

## **SATURDAY/SUNDAY AUGUST 28 & 29**

### **THE "BUILDING" WHICH IMPRESSES GOD**

**Isaiah 66:2**

Throughout this country, we can find a wide variety of architectural designs for places of worship. They range from small and simple to very grand and ornate in their design. As new places of worship are built in the area I live, much attention may be given to the various features, designs and amenities they offer...all for the purpose of "selling themselves" in order to draw more people to them. We should reach out, but the question is how far do we go with it (in this manner) and how impressed is God with our "means of marketing?"

As believers, we do need places to come together for fellowship and worship, but God is much more interested in the "vessels" who inhabit those places of worship...those individuals He Himself can inhabit and dwell through which He makes Himself known to those who have no hope.

God presents an interesting question to us in Isaiah 66:1-2 to shake us back to reality. He was and is the Creator and all creation came from Him. As He reminds us of this fact and that all that He created, why should we even consider building anything grander for Him He asks. It would be impossible! So just where is His desired resting place?

As wonderful and glorious as all creation is, God's greatest desire is us. These bodies of ours are for the purpose of being designed by the Creator as His sanctuary (His temple - 1 Corinthians 6:19). He fashioned us. He created us with a purpose in mind. In His creating, in His heart and mind He did save the best to last...you and me and all mankind.

Because of all this and above anything we build ourselves, there are three things God prefers to a magnificent temple building (Isaiah 66:2).

1. The individual who is humble...the individual who is submissive, obedient, and is not motivated by pride. The Hebrew word for "humble" is shach. The word picture for this tells us that humility comes when you destroy the wall (self protection is done away with).
2. The individual who is of a contrite spirit, one who is broken-hearted over their sin knowing that our sin offends God.
3. The individual who trembles at His Word. The Hebrew word "tremble" means to shudder, to hasten with anxiety. In other words, if God says to do or not to do something, there is a fear within us that motivates our obedience. It's like a child who knows they better obey their parent if they don't want to suffer the consequences.

In conclusion, is this the temple being built in your world? I pray each of us will be the living stones God can take and place together as His spiritual house and that in turn we offer our spiritual sacrifices unto Him. He is not impressed with anything else.