

## HOLY SPIRIT: HIS TEMPLE

“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” (I Corinthians 6:19). It is a doctrinal error to teach that the Holy Spirit is given only to those who are faithful to God. I Corinthians was written to a church whom Paul declared were carnal (3:1-4). Some of them were guilty of fornication (5:1). Furthermore, their relationships with God and with each other were compromised. Yet their bodies were temples of the Holy Spirit. It is expected that believers whose bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit should live holy lives. Holy means set apart or different. Our bodies are to be set aside for the Spirit and our lives are to manifest His holiness. This is the primary difference between law and grace. Old Testament saints approached God in the temple (or tabernacle) by constant confession and the bringing of sacrifices. Under grace we are the Temple of God, due to the eternal sacrifice of His Son and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Any passages that seem to contradict the teaching of the permanent indwelling of the Spirit are taken out of their dispensational contexts. The Holy Spirit is a permanent presence in all believers. He is the “earnest” (initial payment) given in advance of the redemption of our bodies at the resurrection or the rapture (II Corinthians 1:22; 5:5; Ephesians 1:14).