

Ezekiel 42:20

by Chuck Smith

God desires to separate the holy from the profane, and we must build a wall of separation from the things of the world.

Scripture: Ezekiel 42:20, Matthew 5:14-16, Romans 12:2, 1 Corinthians 3:16, 2 Corinthians 6:17, Galatians 5:19-21, Hebrews 12:14, 1 Peter 2:9, 1 John 2:15-17, Revelation 11:1-2

Topics: "Holiness", "Separation"

Description

Chuck Smith discusses the significance of the wall of separation in Ezekiel 42:20, emphasizing God's desire to distinguish the holy from the profane. He highlights the challenges of rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem, particularly the obstacles posed by the Dome of the Rock Mosque, and suggests that new evidence may indicate the original site of Solomon's temple lies to the north. Smith draws parallels to the believer's life, urging Christians to build a wall of separation from worldly influences, as our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. He acknowledges the difficulty of this task, as it involves both clear moral boundaries and personal convictions.

Transcript

"THE WALL OF SEPARATION"

I. EZEKIEL IS HERE MEASURING THE WALL AROUND THE REBUILT TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM.

A. The temple is to be rebuilt.

1. Desire of most orthodox Jews.
2. Many want to re-institute the sacrifices.

B. It would appear from the prophesy of Daniel that permission will be granted by the leader of the European community.

1. Once temple built - he will come and stand in the holy place and declare himself to be God.

C. The major obstacle is the Dome of the Rock Mosque.

1. The large temple mount is still under Moslem control.

2. Two mosques: Dome of the Rock - El Aksa.

a. Dome of the Rock - second most holy place to Moslem faith.

b. Their tradition has it that Mohammed, after a night long journey from Medina on his horse ascended into heaven from the spot covered by the Dome of the Rock.

D. Most people have assumed that this was site of Solomon's temple - so that the Mosque must somehow be destroyed so that temple can be rebuilt.

1. To destroy the mosque would bring on a holy war, and the 700 million followers of the Moslem faith would come with guns and sticks.

E. New evidence is being revealed that would indicate that Solomon's temple was north of the Dome of the Rock Mosque.

1. Dr. Ashur Kaufman's research was printed in the Jerusalem Post - March 28, 1980 issue.

2. He sought to prove the site of Solomon's temple north from Dome of the Rock.

F. In Jerusalem today - north of the Dome of the Rock - is a large, flat, empty area of perhaps 10 acres of ground. Ample room to rebuild the temple.

1. In the Book of Revelation, John is given a reed and told to measure the temple and altar - but not to measure outer court.

2. Here Ezekiel refers to a wall to separate the sanctuary from the profane place.

3. The ideal, simple solution to a complex problem.

II. GOD'S DESIRE TO SEPARATE THE HOLY FROM THE PROFANE.

A. Your body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit.

1. We need to build a wall of separation from the things of the world.

a. "Come ye apart from them and be ye separate."

b. "Love not the world, neither the things..."

c. I Cor. 3:16 - "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy."

B. This is not always an easy task.

1. Some things are very obvious.

a. Lists of works of flesh - Galatians 5.

2. Other things matter of personal conviction.

a. Some feel that eating meat is a sin.

b. Some feel that to wear gold is sinful.

3. Some people try to draw the line between the right and wrong. God wants you to build a wall.

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