

DWELLING IN THE HOUSE OF GOD

(Psalm 84:4)

An Article by
Pastor Kemi Illori
Living Hope Church
LEEDS

pastorkemi@livinghopechurch.co.uk

To “dwell” means to stay, reside, settle, inhabit, have a home, put down roots, establish yourself, colonise.

- ***God's house is a house built by God, provided for by God, protected by God and ruled by God.***

1Peter 2:1-5 Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious. Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Lk 6:48 "He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock.

1Cor 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building.

Jn 15:4, 6-7, 9 - "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me... "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you... "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love."

God desires to dwell with His people

Ex 25:8 "And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. 2Cor
6:16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people." Jn 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

God's people also desire to dwell with Him

Ps 23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever. Ps 27:4 One thing I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple. Ps 84:4 Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; they will still be praising You. Selah

Dwelling with God speaks of an eternal union or marriage

Rv 7:15 "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. Rv 19:7, 9 "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."... Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!' " And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God." Rv 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.

Characteristics of Dwelling with God

Doing something – You are a worker, a diligent worker. You can be trusted with responsibilities.

Jn 5:17 But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."

Jn 10:25, 32, 37 Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me... Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?"... "If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me..."

Wearing love – Your life is marked with love, an outpouring, self-denying-other-enriching kind of love.

Jn 13:34-35 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

Jn 15:12, 17 "This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you... "These things I command you, that you love one another.

Col 3:12-14 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

Enjoying a life of partnership with God – Your life is not marked with hadgy-badgy between you and God.

Acts 13:22 "And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.'

Psalms 32:8-9 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye. Do not be like the horse or like the mule, which have no understanding, which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, else they will not come near you.

Liking the loose ends – God does not need to tell you everything He's going to do, the time and how He's going to answer your prayers. There will be occasions when He seems not near or not hearing, but He is with you!

Jer 15:18 Why is my pain perpetual and my wound incurable, which refuses to be healed? Will You surely be to me like an unreliable stream, as waters that fail?

Jer 20:14 Cursed be the day in which I was born! Let the day not be blessed in which my mother bore me! Let the man be cursed who brought news to my father, saying, "A male child has been born to you!" Making him very glad.

Ps 10:1 Why do You stand afar off, O LORD? Why do You hide in times of trouble? Ps 13:1 How long, O LORD? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me?

Living right – You can't say you are dwelling with God and be living wrong! Let your life proclaim the gospel. You are a city set upon a hill! Choose your friends carefully. Bad company ruins good character!

Ps 15:1 LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? Ps

5:4 For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness, nor shall evil dwell with You.

Ps 34:16 The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

Ps 141:4 Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, to practice wicked works With men who work iniquity; and do not let me eat of their delicacies. Ps 101:7 He who works deceit shall not dwell within my house; He who tells lies shall not continue in my presence.