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"Know ye not that ye are the Temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" 1 Cor. iii. 16.

THERE is, perhaps, in the whole field of science, no more interesting or engrossing study than that of the human body. The house of clay which man's soul for a few short years inhabits, is so fearfully and wonderfully made, that the more we learn of the details of its construction and the laws which govern it, the greater becomes our wonder at the strength of its delicate mechanism, and at the wisdom of the All-wise Being who designed and created it. Within the last two hundred years medical science has made great progress. Doctors can now understand the working of the beautiful machinery of the muscular and nervous systems: they can even in some measure connect the size and shape of the brain with the qualities of its owner, the desires which animate it, and the thoughts which flash through it. But, wise and learned though many of them are, there are limits to their knowledge. There are many problems which are yet unsolved by them, and some which they can never hope to solve. Though they can, for instance, perceive that the body is set in motion by the action of the will upon the brain, yet they do not know how the will connects itself with the brain; in short, they do not understand the nature of that mysterious force which we call Life—that principle which gives to every part of the human frame the power to do its work. But where science fails, religion supplies the need: where knowledge ends, faith begins. Though the doctors cannot find it, there dwells in the body an immortal spirit, which is our real self; more wonderful still—and beyond all science—is the way in which this spirit is guided, controlled, and strengthened by the Spirit of God. For in the bodies of all those who will admit Him,

there dwells, not only a human spirit, but a Divine Spirit also, influencing and sustaining it. Is not this the most mysterious fact about these wonderful bodies of ours? Yet it is quite true: "Ye are the Temple of God . . . the Spirit of God dwelleth in you." St. Paul repeats the statement in 1 Cor. vi. 19: "Know ye not that your body is the Temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God?" and again in 2 Cor. vi. 16: "Ye are the temple of the living God."

Temples of the living God! The very awfulness of the thought seems to take our breath away. That mind must be lost to all sense of shame which does not fill with humble repentant thoughts at the contemplation of such a truth. What? Are these weak bodies of ours, so full of unholy desires, so stained with every sin, indeed the dwelling-place of the All-holy God? Yes, it is true—may the Holy Spirit help us to remember it.

A temple is devoted to two great uses—worshipping God and meeting with Him. The simplest little country church is just as much a Temple of God as the grandest cathedral. In it we can worship Him by offering Him our best—our prayers, our praises, and our substance. Out of overflowing hearts we shew God how much we love Him, and we call it "service." In the same way our bodies are to be used for worship: we use them to honour God when we kneel in prayer or bow the head at the sacred Name of Jesus. But, in a wider sense, our bodies should be always engaged in worship—for what is worship but "worship," giving to God His "worth" or His due? So let us worship Him by doing those things which please Him; let us "shew forth His