

You might be interested into understanding the nine Temples outlined in the **Word of God**, the **Bible**, and how they influence us even in our lifetimes and into the future. I have read the **Bible** many times and have learned about the **Temples of God** but have never outlined each into a way of understanding in the period of history past and even into the future. First in discussing this subject with my daughter and listening the next morning to a teaching on Christian radio on the same subject, I considered a confirmation that I should outline this subject.

The First Temple the **Garden of Edon** was the touchpoint for **God** with humanity and creation as He administered and met with His creations of man and woman as well as animals, fish, reptiles, and birds plus the tree of life/knowledge of good and evil. This can be a literal replication of a temple but consider when **Adam and Eve** sinned, they were not forgiven by **God** but expelled from the Garden. In all other temples there was a condition for forgiveness or unforgiveness of sins. And as the **Ark of the Covenant** was attended by Angelic beings called cherubim's so was the east entrance of the **Garden of Eden**. Also, the **Spring of Living Water**, a symbol of the **Holy Spirit**, flowed out of the **Garden of Eden** and divided into four major rivers that provided life and nourishment for the "**beginning**" of life much as Christians are born-again by the same **Holy Spirit**.

The Second Temple for **God** as a structure was the portable **Tabernacle** constructed by Moses which was a **tent of meeting** to house the **Ark of the Covenant** which contained the stones of the Ten Commandments. This was the center for worship as the Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years after the Exodus from 400 years of captivity in Egypt. The **Tabernacle's** origination and journey began at Sinai after the crossing by 600,000 adult men plus women and children by parting of the Red Sea in about 1250 BC, then it stood for 35 years at Kadesh-barnea in the wilderness. The **Tabernacle** was constructed of tapestry curtains decorated with cherubim, as a higher order of Angels. After Joshua and the Israelites crossed the Jordan River into the **Promised Land**, the tabernacle stood at Gilgal for seven years. It was later set up in Nob, Gibeon, and Shiloh through the time of the Judges with archeologists having uncovered evidence of its existence at Shiloh. In 1050 BC the Philistines destroyed the **Tabernacle** and they briefly for seven months captured the **Ark of the Covenant** with Gods condemning them with tumors and death. They returned it to the Israelites at Kiriath-jearim where it remained for twenty years. It was often used by King Saul in advance of his military conquests.

The Third Temple for **God** as a structure was actually a portable **Tabernacle** constructed by **King David** when he retrieved the **Ark of the Covenant** from Kiriath-jearim to Zion by the Levites where he placed it into a tent that he had prepared for it, offered sacrifices, distributed food, and blessed the people and his own household and used the tent as a personal place of prayer. David an accomplished musician himself instigated singing and music for the Lord continually for celebration in the temple.

The Fourth Temple is actually called the **First Temple** in the Bible since it was constructed of stone and mortar. This temple construction was conceived by **King David** in his reign of 1010 to 970 BC over the Israelites with him mentioned more than any other human in the Bible with Jesus as the first most mentioned. The **Ark of the Covenant** served with an alter to God on **Mount Moriah** until Solomons temple was completed. David was the third king of Israel after Saul being the first. Ish-bosheth, Sauls son, as the second in a divided kingdom shared with Judah as David their king, was short-lived being murdered to leave David the king over the combined kingdom. David was described as a man after Gods heart but was not allowed by God to complete the temple. He was not allowed to construct the temple as he committed adultery with Bathsheba and plotted to the killing of Uriah, Bathsheba's

husband. David married Bathsheba with their first son in adultery dying at birth but followed by the birth of his and Bathsheba's son **Solomon**.

