But because testing produces endurance.

And endurance strengthens the house.

The living temple that has never been tested has never yet revealed its full strength.

The living temple that remains faithful through testing bears witness that its foundation is not built upon sand, but upon the Rock.

When the fire has finished its work...

The temple does not merely survive.

It stands.

Not because of the strength of the stone.

But because of the faithfulness of the Builder who established it.

Chapter 18

The Commission of the Living Temple

«"As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you."

— John 20:21»

The Father never builds a temple for itself.

He builds it for His purpose.

The tabernacle was built to bear witness among Israel.

The temple stood as a testimony before the nations.

The Messiah came as the true and faithful Witness.

The apostles were sent into the world.

The disciples in the Book of Mormon were likewise commissioned to teach, baptize, and bear record of the Messiah.

The pattern is one.

The Builder prepares the house.

The Builder fills the house.

The Builder proves the house.

Then the Builder sends the house.

The living temple is not called to remain hidden.

A lamp is not lit to be covered.

A city is not built to be concealed.

The presence of the Most High within His people is meant to become a witness to the world.

This witness is not first spoken with the mouth.

It is first seen in the life.

Mercy becomes visible.

Justice becomes visible.

Patience becomes visible.

Faithfulness becomes visible.

The government of the Kingdom becomes visible.

The temple walks.

The temple serves.

The temple teaches.

The temple feeds the hungry.

The temple comforts the brokenhearted.

The temple visits the afflicted.

The temple preserves truth.

The temple defends the vulnerable.

The temple proclaims repentance.

The temple calls all people to enter into covenant with the God of Israel.

Every living stone becomes a witness.

Not all speak before multitudes.

Not all write books.

Not all stand before kings.

Yet every stone has been placed for a purpose.

The hand bears witness through service.

The teacher bears witness through instruction.

The shepherd bears witness through care.

The scribe bears witness through preservation.

The watchman bears witness through warning.

The healer bears witness through compassion.

The judge bears witness through righteous judgment.

The servant bears witness through humility.

The Father appoints many stewardships.

He builds one Kingdom.

The Book of Mormon repeatedly declares that those who entered into covenant were willing to stand as witnesses of God at all times, in all things, and in all places.

A witness is not merely someone who speaks.

A witness is someone whose life confirms the truth.

The greatest testimony of the living temple is not that people admire its knowledge.

It is that they encounter the character of the King.

For the world has seen many buildings.

It has seen many ceremonies.

It has heard many speeches.

But when it encounters a people in whom the Spirit of the Most High dwells...

A people whose hearts have been transformed...

Whose minds have been renewed...

Whose emotions are governed by peace...

Whose lives are marked by righteousness...

Then the world beholds the purpose for which the Third Temple was built.

The commission of the living temple is not to draw attention to itself.

It is to reveal the glory of the One who dwells within.

The temple exists so that the King may be known.

The stone points to the Builder.

The servant points to the Master.

The witness points to the Messiah.

And every faithful act declares the same message:

The Most High still dwells among His people.

Chapter 19

The Temple Eternal

«"Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people..."

— Revelation 21:3»

The first pages of Scripture open with a garden.

The final pages open with a city.

Between the garden and the city stands the testimony of the temple.

The garden was a place where the Father walked with man.

The tabernacle testified that He desired to dwell among His covenant people.

The temple in Jerusalem proclaimed the same hope.

The prophets looked forward to its fulfillment.

The Messiah revealed the way.

The apostles declared the mystery.

The Book of Mormon confirmed the witness.

The Father has never abandoned His purpose.

From the beginning...

He has desired a people.

Not merely a place.

Not merely a nation.

Not merely a building.

A people.

A people who know His voice.

A people who walk in His ways.

A people whose hearts delight in His covenant.

A people in whom His Spirit dwells.

The Third Temple is not the invention of men.

It is the fulfillment of a pattern the Father revealed throughout both records.

The stone temple pointed forward.

The living temple fulfills the witness.

The sacrifices pointed forward.

The perfect sacrifice fulfilled them.

The priesthood pointed forward.

The Great High Priest fulfilled it.

The holy place pointed forward.

The Father now writes His law within.

The veil pointed forward.

Through the Messiah, access has been opened.

The glory pointed forward.

The Spirit now dwells within His covenant people.

Yet the work is not finished.

Living stones are still being gathered.

The Master Builder is still shaping His house.

The invitation still goes forth.

Repent.

Enter the covenant.

Receive the Spirit.

Walk in righteousness.

Become part of the house the Father is building.

One day the labor of the Builder will reach its completion.

The final living stone will be placed according to His wisdom.

Nothing will be out of order.

Nothing will be unfinished.

Nothing will be lacking.

The Kingdom will stand complete.

Then the promise spoken through the prophets will be seen in its fullness.

The dwelling of God will be with His people.

