

4—My Resting Place

1/27/24

INTRO:

I. → Acts 7:44-52

*“Our forefathers had the tabernacle of the Testimony **with them** in the desert. It had been made as God directed Moses, according to the pattern he had seen. Having received the **tabernacle**, our fathers under Joshua brought it with them when they took the land from the nations God drove out before them.”*

→ 45 *“It remained in the land until the time of David, who enjoyed God’s favor and asked that he might provide a **dwelling place** for the God of Jacob. But it was Solomon who built the house for him. However, the Most High does not live in houses made by men.*

→ 48 *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 **resting place** be?*

Has not my hand made all these things?’

(Isaiah 66:1-2)

→ 51 *“You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit!”*

II. ALADDIN—ITTY BITTY LIVING SPACE

BODY:

I. Resting in Our Camp

A. It was not God’s original plan to live in a building or a box.

1) 1 Chronicles 17:5-6

*“I have moved from one tent site to another, from one **dwelling place** to another. Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their leaders whom I*

commanded to shepherd my people, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?'"

- 2) THE TEMPLES OF THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST
- 3) BRINGING THE ARK OF GOD INTO THE CAMP

B. The Lord wants his presence to be with us always.

- 1) **Psalms 132:13-15**

*For the Lord has chosen Zion,
he has desired it for his dwelling, saying,
"This is my resting place for ever and ever;
here I will sit enthroned, for I have desired it.
I will bless her with abundant provisions;
her poor I will satisfy with food."*

- 2) BRINGING THE HOLY SPIRIT HOME FROM CAMP

II. Resting in Our Midst

A. People are always trying to put God back in the box.

- 1) **1 Corinthians 3:16**

*Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your **midst**?*

- 2) FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD TEMPLE

- 3) Corinth had temples to Aphrodite atop the Acrocorinth (1,000 temple prostitutes), Poseidon (ruler of the sea), Apollo, Hermes, Venus-Fortuna, Isis, and the Pantheon (All the Gods). But no temple to the God of Israel.

B. It is our fellowship that the Lord blesses with his presence.

- 1) **Ephesians 2:21-22**

*In whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a **dwelling place** of God in the Spirit.
(NKJV)*

- 2) DO WE REALLY NEED TO GATHER IN PERSON

III. Resting in Our Hearts

A. Jesus opened the way for His Spirit to rest in our hearts.

1) **Hebrews 10:22-23**

Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

2) **TEARING THE CURTAIN FROM TOP TO BOTTOM**

B. With Jesus in our hearts, our hearts can be at rest in Him.

1) **1 John 3:19-21**

This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

2) **BEING MARRIED TO MOLLY 30 YEARS**

OTHER SCRIPTURES:

Matthew 18:19-20

“Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.” (NKJV)

Matthew 21:12-13

12 Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. 13 “It is written,” he said to them, “My house will be called a house of prayer,’ but you are making it ‘a den of robbers.’”

Mark 13:1-2

As Jesus was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!” “Do you see all these great buildings?” replied Jesus. “Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.”

Revelation 21:22

I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

Revelation 3:19

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.