


## Living Indoors: The Choice of a Lovesick Heart

"How foolish and vain to desire anything but Him... is it not a greater loss than losing the whole world? For what, without Jesus, can the world give you? Life without Him is a relentless hell, but living with Him is a sweet paradise"

- Thomas Kempis

 **Goal of this Class:** to study the art of “living indoors”—practicing the presence of God, in constant communion with Holy Spirit.

### I. Why Am I Teaching About This and why you should care?

A. The Holy Spirit wants to teach you how to journey within and dwell in God’s presence. Happy holiness, a fruitful life and effective ministry, is only possible when you learn to live a life of continual returning and dwelling in HIM.

### II. Where is the Secret Place of the Most High?

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty – **Psalms 91:1**

A. Where is the Secret Place of the Most High? There are heavenly, corporate and millennial (New Jerusalem) applications to that verse—God will literally “tabernacle” among men (Rev. 21:3). But the writer of Psalm 91 also implies a spiritual residence, where you can make the Lord your dwelling place (Vs. 9), set your affections upon Him (vs. 14) and know the glory of His name (his nature and person).

B. According to Jesus (Jn. 7:37-38), the Holy Spirit tabernacles within our hearts (belly, womb, center of the diaphragm). If “the Secret Place of the Most High” is where the Lord is, then is safe to believe that location is within, in your *center*.

C. Jesus promised to come (along His Father) and make His home with you:

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We will come to him and make Our home with him** – **John 14:23**

D. I should confess that I am presently a “visitor” of the Secret Place. But my goal is to become a “dweller”—I desire and seek to LIVE from WITHIN, to abide under the shadow (awareness) of the Almighty.

### III. In Your Presence—The Path of Life Revealed

**I have set the Lord always before me;** because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved. **Therefore my heart is glad...** You will show me **the path of life; in Your presence** is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are **pleasures** forevermore – **Ps. 16:8-11**

A. Living indoors is the art and discipline of “setting” the Lord always before you. Not only externally but internally, before the real “you”.

B. In Your Presence—this is the path to continual life, joy and pleasure. “In Your Presence” is where He dwells. It’s not limited to external manifestations of God’s presence (in a corporate meeting). That uncreated and beautiful person that is enthroned in heaven and shows up in corporate meetings... lives inside of you.

### IV. Expanding Your Understanding of “One Thing I desire”

**One thing** I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: that I may  **dwell in the house of the Lord** all the days of my life, **to behold the beauty of the Lord,** **And to inquire in His temple** – **Ps. 27:4** [parentheses added]

A. When David wrote that song he was running for his life. It was either when Saul sent 3,000 soldiers to kill him, or when his son Absalom rebelled and took the throne.

B. What House and Temple was David yearning for? If he wrote that song in his early days, Solomon’s temple (of course) was not yet built, not even “the tabernacle of David” was in place. If written during his escape from Absalom, then we could assume that he was longing for the Tabernacle (where the ark of God dwelled), but when you review the Hebrew language, you find that David would have never used the word TEMPLE to define his tabernacle.

C. I believe he was yearning for the Heavenly Temple. Whatever the case, Scripture indicates the existence and convergence between 3 temples: the heavenly, the earthly and the temple within.

1. **Heavenly Temple:** *The Lord is in His holy temple, The Lord's throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men* – **Ps. 11:4**
2. **Earthly Temple:** *"These are the men whom David appointed over the service of song in the house of the Lord, after the ark came to rest. They were ministering with music before the dwelling place of the tabernacle of meeting, until Solomon had built the house of the Lord in Jerusalem, and they served in their office according to their order."* - **1 Chron. 6:31-32**
3. **The Temple Within:** *"Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" - **1 Cor. 3:16** "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty" – **Psalms 91:1**  
"We will come to him and make Our home with him" – **John 14:23***

## V. Keeping Charge of The Sanctuary (Paradigm Revisited)

"But the priests, the Levites, the sons of Zadok, who **kept charge of My sanctuary** when the children of Israel went astray from Me, they shall **come near Me to minister to Me**; and they shall stand before Me" – **Ez. 44:15**

**A.** David desired and pursued ONE THING above everything else—it was a combination of dwelling, beholding and inquiring (search, study, intercession). The beauty of the Lord so captivated him that controlled his thought life and actions.

**B.** I desire and seek to dwell in this 3D House of the Lord. It's my aim to keep charge of 3 sanctuaries—at least 2 in this age and 3 in the age to come. But the most important one, the one that if attended will enable me to keep charge of the other two, is the sanctuary within—the secret place of the Most High.

**C.** If I don't keep charge of the sanctuary within, I'll end up forgetting the earthly temple (prayer room, local church) and if I continue to miss the mark (sin) and ignore the Holy Spirit, I'll be risking my eternal access to the Heavenly Temple (Rev. 21).

**D.** Also, keeping charge of the earthly temple does not prove I'm keeping charge of the inner temple. Proof? Most of the priests, Pharisees and Scribes in Jesus' time did not make it... not only they did not receive Jesus, but ended up killing Him and persecuting His followers.

**E. Side Note:** Be careful not to become a modern Scribe and Pharisee—full of theology, plenty of fasting, prayer and service within the house... but barren and dead inside (Mt. 23). Envision to be like the sons of Zadok and David—be a minister after God’s own heart, having the word of God alive within your hearts (John 5:38-40).

**F. Keeping charge of the Temple Within** is both a sober reality and a delightful experience (because of the unfolding of God’s majesty, beauty and pleasures).

## VI. Living Indoors (Abiding In Jesus)

4 **Abide in Me**, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 **“I am the vine, you are the branches.** He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.** 8 **By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. -- John. 15:4-8**

**A. If Doing One Thing Could Guarantee Your Success, Would you Do It?** I’m referring to success in this life and in the age to come. Not success under the world eyes, but success under God’s eyes. There is a way of living that assures your happiness and fruitfulness.

**B. Living Indoors = Abiding in Jesus.** The concept also appears in Scripture like: *walking in the Spirit, entering His rest, fellowshiping with God.* We often frame it as staying in communion or intimacy with Jesus. Basically, abiding in Jesus is *living connected* with Jesus—this is what Living Indoors is all about.