

“I saw no temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. And the city has no need of sun or moon, for the glory of God illuminates the city, and the Lamb is its light.”
Revelation 21:22-23 NLT

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Well, this is interesting 🤔. This is about a very long discussion that I am totally unqualified to write about, but I do have an opinion. The temple. God was happy with a temporary dwelling that moved around with Israel because he's a “mobile” God. He, of course, doesn't live in a tent, tabernacle, temple or a church. He visits where and when he wants to. He's never needed a “house” as any kind of permanent residence. David was the one who begged God to let him build God a house especially because David had built an extravagant palace for himself, like all other ego-driven kings did. God didn't allow David to build the “house of God” because of his bloody hands. Solomon oversaw the building of the temple (because he got Joab to do most of his killing). And after Solomon's temple was destroyed and a new one (Ezra) was built, there is no mention of God's glory returning even though the Jewish people believed that God still “inhabited” this smaller version. God warned Solomon of this, “But if you or your descendants abandon me and disobey the commands and decrees I have given you, and if you serve and worship other gods, then I will uproot Israel from this land that I have given them. I will reject this Temple that I have made holy to honor my name. I will make Israel an object of mockery and ridicule among the nations.” 1 Kings 9:6-7 NLT. And that's exactly what happened. The Apostle Paul picks up this theme in Acts 17:24, “Since he is Lord of heaven and earth, he doesn't live in man-made temples...” It's been controversial, but the fact remains, God inhabits his people, today that means the church - not the building.

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Dad,

I don't necessarily go to our church building or a church building to meet with you. I meet with you on my back patio, in my car driving, in the mountains in a rock or at the beach on a bench. I do, however, gather with the people of God, disciples of Jesus at a building, or in a home, or out in a parking lot. I am thrilled that John saw no temple and wrote, “God and the lamb (Jesus)” are that temple. I believe the argument over buildings will finally be settled in heaven, in perfection.

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rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root