



CHALFONT
ST. PETER
PARISH CHURCHES

KEY VERSE:

*Don't you know that you are God's temple
and that God's Spirit lives in you?
If anyone destroys God's temple, God will
destroy that person, because God's temple
is holy and you are that temple.*

1 Corinthians 3: 1-17



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FOUNDATION CAFÉ SERVICE

22nd November, 2015

Wise Leaders 6: Solomon builds the Temple



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KNOW WHAT:

- Today we complete our series 'Wise Leaders'.
- Today we continue to find out about Solomon.
- So far we have found out about Solomon's prayer for wisdom and how God promised him wealth and a long life as well. Last week we saw how God enabled him to sort a very tricky situation between two mothers.
- This week we learn how Solomon was allowed to build the Temple, something God had not allowed Solomon's father, David, to do.
- Solomon knew that God could not be contained in a building, but it was a place to meet with God.
- The Temple was grand and very beautiful. It had the best of every material, built by the most skilled craftsmen.
- It was a very special time when the Temple was dedicated to God.

SO WHAT:

- Sometimes it helps us to find a place where we can meet with God.
- When Jesus died on the cross the curtain in the Temple that separated God from us was torn in two.
- The Temple was finally destroyed in AD70. Only the wailing wall in Jerusalem is left.
- The New Testament teaches that we (our bodies) are Temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3: 16-17)
- Like the Temple we need to dedicate our lives to God.

NOW WHAT:

- Let's remember this week that God's Spirit lives in us, as temples of the Holy Spirit.
- Let's look after our bodies that we might be dedicated to God.

BEN'S BLOG

For many, the idea of what goes into your body is a fine balance between knowing something is good / bad for you, and actually being wise enough to act on this knowledge. As Advent fast approaches, no doubt the indulgence of the festivities will have a detrimental effect on our waist-lines, eye-bags, livers and bank balances. But deep down we all know January will arrive soon, and a concerted effort to get 'back on track' will see us re-joining the gym, going for a run, cutting down on 'goodies' and generally detoxing.

What amazes me is, that my body (and yours) is a Temple for the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God chooses to dwell in His people. Therefore we must be careful about not just what we do or don't eat, but where we go, what we watch, what we fill our hearts and minds with.

There have been times in my life when I have felt an uncomfortable feeling, as if God was somehow prompting me not to go somewhere. Once, I went anyway, only to find a place where occult 'worship' had been conducted. It was as if God was saying 'Don't go there, because I don't want to be there amongst that rubbish'. Likewise, I think you could blindfold me, subdue all of my senses and put me in a darkened room and I would be able to tell you if I were in a Christian Church.

This week, as we meander through life, let's be intentional about what goes into the Temple of the Holy Spirit (our body) – materially, visually and emotionally. Let's be open to God leading us. Let us be expectant to feel His 'nudge'.