Solomon who ruled as king for 40 years after David until 930 BC was considered the wisest man who ever lived but also for being the most foolish. **Solomon** was followed in reign by his son, **King Rehoboam** when the Kingdom was split into Judah with Jerusalem in the south and Israel in the north. With David's and Solomon's wealth the **Temple of Solomon** was constructed and maintained until 586 BC. In the ensuing period King Hezekiah of Judah and the Southern Kingdom withstood a siege by the king of Assyria in 701 BC on Jerusalem but was captured in 586 BC by the Babylonians at the order of **King Nebuchadnezzar** that razed the temple and torched the city. The people were taken into exile and a small number returned 50 years later. In this same period the Northern Kingdom was conquered and laid waste by the Assyrians in 722 BC with those people to never return, forever known as the lost tribes of Israel.

The Fifth Temple, actually called the **Second Temple** by the Bible, was constructed with modest standards, by a small number Israelites allowed by an edict issued by Cyrus King of Persia to return to their homeland. **Cyrus the Great** conquered Babylon and liberated the Jewish people from captivity. Construction began in 538 BC by appointed **Governor Zerubbabel** who completed the foundation, but the construction was stalled for 17 more years to finally be completed in 515 BC. The temple did not include the **Ark of the Covenant** lost by the Israelites years before and to this day is believed to be in Ethiopia. A legend indicates that the Ark was brought to Ethiopia in the tenth century BC after being stolen by the staff of **Menelik**, son of **Queen of Sheba** and **King Solomon** who deemed the theft was permitted by God where it is guarded in Aksum at the **Church of St Mary of Zion**. The **Second Temple** existed until destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD, including all of the structures completed by **Herod the Great**, Roman King of Judah from 37 BC to 4 BC during the Roman occupation. This construction began in 20 BC and lasted 46 years. The Romans in a four-year siege of Jerusalem put down the **First Jewish Revolt** and destroyed much of the city with the **Western Wall** the only remains of this **Second Temple**.

The Sixth Temple is the Church with each Christian person whose body is a **Temple of The Holy Spirit**. First Cor 6:19-20 indicates *"Or do you know that your body is a **Temple of the Holy Spirit** who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore, glorify God in your body"*. Jesus said destroy this temple and I will raise it again in 3 days (John 2:19) in which He was referring to His body and not an actual building. Our bodies are temples because of the promise of scripture 1 John 4:4 *"Greater is He who is in me than he who is in the world"*.

We no longer, since Jesus came and died on the cross for our sins, have to atone for our sins by sacrificing bulls and goats on an altar as was done in the first five temples. We have access to God at all times since He is present in our body, and thus do not have to access a brick-and-mortar structure and have a priest to absolve us of sin. God hears our prayers directly and says in Mat 21:22 *"And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive"*. Whether the first five temples or this the sixth temple He will answer as yes, no, or wait as He knows our needs and knows best how to answer. Treat your body like a temple, not a woodshed. The mind, body, and spirit work together. Your body needs to be a good support system for the mind and the spirit. If you take good care of it, your body can take you wherever you want to go, with the power and the strength and energy and vitality you will need to get there. Our body as a **Temple of the Holy Spirit** where we have gone through three levels of God's care: creation, redemption, and the indwelling of the **Holy Spirit**.

The Seventh Temple is meant for good but when constructed will sanction the return to sacrifices on an altar for forgiveness of sins. The Jewish people who have not accepted Jesus as the Messiah have been planning since becoming a Nation in 1948 to construct this new temple on the **Temple Mount** in Jerusalem which was the location of the **First and Second Temples**. Organizations have been planning every issue to replicate the temple destroyed in 70 AD including the making of every article of the internal furnishings. The cleansing and dedication ceremonies for a new temple are planned or in planning. Several problems lie ahead for such a temple to be constructed and placed into service. First the original **Ark of the Covenant** must be found or if in fact located in Ethiopia must be relinquished by the Ethiopians. Second access to the **Temple Mount** must be given by the Jordanians who have a forever type agreement for control of the **Temple Mount** and also consideration be given to the **Holy Dome of the Rock** and the **Al-Aqsa Mosque**, Islams holy sites, already occupying the site. Jewish plans indicate there is land space to build a new temple but would not be built over the **Foundation Stone** of the original Jewish temples as the **Dome of the Rock** covers this stone. Third the **Bible Book of Revelations** indicates the Temple will be built in the first 1260 days of the seven-year **Tribulation** but before cleansing and activation it will be taken over by the **Antichrist** as his temple. Pretribulation believers would already be raptured before this temple becomes a reality.

