

*"Know ye not that ye are the Temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the Temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the Temple of God is Holy, which Temple ye are." 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 KJV*



The cleansing of the Temple was the only instance recorded in scripture where Jesus used physical force against any. I'm sure his physical presence cast a formidable shadow, because even though there were many more of the money-changers and merchants, none dared oppose Him! It at once demonstrates the strength of His presence, of His feelings concerning the Temple, and that the Temple belongs to God. We are told in scripture that a believer's body is the Temple of God. *"If any man defile the Temple of God, him shall God destroy."* We are not to clutter the Temple with any sinful pleasure or use. We are to keep it a *"place of prayer."* The purpose of the Temple was to worship God. We often clutter our hearts with earthly care and leave little room for its intended purpose. *"This Book of the Law (God's Word) shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein. Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. Prove (test) all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from ALL APPEARANCE of evil. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."* God is not pleased when we clutter His house with sinful paraphernalia. The money-changers thought to make the Temple a place of earthly gain and were severely chastised for their audacity. We may allow things in our Temple that seem to facilitate worship, but are really just audacious usurpations of Temple property. Christian music that is nothing more than a "feel-good" for the body or does nothing to prepare your heart for the Divine Presence of Jehovah God is out of place. Paul said, *"If it is not of faith, it is sin."* What about our leisure activities? If it doesn't lift your heart and soul heavenward, it is of little Temple value. It requires constant vigilance to keep our Temple corridors free of the merchandise of sin. *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"* It is better that we do the housekeeping than that God should do so. God said He would *"destroy"* those that defile His Temple. *"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of a living God."* Dear believer, you are not your own. You have been redeemed with a price most precious, The Blood of Jesus. You are eternally indebted to the Sovereign Lord of Creation who only loves you and offers you liberty and freedom forever. Time is but a vapor in a high wind and of no lasting value except for our righteous choices.

Our Temple is a place of prayer,  
Our Lord desires to meet us there,  
It is a place without a care,  
A place of Love beyond compare. -CGP

A believer's body is the dwelling place of God. It has been cleansed for that purpose. Soil not the white linens of righteousness with the filth of sin. Cleanse your hearts and hands before entering in unto your Lord.

*"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." 2 Corinthians 7:1 KJV*