No separation.

No corruption.

No death.

No curse.

No divided heart.

No wandering mind.

No fear.

No sorrow.

No rebellion.

The house will be complete because every chamber will be filled with the presence of the Most High.

The Spirit.

The heart.

The mind.

The body.

The people.

The Kingdom.

All brought into perfect covenant order.

The story that began with dust reaches its fulfillment in glory.

The story that began with a garden reaches its fulfillment in the Holy City.

The story that began with one man ends with a redeemed people.

The story that began with the Father's breath ends with the Father's everlasting presence.

This is the hope set before every living stone.

Not merely to enter a temple.

But to become the dwelling place of the Most High.

Not merely to admire the Kingdom.

But to live under its government.

Not merely to await His presence.

But to be prepared for it.

For the Master Builder is faithful.

What He began in the beginning...

He will complete in the end.

To Him be the glory, the wisdom, the dominion, and the Kingdom forever
and ever.

Amen.

Epilogue

The Invitation of the Builder

«"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock..."
— Revelation 3:20»

Every builder begins with a vision.

The Master Builder begins with a calling.

From the beginning He has called men and women into covenant with Him.

He called Noah.

He called Abraham.

He called Moses.

He called Israel.

He called His disciples.

He continues to call today.

This record has not been written merely to explain the temple.

It has been written to point to the Builder.

Knowledge alone cannot build the house.

Understanding alone cannot raise the walls.

Information alone cannot transform the heart.

The Master Builder alone can accomplish His work.

The question is no longer whether the Father desires a dwelling place.

The Scriptures have answered that.

The question is whether the house will yield itself to His hands.

Will the spirit seek Him?

Will the heart surrender its throne?

Will the mind be renewed by His Word?

Will the emotions submit to His peace?

Will the body become a living sacrifice?

Will the life bear witness to His Kingdom?

These questions cannot be answered by another person.

Every living stone must answer them before the Most High.

The Father does not force His presence upon any house.

He calls.

He invites.

He reproves.

He teaches.

He restores.

He waits for those who will enter into covenant with Him.

Both records bear the same invitation.

Turn unto Him.

Hear His voice.

Receive His covenant.

Walk in His commandments.

Endure faithfully.

Become His people.

The Third Temple is not entered by admiration.

It is entered through repentance.

It is established through covenant.

It is strengthened through obedience.

It is filled by the Spirit of the Most High.

The Builder is still gathering living stones.

The house is still rising.

The invitation has not ended.

If you have read these pages, then you have also heard the invitation.

Do not leave this record with understanding alone.

Leave it with a decision.

For one day the Master Builder will complete His house.

On that day every stone will stand in the place He prepared for it.

May you be found among those living stones, established upon the Chief Cornerstone, filled with His Spirit, walking in His covenant, and bearing witness to His Kingdom until the day when the tabernacle of God is forever with men.

May the grace of the Messiah, the love of the Father, and the fellowship of His Holy Spirit remain with all who seek Him in truth and in covenant.

Amen.

Final Proclamation

The House That Cannot Be Destroyed

«"Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it..."
— Psalm 127:1»

Empires rise.

Empires fall.

Cities are built.

Cities become ruins.

Temples of stone are erected.

Temples of stone are cast down.

The flood could not stop the purpose of the Most High.

Egypt could not stop it.

Babylon could not stop it.

Rome could not stop it.

The scattering of Israel could not stop it.

The destruction of earthly temples could not stop it.

For the Father had already declared a greater work.

A temple not made with hands.

A temple no army can burn.

A temple no king can overthrow.

A temple no nation can imprison.

A temple built within His covenant people.

The world measures success by monuments.

The Father measures success by faithfulness.

The world counts wealth.

The Father counts living stones.

The world seeks power over men.

The Father seeks hearts surrendered to His government.

This is the house that endures.

Every act of repentance lays another stone.

Every covenant kept strengthens another wall.

Every truth preserved becomes another beam.

Every act of mercy becomes another testimony.

Every faithful witness declares that the Builder is still at work.

Do not seek merely to understand the temple.

Become the temple.

Do not seek merely to admire the Kingdom.

Walk under its government.

Do not seek merely to gather knowledge.

Live the covenant.

The Builder is calling.

The Cornerstone has been laid.

The invitation remains open.

Let every heart be examined.

Let every mind be renewed.

Let every spirit seek communion with the Most High.

Let every life become a witness.

For the Third Temple is not waiting to be discovered beneath the earth.

It is being raised by the hands of the Master Builder through those who enter His covenant and remain faithful to Him.

May every reader become a living stone.

May every living stone strengthen the house.

May every house proclaim the King.

And may the glory belong forever to the Holy One of Israel, whose purpose has never changed:

To dwell with His people.

To walk among His people.

To reign within His people.

Forever.

Amen.