The Eighth Temple is less conspicuous, or possibly known as a **Millennia Temple**, defined by a presence on Earth during the **1000 Year Millennium** when the remnants from mankind start over or continue from survival after the end of the **Great Tribulation**, the last 1260 days of the seven-year **Tribulation**. In the period of the **Tribulation** Jesus has taken the Christian believers from Earth when He comes in a **Cloud** to take the living and dead to a **Present Heaven** until **His Second Coming** at the end of the **1000 Year Millennium** when Satan is thrown into the **Lake of Fire**. The people, including believing Saints as well as unbelievers surviving the **Tribulation**, living during the **Millennium** will exist in natural, unglorified bodies to inhabit the earth throughout this period of 1000 years to marry and repopulate the earth with billions and billions of people. Remember a lot of people, Saints, and unbelievers, escaped to **Petra in Jordan** before the **Antichrist** and **False Prophet** initiate the **Mark of the Beast**. Isaiah 65:20-23 describes this population as living with longevity and dying in natural conditions. Satan's release from the pit after 1000 years will gather the unbelievers to conduct his last battle in the **Second Coming of Jesus** during the final war of **Gog-Magog**. During the **Millennium** Jesus will reign as **King over Israel** and all the nations of the world as noted in Isaiah 2:4; 42:1. Thus, a **Millennia Temple of God** is present in some form and some prophetic teachers of the **Word** indicate that it is to provide mankind one final chance to return to a loving **God** and have true **Redemption** before the **White Throne** and **Bema Seat** judgements and also to fulfill promises and Covenants of the Bible. An interesting observation is that unbelievers exist during the **Millennium** who have all the traits of self-will and beliefs upon which Satan influenced or controlled when he was **Prince of the Power of the Air** before the **Tribulation** period.

The Ninth Temple will exist in the **New Jerusalem** on a **New Earth** after the **Present Heaven** comes down to the **New Earth** as the **New Heaven** when the **Original Earth** is burned by fire and then restored by God as the **New Earth** with all evidence of Satan and his evil destroyed and eternal life provided to all occupants. The **New Jerusalem** will contain access to the **Tree of Life** and **Rivers of Living Waters** that provide **Eternal Life**. This is thus the climax of history (Rev 21 and 22) with a resurrected universe inhabited by a resurrected people living with a resurrected Jesus but yet incorporating a **New Earth**; a replacement of a failed **Earth** because of sin and influence of the devil, ole Satan himself, who was forcibly evicted out of **Heaven**, in the beginning, with one-third of the angels in defiance of God's power.



In addition, it is noted that what goes around comes around as the **Bible Book of Genesis** included the **Tree of Life** and **Rivers of Living Waters** from the **Garden of Eden** so does the **New Earth** will include the **Tree of Life** and the **Rivers of Living Waters**.

Helpful reading in layman's terms would be my Websites of June 19, 2021, Heaven; June 19, 2021, Tribulation; and July 3, 2021, 1000 Year Millennium.

Much is not known or not understood from the **Bible** as to the **Old Testament**, a shadow as to what was to come in the **New Testament**, but clues and mysteries about that theologians have understood and also speculated for hundreds of years. But of course, we have to look to **God** for what is in store for each of us. We recognize that we have to go forward with plans and goals and if we open a door that He does not agree with, we will have to take another path. Prayer, understanding His Word, and acting with personal responsibility will be keys to making the right decisions for the year 2022 and beyond. Seek Him in all you do, and you cannot go wrong. **Praise Him.**