

HOME OR HOTEL

By Brint Harmon

In 2 Corinthians 13:5, we read what the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthian church, "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith, Test yourselves. ***Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?***" Ephesians 3:17 says, "***that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.***" Colossians 1:27 speaks of "***Christ in us, the hope of glory.***" It doesn't take long to see that if we are born again, our heart is His dwelling place. Christ lives IN us. Let me ask you a question: In your life, does He abide in a home or a hotel?

They both have some similarities. You have a key to your home; you are given a key to your hotel room. You can sit and watch tv in your home and you can sit and watch tv in your hotel room. You can make coffee in both, you can shower in both, you can hang your clothes in the closet in both, and you can sleep in both. What are some differences?

A hotel is a place you stay in for a short amount of time...its temporary; a place you cannot make your own. It doesn't belong to you. You can't paint the walls, you don't get to pick out the furniture or change the decorations. There's not enough room to unpack all that you have. You can only take the basics. Yet, a home is a place you abide in. You live there fully and completely. You have room for your things. You do get to choose the furniture, you get to paint and decorate however you want in order to make it yours.

Here is the question: when you asked Holy Spirit to come in does he get to live in a hotel where you only want him for just a couple of days when you really need him to lead and guide you, but the other days YOU have everything under control and all is going the way YOU want it to go? OR.... Did you invite him to come in and make His home in you?

- Where He gets to pick out the furniture, so you can rest in Him without striving.
- A place where He can paint the many walls of Who He IS, so that you can be what the person in front of you needs you to be in their time of trouble.
- A Place that HE can decorate and display the gifts and talents that God placed in you so that HIS Name may be glorified.

He truly longs to make a home (Temple) an abiding place in us.