

Will Men Never Learn To Be Humble?

by Bill Crews

Will Men Never Learn To Be Humble? concluded from page 352802

federally funded Harvard University ‘think tank’” came out under the description, “Regional Simulation and Control Model, “It was supposed to be “the salvation for city planners” in growing cities and areas. It was ridiculously labeled, “The God Machine,” but it proved to be as fallible as man himself. What arrogance! Will we never learn humility as nations, as rulers, as individuals?

“Destroy This Temple”?

by Wayne Goff

“Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up’” (**John 2:19**).

Jesus’ Body

The Jews thought Jesus was referring to Solomon’s Temple which had been built over a number of decades. But the apostle John explains that “*He was speaking of the temple of His body*” (**2:21**). Indeed, the Jews did destroy Jesus’ body in the horrible crucifixion, but He was resurrected from that deathly destruction on the third day, **Matthew 28:1-7**. This was the ultimate, final proof of His Deity, His God-sent ministry, and His establishment of a new, spiritual kingdom, the church!

Our Bodies

Did you know that our bodies are temples as well? The apostle Paul explained in **1 Corinthians 6:19** “*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?*” So for the Christian, who has been redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ from his sinful past, he was “*bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s*” (**6:20**).

So, dear brothers and sisters, do your bodies **reflect** the glory of Jesus Christ by your words, your deeds, and your dress? We are to use our bodies as “*instruments of righteousness to God*” (**Rom. 6:13**). Too many of us **reflect** the influence of the carnal world around us instead, as we do everything the world does in speech, actions, and dress. We get our “cues” from the worldly people around us, and in so doing dim the “*light of the world*” (**Matt. 5:16**) which should be in us.

We should, instead, do as the words of the song we sing: “Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.”

The Church

Did you know that the Lord’s church is also the “**temple**” today? Again Paul wrote in **1 Corinthians 3:16-17** “*Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.*”

Some mistakenly believe that Paul is here talking about the individual Christian’s body, but that is not so here. The **CONTEXT** of **1 Corinthians 3** clearly shows that Paul is warning about how we build upon the foundation of Jesus Christ, which is the church. Some in Corinth were promoting men over Jesus, and making converts out of spiritual weaklings. In verse 9, he plainly says “*We are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building.*” The “*you*” in this verse is **plural**, thus referring to the assembly of saints, not just one saint. So when he later warns about defiling the temple of God, he is warning about perverting the Lord’s church in any way — in the plan of salvation, the organization of the church, or in the conversion of those not yet penitent.

So whichever “**temple**” you and I are thinking about, let us do our best to keep the temple morally pure, clean, and holy!

352803